

**First Congregational Church of Ithaca  
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost (August 9, 2020)**

*No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!*

**Prelude**   Sinfonia in A Major   J. S. Bach

**Welcome and Announcements**

\***Call to Worship**   (Adapted from Psalm 105)

O give thanks to the LORD, call on God's name!  
**Make known God's deeds among the peoples!**  
 Sing to God, sing praises to God!  
**Tell of God's wonderful works!**

\***Hymn**   Eternal Father, Strong to Save   (insert, #8)

\***Opening Prayer**  
**Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we may by you be enabled to live according to your loving will. Through Christ we pray, Amen.**

(Adapted from the *Book of Common Prayer*, Collect for Proper 14)

\***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

\***Sung Response**       *Glory to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Ghost  
 As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.*

**Scripture Lessons**  
   Psalm 85:8-13  
   1 Kings 19:9-12  
   Matthew 14:22-33

**Anthem**   Precious Lord, Take My Hand   Thomas A. Dorsey

**Sermon**   "Hopping Off the Boat into *Elevation*"

\***Hymn**   O Sing a Song of Bethlehem   (insert, #159)

**Morning Prayers and Lord's Prayer**

**Litany Prayer**

Leader: We pray to God

People: **Hear us, O God**

**Sung Response**       *Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me (twice).  
 Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.*

**Sharing our Gifts**   Just a Closer Walk With Thee   *African-American Gospel*

\***Doxology**       *Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below.  
 Praise God above, ye heavenly host, Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. AMEN.*

\***Prayer of Dedication**

\***Hymn**   Help Us Accept Each Other   (insert, #754)

\***Benediction**

**Postlude**   Te Deum: Prelude   Marc-Antoine Charpentier

\* **Congregation stands (live-streamers, feel free to lift your hearts!)**

**Participating Today**

The Rev. Dr. David A. Kaden, Senior Minister  
Susan Fast, Director of Caring Ministries  
Dr. William Cowdery, Director of Music  
David J. Kaden, Tech Support  
H. Donald Hinman, bass soloist  
Siu-ling Wong Chaloemtiarana, piano accompanist

*Flowers are in celebration of Sue & Roger Eslinger 50th Wedding Anniversary!*

## 8 Eternal Father, Strong to Save

1 E - ter - nal Fa - ther, strong to save, whose arm has bound the  
 2 O Sav - ior, whose al - might - y word the winds and waves sub -  
 3 O Ho - ly Spir - it, who did brood up - on the cha - os  
 4 O Trin - i - ty of love and power, all trav - elers guard in

rest - less wave, who bade the might - y o - cean deep its  
 mis - sive heard, who walked up - on the foam - ing deep, and  
 wild and rude, and bade its an - gry tu - mult cease, and  
 dan - ger's hour; from rock and tem - pest, fire and foe, pro -

own ap - point - ed lim - its keep: O hear us when we  
 calm a - mid its rage did sleep: O hear us when we  
 gave, for fierce con - fu - sion, peace: O hear us when we  
 tect them where - so - e'er they go; thus ev - er - more shall

cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.  
 cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.  
 cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.  
 rise to thee glad praise from air and land and sea.

The year after this text was written for a student sailing to America, it was included in the most influential British hymnal of the 19th century. The tune especially composed for it preserves the ancient Roman name of the island where Paul was shipwrecked, now called Malta.

# 159 O Sing a Song of Bethlehem



1 O sing a song of Beth-le-hem, of shep-herds watch-ing there,  
 2 O sing a song of Naz-a-reth, of sun-ny days of joy;  
 3 O sing a song of Gal-i-lee, of lake and woods and hill,  
 4 O sing a song of Cal-va-ry, its glo-ry and dis-may,



and of the news that came to them from an-gels in the air.  
 O sing of fra-grant flow-ers' breath, and of the sin-less boy.  
 of him who walked up-on the sea and bade its waves be still.  
 of him who hung up-on the tree, and took our sins a-way.



The light that shone on Beth-le-hem fills all the world to-day.  
 For now the flowers of Naz-a-reth in ev-ery heart may grow.  
 For though, like waves on Gal-i-lee, dark seas of trou-ble roll,  
 For he who died on Cal-va-ry is ris-en from the grave,



Of Je-sus' birth and peace on earth the an-gels sing al-way.  
 Now spreads the fame of his dear name on all the winds that blow.  
 when faith has heard the Mas-ter's word, falls peace up-on the soul.  
 and Christ, our Lord, by heaven a-dored, is might-y now to save.

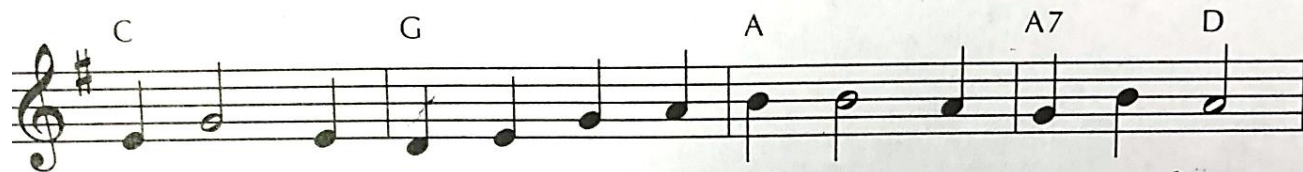


This hymn created by a noted Presbyterian hymnal editor and scholar employs place names and sensory images (light, fragrance, wind) to sketch the events of Christ's life. The tune name commemorates the village in Sussex where the arranger first heard the traditional melody.

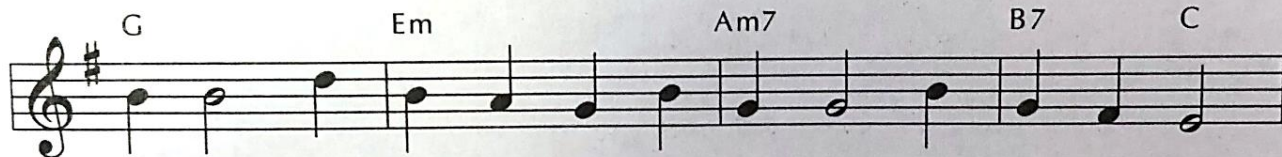
# Help Us Accept Each Other 754



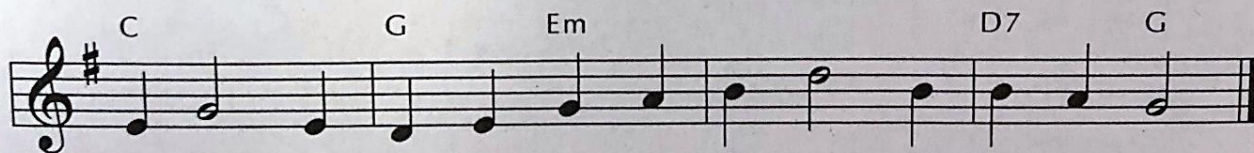
1 Help us ac - cept each oth - er as Christ ac - cept - ed us;  
 2 Teach us, O Lord, your les - sons, as in our dai - ly life  
 3 Let your ac - cep - tance change us, so that we may be moved  
 4 Lord, for to - day's en - coun - ters with all who are in need,



teach us as sis - ter, broth - er, each per - son to em - brace.  
 we strug - gle to be hu - man and search for hope and faith.  
 in liv - ing sit - u - a - tions to do the truth in love;  
 who hun - ger for ac - cep - tance, for jus - tice and for bread,



Be pres - ent, Lord, a - mong us and bring us to be - lieve  
 Teach us to care for peo - ple, for all, not just for some,  
 to prac - tice your ac - cep - tance un - til we know by heart  
 we need new eyes for see - ing, new hands for hold - ing on:



we are our - selves ac - cept - ed, and meant to love and live.  
 to love them as we find them, or as they may be - come.  
 the ta - ble of for - give - ness, and laugh - ter's heal - ing art.  
 re - new us with your Spir - it; Lord, free us; make us one!

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

The scriptural basis of this text is Romans 15:7, recast as a prayer in the opening two lines of the first stanza. The many implications of living as people who have been accepted by Christ fill the remaining stanzas. This tune was composed for the first publication of this text.