

No 'Enough' to Gratitude



Venice United Church of Christ

October 12, 2025

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Barbara Dickason, BCC

“No ‘Enough’ to Gratitude”

United in Christ’s love,

A just world for all



620 Shamrock Blvd., Venice, FL 34293
website: veniceucc.org

941-493-6741
email: veniceucc@gmail.com





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Google and in the Apple Store.
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Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost October 12, 2025

Singing Prelude

How Great Thou Art

Hine

**Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:
How great thou art, how great thou art! (Repeat)**

Welcome and Announcements

We Approach God's Presence

Meditation/Bringing in the Light of Christ

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Mason

Responsive Call to Worship

Psalms 66, adpt by Nan C. Merrill

Victoria Augustine

Sing a joyful song to the Beloved
all the earth,

and praise Love's name;

Sing in glorious exultation!

**We say to You, "How magnificent are
your ways!**

**So great is your power that fear and
doubt vanish before You;**

All the earth worships You;

the people raise their voice,

they sing praises to your Name."

**Come and see what the Beloved has done;
wondrous are the deeds of Love.**

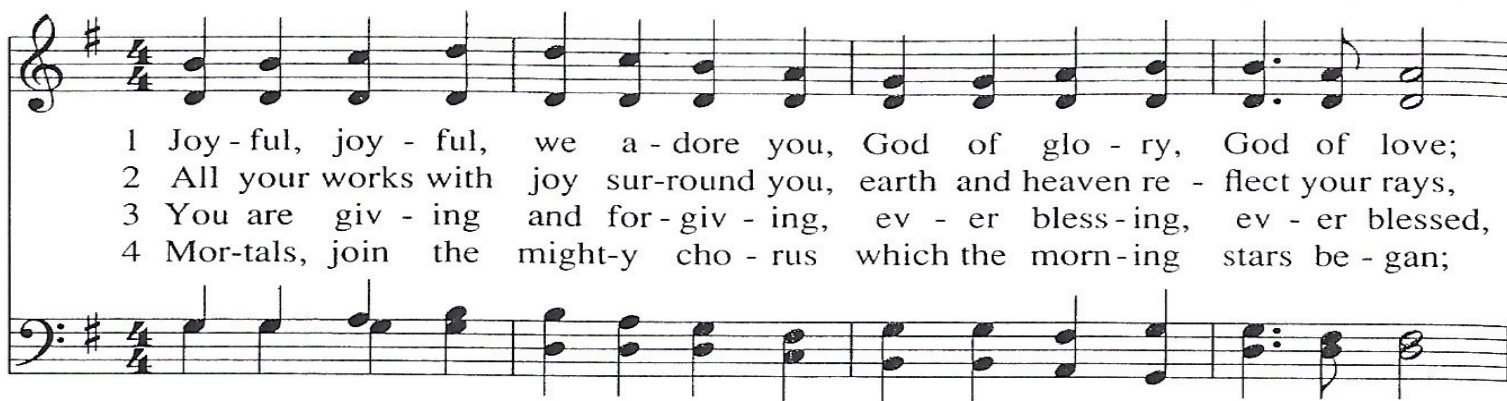
***Hymn**

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

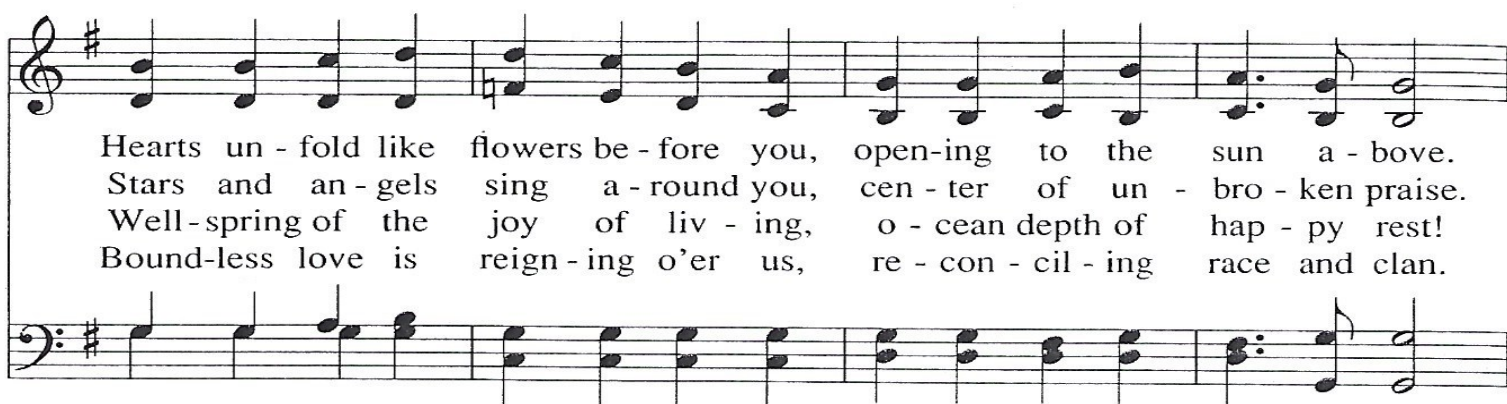
Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

Ps. 145:10; Isa. 49:13

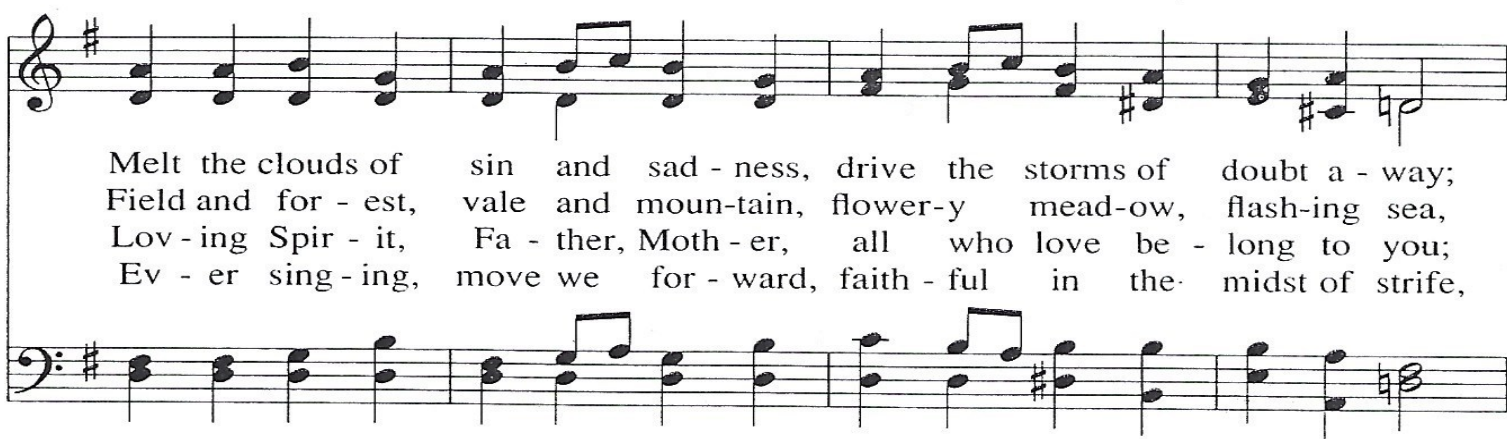
Henry van Dyke, 1907; alt.



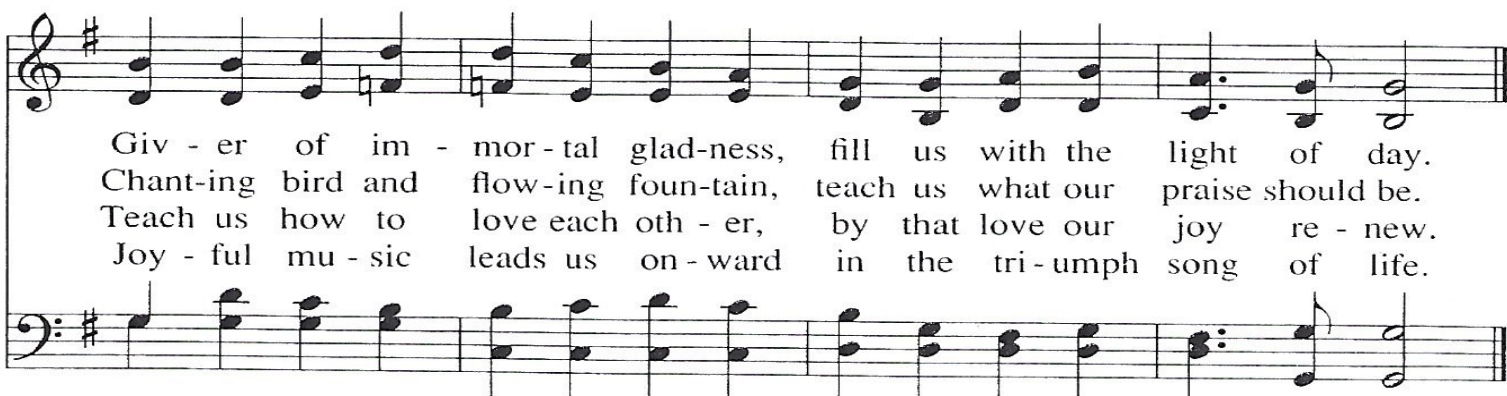
1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore you, God of glo - ry, God of love;
 2 All your works with joy sur-round you, earth and heaven re - flect your rays,
 3 You are giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blessed,
 4 Mor - tals, join the might - y cho - rus which the morn - ing stars be - gan;



Hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore you, open - ing to the sun a - bove.
 Stars and an - gels sing a - round you, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 Well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean depth of hap - py rest!
 Bound - less love is reign - ing o'er us, re - con - cil - ing race and clan.



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the storms of doubt a - way;
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flower - y mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
 Lov - ing Spir - it, Fa - ther, Moth - er, all who love be - long to you;
 Ev - er sing - ing, move we for - ward, faith - ful in the midst of strife,



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
 Chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, teach us what our praise should be.
 Teach us how to love each oth - er, by that love our joy re - new.
 Joy - ful mu - sic leads us on - ward in the tri - umph song of life.

Henry van Dyke was a noted church leader, U.S. ambassador, Navy chaplain, and prolific writer. Many people associate this hymn with Beethoven's ninth symphony, but few are aware of the original poem by the German classicist F. Schiller (1759–1805) that inspired Beethoven.

Tune: HYMN TO JOY 8.7.8.7.D.
 Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824
 Adapt. and harm. Edward Hodges, 1846
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Holy One,
On this day of reflection and reckoning,
we come with open hands and full hearts.
**We bring the truth of our failures—
the times we were silent when we should have spoken,
the moments we turned away from the suffering of others,
the harm we have done, knowingly and unknowingly.**

And yet, You receive us not with wrath, but with tenderness.
You call us not to shame, but to repair.
You whisper: Return. Begin again.

**Renew in us the conviction
that healing is always possible,
that compassion is never wasted,
and that love
—applied faithfully and fiercely—
can yet restore the world.**

Amen

***Words of Grace**

Blessed be the Holy name of our Beloved,
Loving Companion Presence Eternal
**For we are embraced and our lives renewed!
Thanks be to God! Amen.**

***Response**

We Sing of Your Glory vs. 1,3
(back page of bulletin)

We Encounter God in the Word

Contemporary Reading

“Oh, My Heart (Gratitude, the Fourteenth Incitement)”
The Word of God. **Thanks be to God.**

by Ross Gay

Story for Young People

Children of God
(back page of bulletin)

Martin

Anthem *I Love You, Lord* Klein/arr. Schrader
Sacred Reading Luke 17:11-19 *the Inclusive Bible*
The Word of our Messiah. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon “No ‘Enough’ to Gratitude” Rev. Barbara Dickason, BCC

We Respond to God’s Grace

Prayer Concerns and Sharing Gratitude

Silent Prayers

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer

**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 sins as we forgive those who sin 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. Amen**

Musical Response *They’ll Know We Are Christians*

**We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord.
We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord.
And we pray that all unity will one day be restored.
And they’ll know we are Christians by our love, by our love.
Yes, they’ll know we are Christians by our love.**

We Share God’s Love

Mission Moment *Neighbors in Need* Hilda Dillman
video

Invitation to Generosity *(Offering plates are found by each doorway for your use.)*

***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.**

***Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication**

Divine Crafter of Joy,

**Through your great works, we see your glory. Through our work together,
we reflect your glory to a world of pain. May we deliver your dreams and
build your Realm here on earth. Bless the work of our hearts as we move
into a future filled with hope and living your visions. Amen.**

We Go to Carry the Light

***Hymn**

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

42

Charles Wesley, 1740; alt.

1 O for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,
2 My gra-cious Sav - ior and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim,
3 Je - sus! the name that calms our fears, that bids our sor - rows cease
4 Glo - ry to God, and love and praise be ev - er, ev - er given

The glo - ries ev - er ech - o - ing the tri - umphs of God's grace!
To spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of your name.
Is mu - sic in the sin-ner's ears, is life, and health, and peace!
By all the saints in ev - ery age, the church in earth and heaven.

*The hymn is a cento from a longer poem of eighteen stanzas
written by Charles Wesley on the first anniversary of his
conversion. The present form of the hymn is one edited by John
Wesley for The Wesleyan Hymn Book, 1780.*

Tune: AZMON C.M.
Carl G. Gläser, 1828
Adapt. in L. Mason's Modern Psalmody, 1839
Alternate tune: RICHMOND

***Blessing and Benediction**

***Sending Blessing**

Shalom to You Now

Shalom to You Now

Unison D Em A7 D

Sha - lom to you now, sha - lom, my friends.

Bm Em A7 D

May God's full mer - cies bless you, my friends.

G Em A F#m

In all your liv - ing and through your lov - ing,

Bm Em A7 D

Christ be your sha - lom, Christ be your sha - lom.

WORDS: Elise S. Eslinger, 1980

MUSIC: Traditional Spanish melody; harm. Carlton R. Young, 1989

Words © 1983, harm. © 1989, The United Methodist Publishing House

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SOMOS DEL SEÑOR
Irr.

♩=112-120

Postlude

Largo (from *Xerxes*)

Handel

Please remain seated in silence for the Postlude as the Light of Christ is carried into the world. The worship has ended; our service begins.

Response

We Sing of Your Glory

(Tuya Es la Gloria)

vs. 1,3

1. We sing of your glo - ry, we praise you a - gain,
2. We sing of your pow - er and hon - or a - gain,
3. "Glo - ry in the high - est, on earth," sing a - gain,

for you are e - ter - nal. A - men. A - men.
for you are e - ter - nal. A - men. A - men.
Glo - ry al - le - lu - ia. A - men. A - men.

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 4/4 time. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are arranged in three lines, each corresponding to a different vocal part. The first line contains the main verse, and the second line contains the chorus. The third line contains the final phrase of the chorus.

WORDS: Trad. Latin American; English trans. by S T Kimbrough, Jr. (Deut. 32:11, 18; 33:27; Ps. 57:1; 66:2; 96:1-2)

RÍO DE LA PLATA
65.64

MUSIC: Trad. Latin American; harm. by Carlton R. Young

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English trans. and harm. © 1996 General Board of Global Ministries, GBGMusik

Children of God

Sing before Story for Young People

Child-ren of God, let's love__ one an-oth - er. Love is a gift, a bless -

- ing of God.__ Love one an-oth - er, sis - ters and broth - ers.

Love is a gift of God.__

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 4/4 time. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#). The lyrics are arranged in three lines, each corresponding to a different vocal part. The first line contains the main verse, and the second line contains the chorus. The third line contains the final phrase of the chorus.

Worship materials are taken from
Psalms for Praying by Nan C. Merrill;
Another Scroll: Defiant Readings for Lectionary Year C by Brooks, Amy G.S.A.;
Return to Give Glory: Service Prayers for the Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
by Rev. Michelle L. Torigian

Supporting Our Service Today

Acolyte: Allison Rowe **Liturgist:** Victoria Augustine
Welcome Table: Borg Bilak **Greeter:** Wendy Seeley
Head Usher: Linda Newton **Usher Team:** Suzi Benscoter, Mel Burrowes,
Jane Chittick, George Ikeda, Helen Markus, Nancy Susskind

Technology Team

(Live Streaming, Camera, and Sound Technicians)

Gary Woodrum, Debra Mosely, Maria Groody,
David Jack, Linda Newton, Wally Davis, Patty Fjetland

The **Lord's Table** was decorated by Victoria Augustine

The **Sanctuary Flowers** are given by

Sharon Leidheiser in Celebration of Gary's 70th Birthday

The **Church Sign** was changed by Faye Newton and Lisa Sclafani

Sunday Librarian: Marcia Murphy

Fellowship Time: Barbara and Bob Zittel

Senior Minister

Rev. Barbara Dickason

Music Staff

Barbara Quinn: *Music Director*

Lynda Weston: *Bella Handbell Director*

Other Staff

Gary Leidheiser: *Custodian*

Barb Quinn: *Office Assistant*

The church office is open M-Th, 9-1.

Email will be monitored daily when the office is closed.

Pastor Barb's day off is on Friday. Please reach out in case of Emergency.

All other emails received over the weekend will be answered the first of the week.

Would you like to donate to VUCC online? Use your Smart Phone to scan the QR code below, and it will take you directly to our donations page. It is really easy!



This Week at a Glance

Monday, October 13

12:00 PM SpiritFed!

Noon Bible Study via Zoom (link below)

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83576594637?pwd=U2024sKmOPiy3CyMqV4OarYUtofaom.1>

Meeting ID: 835 7659 4637

Passcode: 913882

(The easiest way to connect is to use the link in the Connect.)

Tuesday, October 14

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

10:00 AM Grounds Team—CR

3:00 PM Game Group—Parlor

6:00 PM Girl Scouts

Thursday, October 16

4:00 PM Baby Basics—Naar Hall

12:30 PM Women's Fellowship Luncheon
at Giuseppe's in N. Venice

6:00 PM Daisies

Saturday, October 18

11:30 AM VADC—Naar Hall

Wednesday, October 15

9:00 AM - Noon Library Hours

10:00 AM Bible Study—CR

1:00 PM Cut-Ups—CR

6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

Friday, October 17

8:30 AM Men's Weekly Coffee Panera

1:00 PM Garden Club—CR

2:00 PM On the Spot Board—Parlor

Sunday, October 19—Laity Sunday

9:00 AM Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary 10:30-

9:00-9:45 AM Library Hour

10:00 AM Worship in situ and virtual

11:00-11:15 AM Library Time

11:00 AM Fellowship Time

11:00 AM Prospective New Members—CR

Coming Dates/Events (A Sampling)

- 9:30 AM, Friday, October 31, Shelf Varnishing for Immokalee—Naar Hall
 - 4:00 PM Thursday, November 6, Handbell Rehearsals Begin
- Sunday, November 9, Feeding the Hungry and Food Pantry Mission Moment, New Members Received, Mission Market
 - 6:00 PM Saturday, November 15, Venice Area Audubon Society will host biologist/photographer/author Stan Tekiela in Naar Hall
 - Sunday, November 16, after worship, Basket Auction
 - 9:00 AM, Monday, November 24, Decorate Sanctuary/Naar Hall for Advent
- 7:00 PM Tues., Nov. 25, Interfaith Thanksgiving Service at Jewish Congregation of Venice
 - 2:00 PM, Friday, December 5, Women's Fellowship Tea—Naar Hall
 - 7:00 PM Tuesday, December 9, Blue Christmas Worship Service
 - Sunday, December 14, Christmas Fund Offering Begins
 - 7:00 PM Wednesday, December 24, Christmas Eve Worship Service