



*May 5, 2024*  
*Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ*

[www.greenfieldcharge.org](http://www.greenfieldcharge.org)  
[greenfieldchargeucc@gmail.com](mailto:greenfieldchargeucc@gmail.com)

Facebook: Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ

Pastor  
Mrs. Wendy Farber

Audio Tech  
Jeff Farber (Greenfield)

[farberhome@atlanticbb.net](mailto:farberhome@atlanticbb.net)

*Centering Words*

The Holy One's steadfast love and faithfulness are shared with all. We are called to the greatest commandment: to abide in God's love and to love one another as God has love us – not as servants, but as friends.

**John 15**

Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ  
Joint Service  
6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter / Blessing of the Fields

May 5, 2024  
Mt Hope 10:00am

*Community News*

*Prayer List and Prayers of the People*

*Prelude/Lighting of the Candles*

\* *Call to Worship*

Sing to our God a new song,

**for God has done wondrous things.**

The Holy One's might is not found in destruction,

**but in steadfast love and constant faithfulness,**

These gifts are not for us alone,

**they are for one and for all.**

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

**Break forth into songs of praise.**

Let all creation praise the Lord.

\* *Invocation*

God of Love, let your Holy Spirit come upon us – into our hearts,

into our minds, and into our souls. Let your presence speak within

us – in the languages we speak, in the ways we live and have our

being. For we long to hear you, Gracious one, and to understand.

We pray that you would abide in us, that we may abide in you, this

day and all days. Amen.

*Children's Message / Congregation Conversation*

\* *Opening Children's Hymn*

*"Jesus Asks Us"*

**Insert**

## Jesus asks us

— George Stuart, Australia

Tune: Old Macdonald had a farm

Traditional Nursery Rhyme melody

Jesus asks us to give thanks every single day;  
Yes. Jesus asks us to give thanks every single day;  
With a 'Thank you' here, a 'Thank you' there,  
Here a 'Thanks', there a 'Thanks', everywhere a 'Thank you';  
Jesus asks us to give thanks every single day.

Jesus asks us to be kind when we talk today;  
Yes. Jesus asks us to be kind when we talk today;  
With a kind word here, a kind word there,  
Here a word, there a word, everywhere a kind word;  
*'Thank you' here, 'Thank you' there,*  
*Here a 'Thanks', there a 'Thanks', everywhere a 'Thank you';*  
Jesus asks us to be kind when we talk today.

Jesus asks us to be fair when we play today;  
Yes. Jesus asks us to be fair when we play today;  
With a fair play here, a fair play there;  
Here a play, there a play, everywhere a fair play;  
*Kind word here, kind word there,*  
*Here a word, there a word, everywhere a kind word;*  
*'Thank you' here, 'Thank you' there,*  
*Here a 'Thanks', there a 'Thanks', everywhere a 'Thank you';*  
Jesus asks us to be fair when we play today.

Jesus asks us to be good every single day;  
Yes. Jesus asks us to do good every single day;  
With a good deed here, a good deed there,  
Here a deed, there a deed, everywhere a good deed;  
*Fair play here, fair play there;*  
*Here a play, there a play, everywhere a fair play;*  
*Kind word here, kind word there,*  
*Here a word, there a word, everywhere a kind word;*  
*'Thank you' here, 'Thank you' there,*  
*Here a 'Thanks', there a 'Thanks', everywhere a 'Thank you';*  
Jesus asks us to be good every single day

### *Prayer of Yearning*

**O God, you are bigger than the world, bigger than our fears, bigger even than our folly. We are grateful for the immensity of your love, even when it sometimes scares us. When the immensity of your love frightens us, we long to return to you in hope. When we want to make you smaller – small enough that we can hold you – help us see beyond our narrow vision. Remind us again, O God, that you will always find and hold us, for your heart is big enough to hold the whole world, including us. Teach us once more that we will always grow when we love others as we love you. Amen.**

### *Words of Assurance*

The God of mercy speaks every language. When we open our ears, we hear and receive god's grace. Whenever we are afraid or overwhelmed, we have only to remember these truths. God's love is the greatest power of all. God's mercy is there for every one of us. God's grace is present every moment of our lives. Amen.

### *Passing the Peace of Christ*

As God has loved us, so shall we love each other. As Christ has called us friends, so we become friends to one another. Let us abide in God's love together now, sharing both friendship and peace.

*The peace of Christ be with you.  
And also with you.*

### *Litany of Praise*

**Psalm 96:1-4, 11-13 NIV**

<sup>1</sup> Sing to the LORD a new song;  
sing to the LORD, all the earth.

<sup>2</sup> Sing to the LORD, praise his name;  
proclaim his salvation day after day.

**O Creator God, you have fashioned a world of great beauty. We pray for the eyes to see the beautiful, from the flowers of the field to a loving human spirit. We pray for hearts to sense a harmony in all creation.**

<sup>3</sup> Declare his glory among the nations,  
his marvelous deeds among all peoples.

<sup>4</sup> For great is the LORD and most worthy of praise;  
he is to be feared above all gods.

**Indeed, our prayer is of praise to God for the gift of creation.  
We see by microscope the grand expanse of the universe.  
Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised!**

<sup>11</sup> Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad;  
let the sea resound, and all that is in it.

<sup>12</sup> Let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them;  
let all the trees of the forest sing for joy.

<sup>13</sup> Let all creation rejoice before the LORD, for he comes,  
he comes to judge the earth.

He will judge the world in righteousness  
and the peoples in his faithfulness.

**Creator God, you have fashioned a world of great beauty, yet  
a world shared with each of us for only a time. We pray for  
that "right spirit within" that will allow us to see the  
beauty, to sense the great gift that we have in the world  
about us, and to care for it as stewards of the Heavenly  
King. Amen**

### *Epistle Reading*

### **1 Corinthians 3:5-9 NRSV**

<sup>5</sup> What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. <sup>6</sup> I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. <sup>7</sup> So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. <sup>8</sup> The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and each will receive wages according to their own labor. <sup>9</sup> For we are God's coworkers, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

\* *The Reading of the Holy Gospel*

John 15:9-17 NRSV

*Gloria Tibi (Glory be to Thee, O Lord.)*

TH #497

<sup>9</sup> As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup> I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

<sup>12</sup> "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup> No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. <sup>14</sup> You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup> I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing, but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. <sup>16</sup> You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. <sup>17</sup> I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

\* *Gloria Patri*

\* *Meditation Hymn*

*"Morning Has Broken"*

PH #38

*Today's Message*

\* *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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And  
lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
forever. Amen.**

### *Blessing of the Fields Prayer*

Blessed Lord, bless the pastures and meadows, all growing grass and green fields. May the soil be wholesome and the crops good. May the weather be favorable and the workers in good heart. And may he that giveth breath and life to the sower, multiply the seed sown and increase the fruits of our righteousness. Amen.

### *Blessing of the Elements*

#### *Blessing of the Seed*

God, you have given us these seeds

**They have a past. They are the fruit of the past. They have a present. They are to be planted into your soil. They have a future. They are to bear fruit for the harvest. May the miracle of life within these seeds burst forth yielding a bountiful harvest. Bless these seeds and those who plant them.**

#### *Blessing of the Soil*

God, you have created and given us this soil.

**The soil serves as the medium for the seed to grow, it cleans water, it regulates climate, it provides warmth, nourishment and support so that new life may emerge. Bless this soil that it may feed and nourish the seed. Bless those who work this soil and harvest the produce.**

#### *Blessing of the Water*

God, this water is your creation.

**Water gives sustenance and nourishment to the soil and the seed. Bless the soil and the seed with gentle rain. Bless this water. Let it come as rain at the right time, in the proper amount so that the seed may flourish and grow. In your mercy send us favorable weather so that the harvest will be bountiful.**

## *The Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings*

Offertory Statement

Offertory (MH)

\* Doxology

TH # 551

\* Offertory Prayer

**O God, our hearts sing with thanksgiving for the many gifts and graces you bring to our lives. We give you thanks for your steadfast love and faithful Spirit. Receive this offering and the gift of our whole selves, that we might give as we have received and love as we have been loved. Amen.**

\* *Closing Hymn*

*“Bringing In The Sheaves”*

Insert

\* *Benediction*

People of God, abide in God’s love. May God’s love and faithfulness flow through you, even to the ends of the earth. Amen!

\* *Three-Fold Amen*

TH # 558

\* *Postlude/Extinguishing of the Candle*

*Maypole Dance* (weather and field conditions pending)

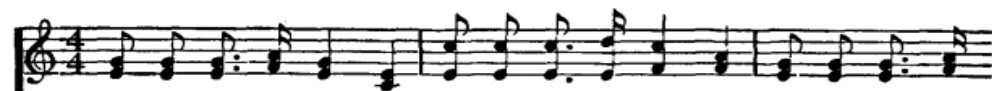


# Bringing In the Sheaves

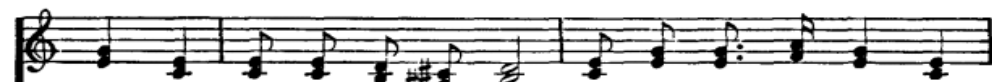
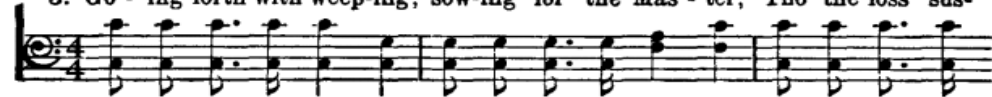
444

KNOWLES SHAW

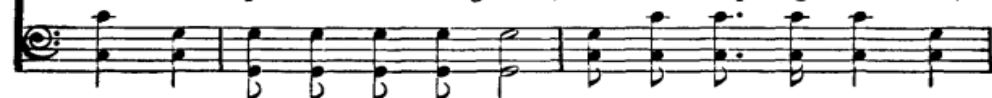
GEORGE A. MINOR



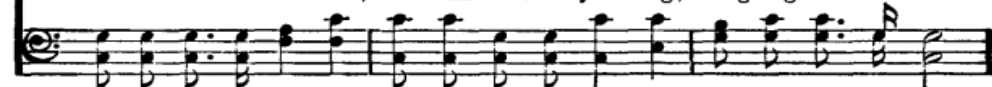
1. Sow - ing in the morn - ing, sow - ing seeds of kind - ness, Sow - ing in the  
 2. Sow - ing in the sun - shine, sow - ing in the shad - ows, Fear - ing nei - ther  
 3. Go - ing forth with weep - ing, sow - ing for the Mas - ter, Tho' the loss sus -



noon - tide and the dew - y eve; Wait - ing for the har - vest,  
 clouds nor win - ter's chill - ing breeze; By and by the har - vest,  
 tained our spir - it oft - en grieves; When our weep - ing's o - ver,



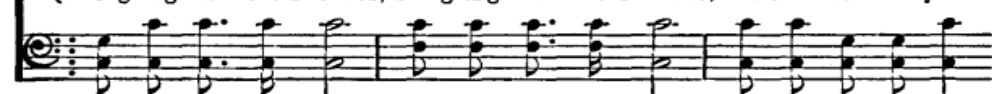
and the time of reap - ing, We shall come re - joic - ing, bring - ing in the sheaves.  
 and the la - bor end - ed, We shall come re - joic - ing, bring - ing in the sheaves.  
 He will bid us wel - come, We shall come re - joic - ing, bring - ing in the sheaves.



## CHORUS



{Bring - ing in the sheaves, bring - ing in the sheaves, We shall come re - joic -  
 {Bring - ing in the sheaves, bring - ing in the sheaves, We shall come re - joic -



ing, bring - ing in the sheaves; ing, bring - ing in the sheaves.

