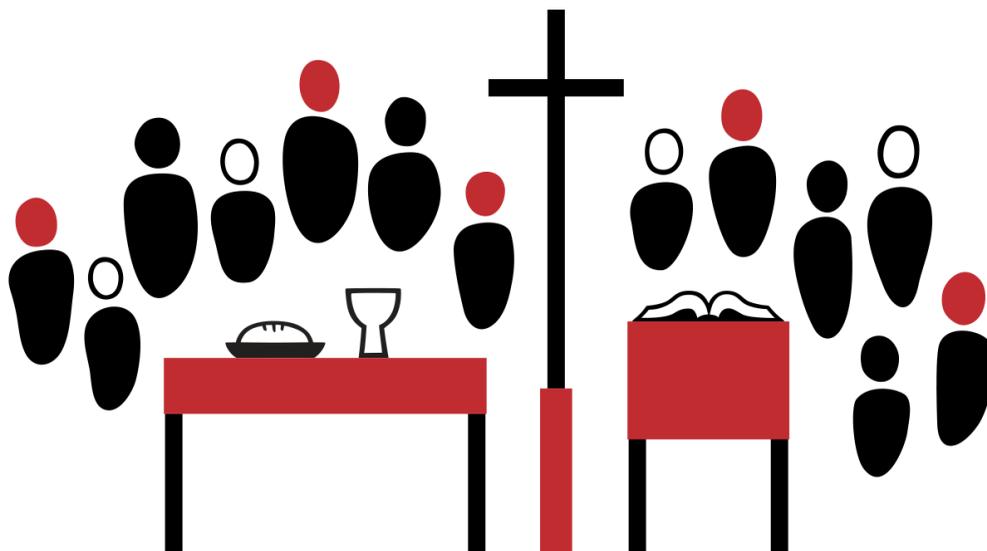


World Communion Sunday

St. Paul's United Methodist Church
St. Mary's Episcopal Church
St. Mark's Lutheran Church



October 3, 2021

Welcome Brothers and Sisters in Christ!

The Sacrament of Holy Communion, which is intended to bring us together in Christian unity, sometimes divides believers various denominations. Worshipping together is an opportunity to celebrate our unity in Christ. World Communion Sunday was first celebrated in 1933 at Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The National Council of Churches adopted it in 1940 has continued to celebrate World Communion Sunday each year on the first Sunday in October. It is a way we can celebrate our unity in the midst of a fragmented world.

Today's service is a combination of elements from the Methodist, Episcopalian, and Lutheran traditions. All readings, responses, hymns, and liturgical music are contained in this bulletin. The congregation reads the text in bold print.

Offerings designated to St. Paul's, St. Mary's, and St. Mark's will go to their respective congregations. The loose offering will be given to ABCCM.

Communion will be received by intinction (dipping the wafer into the wine) at the head of the aisle. Please come forward as the ushers invite you. If you do not wish to receive, indicate so by crossing your arms in front of your chest, and the pastor will offer you a blessing. Pre-packaged communion elements are also available.

Welcome and Worship Announcements

Prelude

Brad Curtioff
St. Paul's Methodist Church

Invocation

In the name of the Father
and of the + Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

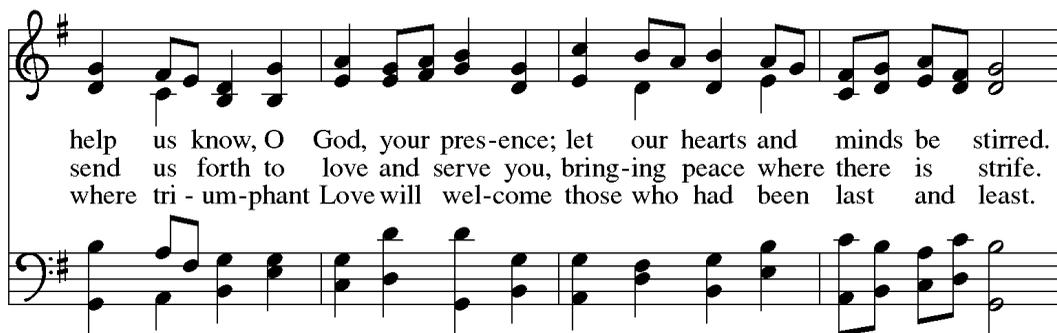


Hymn

"As We Gather at Your Table"



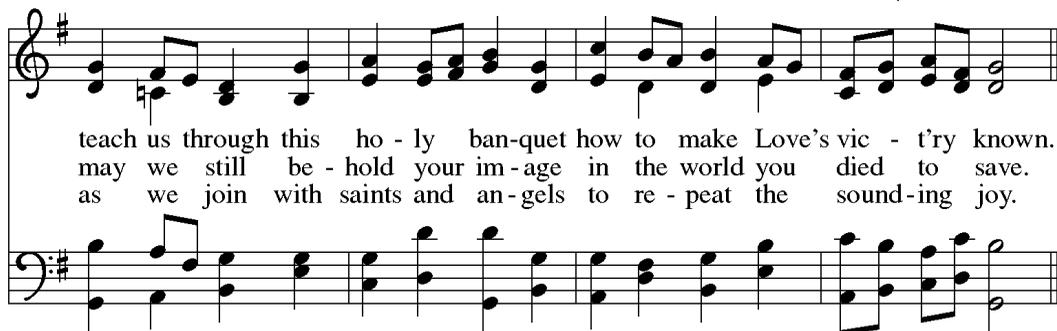
1 As we gath-er at your ta-ble, as we lis-ten to your word,
 2 Turn our wor-ship in-to wit-ness in the sac-ra-ment of life;
 3 Gra-cious Spir-it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
 send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.
 where tri-um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa-cred sto-ry till we claim it as our own;
 Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for-give as you for-gave;
 There no more will en-vy blind us nor will pride our peace de-stroy,



teach us through this ho-ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic-t'ry known.
 may we still be-hold your im-age in the world you died to save.
 as we join with saints and an-gels to re-peat the sound-ing joy.

Opening Prayer

Almighty God,

**to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden.
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Gloria

"To God be the Glory"

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in treble clef, 3/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It begins with a 4-measure rest, followed by a repeat sign. The lyrics are: "To God be the glo - ry, all glo - ry in the Lord Je - sus, the on - ly be - got - ten of the high - est and peace to his peo - ple who dwell here be - low. Our Fath - er We praise and we bless you, the Son and the Lamb The hea - ven - ly Fath - er, our Lord and our Sov - 'reign, to you, the Al - sin of the world you have ta - ken up - on you, Have mer - cy up - migh - ty, our prais - es be - stow. We wor - ship and a - on us, the Great I AM. For ho - ly, you do re you, we bow here be - fore you with grate - ful thanks - meet us, yet low - ly, you greet us The Lord in the - gi - ving, our song let us raise. All glo - ry and high - est, the Ho - ly One All glo - ry to the



- gi - ving, our song let us raise. All glo - ry and
high - est, the Ho - ly One All glo - ry to the



ho - nour and glad a - do - ra - tion to God in the
Fath - er, the Son, and the Spir - it, From a - ges ev - er -



high - est, ho - san - na and praise.
last - ing, the Three in One.

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Children's Sermon

Deacon Katie Rivers

First Reading

1 Chronicles 16: 23-34

Sing to the Lord, all the earth. Tell of his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples. For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; he is to be revered above all gods. For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the Lord made the heavens. Honor and majesty are before him; strength and joy are in his place. Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come before him. Worship the Lord in holy splendor; tremble before him, all the earth. The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved. Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice, and let them say among the nations, "The Lord is king!" Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and every thing in it. Then shall the trees of the forest sing for joy before the Lord, for he comes to judge the earth. O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever.

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.



Wake up, my spi-rit, a-wake, lute and harp! I my-self will a-wak-en the dawn.

- ¹Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful, for I have taken refuge in you;
in the shadow of your wings will I take refuge until this time of trouble has gone by.
- ²I will call upon the Most High God,
the God who maintains my cause. **℟**
- ³God will send from heaven and save me, and confound those who trample upon me;
God will send forth love and faithfulness.
- ⁴I lie in the midst of lions that devour the people;
their teeth are spears and arrows, their tongues are sharp swords.
- ⁵They have laid a net for my feet, and I am bowed low;
they have dug a pit before me, but have fallen into it themselves.
- ⁶Exalt yourself above the heavens, O God,
and your glory over all the earth. **℟**
- ⁷My heart is firmly fixed, O God, my heart is fixed;
I will sing and make melody.
- ⁸Wake up, my spirit; awake, lute and harp;
I myself will awaken the dawn. **℟**
- ⁹I will confess you among the peoples, I will sing praise to you among the nations.
For your love is greater than the heavens, and your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.
- ¹⁰Exalt yourself above the heavens, O God,
and your glory over all the earth. **℟**

Second Reading

Revelation 5: 1-13

Then I saw in the right hand of the one seated on the throne a scroll written on the inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals; and I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, “Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?” And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it. And I began to weep bitterly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. Then one of the elders said to me, “Do not weep. See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals.”

Then I saw between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders a Lamb standing as if it had been slaughtered, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. He went and took the scroll from the right hand of the one who was seated on the throne. When he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell before the Lamb,

each holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. They sing a new song:

“You are worthy to take the scroll

and to open its seals,

for you were slaughtered and by your blood you ransomed for God

saints from every tribe and language and people and nation;

you have made them to be a kingdom and priests serving our God,

and they will reign on earth.”

Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, singing with full voice,

“Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered

to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might

and honor and glory and blessing!”

Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing,

“To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb

be blessing and honor and glory and might

forever and ever!”

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel

Luke 1: 67-79

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Then his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke this prophecy:
“Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.
He has raised up a mighty savior for us
in the house of his servant David,
as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,
that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us.
Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors,
and has remembered his holy covenant,
the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us
that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies,
might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.
And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,
to give knowledge of salvation to his people
by the forgiveness of their sins.
By the tender mercy of our God,
the dawn from on high will break upon us,
to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Daniel Gainey, Pastoral Musician
St. Mary's Episcopal Church

Silence for reflection follows the sermon

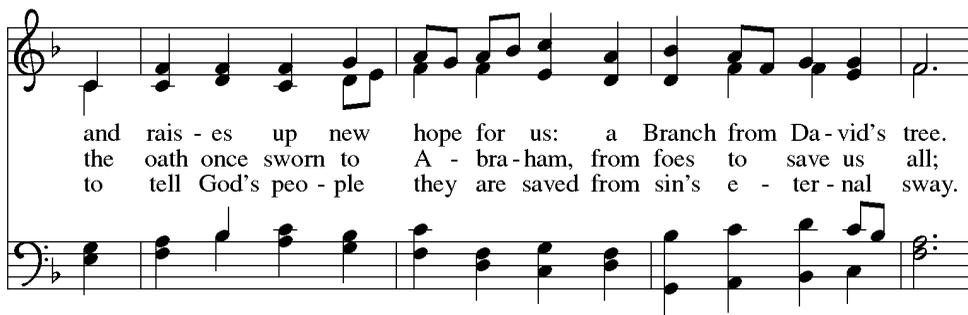


Hymn of the Day

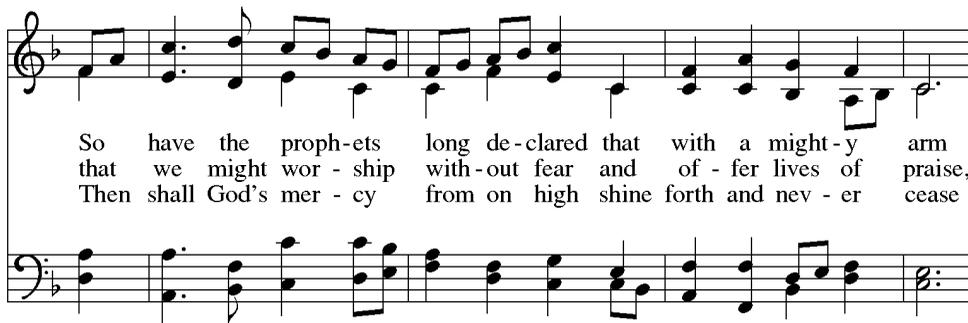
“Blessed Be the God of Israel”



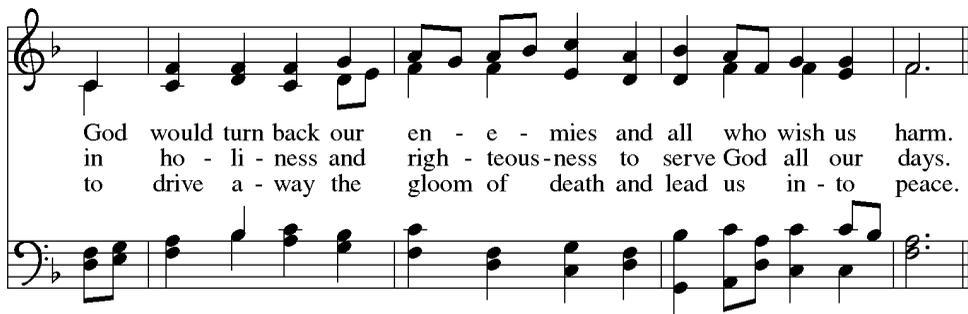
1 Blessed be the God of Is - ra - el who comes to set us free
 2 With prom-ised mer - cy will God still the cov - e - nant re - call,
 3 My child, as proph-et of the Lord you will pre-prepare the way,



and rais - es up new hope for us: a Branch from Da-vid's tree.
 the oath once sworn to A - bra-ham, from foes to save us all;
 to tell God's peo - ple they are saved from sin's e - ter - nal sway.



So have the proph-ets long de - clared that with a might - y arm
 that we might wor - ship with - out fear and of - fer lives of praise,
 Then shall God's mer - cy from on high shine forth and nev - er cease



God would turn back our en - e - mies and all who wish us harm.
 in ho - li - ness and righ - teous-ness to serve God all our days.
 to drive a - way the gloom of death and lead us in - to peace.

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Confession and Forgiveness

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Merciful God,
**we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have failed to be an obedient church.
We have not done your will, we have broken your law,
we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors,
and we have not heard the cry of the needy.
Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

Glory to God! Amen.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Offering

Voluntary

**Brad Curtioff
St. Paul's United Methodist Church**

Offertory Response

"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be-low;

praise him a-bove, ye heav'n-ly host; praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost.

Offering Prayer

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Dialogue

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus

“Holy, Holy, Holy”



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,
and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you,
O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able;
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

**Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those
who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Agnus Dei

“Lamb of God”



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

Prayer after Communion

Eternal God,

**we give you thanks for this holy mystery
in which you have given yourself for us.**

Grant that we may go into the world

in the strength of your Spirit,

to give ourselves for others,

in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

Amen.

Hymn

"God Be With You"

1 God be with you till we meet a-gain; by good coun-sels guide, up-hold you,
 2 God be with you till we meet a-gain; ho-ly wings se-cure-ly hide you,
 3 God be with you till we meet a-gain; when life's per-ils thick con-found you,

with a shep-herd's care en-fold you;
 dai-ly man-na still pro-vide you; God be with you till we meet a-gain.
 put un-fail-ing arms a-round you;

Refrain

Till we meet, till we meet, till we
 till we meet, till we meet a-gain,

meet at Je-sus' feet; till we meet, till we
 till we meet, till we meet, till we

meet, God be with you till we meet a-gain.
 meet a-gain,

Announcements and Dismissal

Made one in Christ,
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Brad Curtioff
St. Paul's United Methodist Church

Permissions

Page 3: "As We Gather at Your Table,"

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities*, 1710; arr. Julius Roentgen, 1855-1932

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Page 4: "To God be the Glory"

Paraphrase: Mark Schweizer

Music: Malcolm Archer, *The English Folk Song Mass*

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Page 9: "Blessed Be the God of Israel"

Text: Carl P. Daw, Jr., b. 1944

Music: FOREST GREEN, English folk tune; arr. R. V. Williams, 1872-1958

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Page 11: "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711

Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, attr. Louis Bourgeois, 1510-1561

Page 15: "God Be With You"

Text: Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1828-1904

Music: GOD BE WITH YOU, William G. Tomer, 1833-1896

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