

Songs of Hope & Joy

Music Appreciation Sunday – July 19, 2026

MEDITATION

“I play the notes as they are written, but it is God who makes the music.” –J.S. Bach

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING WORDS

L: And now, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you. **All: And also with you.**

PRELUDE “The Sound of Music” *Words: Oscar Hammerstein II, Music: Richard Rodgers*
**Congregation is invited to sing!*

INVITATION

Rev. Christina Williams

Today we come to let the music do the preaching. After all, there are some things that can only be sung. Throughout the Bible, God’s people sang—in times of joy and in times of struggle. They sang to remember. They sang to hope. They sang to encourage one another. So, today we sing, we listen. And just maybe we will find what God has been singing to us all along. May God find delight in our song. Let us worship God.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Chris Polloni, Deacon

L: Come, let us sing to the Lord. **All: We lift our voices in hope.**

L: Come, let us make a joyful noise. **All: We lift our hearts in gratitude.**

L: When life is easy, we sing. **All: When life is difficult, we sing.**

L: For song reminds us that love is stronger than fear. **All: Hope is stronger than despair.**
We come worship God in song!

*OPENING HYMN

“This is My Song”

Black 591

REPONSIVE OPENING PRAYER

Chris Polloni, Deacon

Melody-making God, your give of music rings through creation—in birdsong and ocean waves, in the whisper of wind through trees, and in every human heart. We gather to raise our voices together. Whether we are full of joy or carrying burdens, meet each of us where we are. May the delight of singing strengthen our spirits,

deepen our compassion and remind us that hope is never sung alone. As our voices join together, make us one people—ready to carry your hope into the world. Amen.

SELECTIONS FROM SCRIPTURE:

Chris Polloni, Deacon & Rev. Christina Williams

ANTHEM

“Tis So Sweet To Trust in Jesus”

Words/Music: William J. Kirkpatrick

Sung by Paul and Bella Smith

HYMN SING

SONGS OF HOPE

Back cover

PASTORAL PRAYER & PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

After the pastoral prayer, you are invited to share your joys or concerns out loud during the prayers of the people. Please respond, “O Lord, hear our prayers.”

THE LORD’S PRAYER (*trespasses*)

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. *All are invited to sing “Amen”. (Black 812)*

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC

“You Shall Have A Song”

Words/Music: Harriet Ziegenhals – Choir

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessing flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit One. Amen.

***UNISON OFFERTORY PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Generous God, we thank you for every gift you have placed among us—for music, for friendship, for laughter, and for a hope that refuses to give up. Receive these offerings and use them to help this church continue to be a place where hope is found, joy is shared, and all are welcomed with love. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

“Sing a Happy Alleluia”

Insert

*BLESSING

SUNG BENEDICTION

“You are My All in All” *Words/Music; Dennis Jernigan*

**Congregation is invited to sing with the choir*

Words: You are my strength when I am weak, You are the treasure that I seek, You are my all in all. Seeking You as a precious jewel, Lord, to give up, I'd be a fool. You are my all in all. Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name, Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name.

POSTLUDE “Sound the Full Chorus” *Words: Psalm 96: 1-4, 6-8, music: George F. Handel*
Arranged: Hal H. Hopson, Sung by the choir

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

Many thanks to the volunteers who enriched our morning together!

Tech Deacon, Amelia Allen; Choir, Alan King, Clifford Moore, Chris Polloni, Malcolm McDonald, Meg Tivey, Joyce Kenneally, Kay Clark, Hal Leeds, Linda Thomas; Hospitality, Cliff Moore, Food Donation, Carolee Packard

Leading worship today: Rev. Christina Williams, Minister; Stephanie Miles, Music Director; Lisa Allen, Co-Church Life Director, Chris Polloni, Deacon

NEW HERE TODAY?

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!
To help you navigate Sunday mornings with us, please see the guide below.

1. **Order of Worship:** **An asterisk is an invitation to stand if you are able.*
***Bold text** indicates speaking in unison.*
2. **Kid's Connection:** *After the “Word for all God's children,” the children leave worship for Bible-themed learning through crafts, conversation, and games with Lisa Allen.*
3. **Take Two:** *This adult faith formation group meets after worship every other Sunday with Lisa Allen. Join the conversation this Sunday in the small classroom.*
4. **Summer Refreshments & Conversation:** *Gather with us after worship to greet friends and make new ones in the Covenant Room, down the hall on the right.*
5. **Have Questions?** *Please reach out to Rev. Christina Williams or Deacon of the day.*

SONGS OF HOPE

From Minnesota

Hold On *By Heidi Wilson*

Hold on. Hold on.

My dear one here comes the dawn

We Are Here *By Sarina Partridge*

We are here (echo)

With our voices* (echo)

In unison

Our love for each other

Will carry us through

Yes, our love for each other

Will carry us through

*neighbors, courage, singing, praying, in our grief, children, hope