

THE ANSWER TO
NEGATIVITY
IS
HOPE

First Congregational Church of
Tallmadge
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**Liturgy for the Celebration
of Worship**

13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 23, 2026 | 10:00 AM
Liturgist: Chuck Victor

"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here."

WELCOME

The chimes call us to a time of worship

Greeting Liturgist

Prelude

"Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing" - arr. Bish

Organ: Nancy Lynn Robinson

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Introit

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Holy One,

Congregation: who made heaven and earth.

Leader: As we have gathered here to worship,
let us stand and greet one another in the
love of Christ.

* indicates: **please stand as you are able**

*** Gathering Song** *"This Is the Day"* #652

*This is the day, this is the day
that the Lord has made,
that the Lord has made;
we will rejoice,
we will rejoice and be glad in it,
and be glad in it.
This is the day that the Lord has made;
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day,
this is the day that the Lord has made.*

***Call to Worship** Liturgist

One: Come, people of God, for Christ calls us beyond fear and into hope.

All: We come to encourage one another and rejoice always in God's love.

One: Jesus healed what others ignored and chose compassion over condemnation.

All: We will choose hope over negativity and mercy over judgment.

One: Let your light shine, strengthen the weary, and give thanks in every season.

All: We will be a community where hope is shared, love is lived, and every neighbor is welcomed.

One: Let us worship the God who is always creating new possibilities.

All: With grateful hearts, we celebrate the hope that transforms our lives and our world.

*Opening Hymn

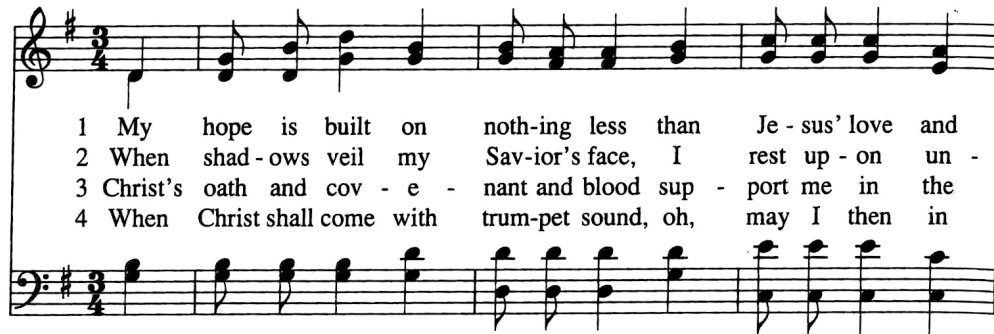
"My Hope is Built on Nothing Less" vs. 1-2

FAITH

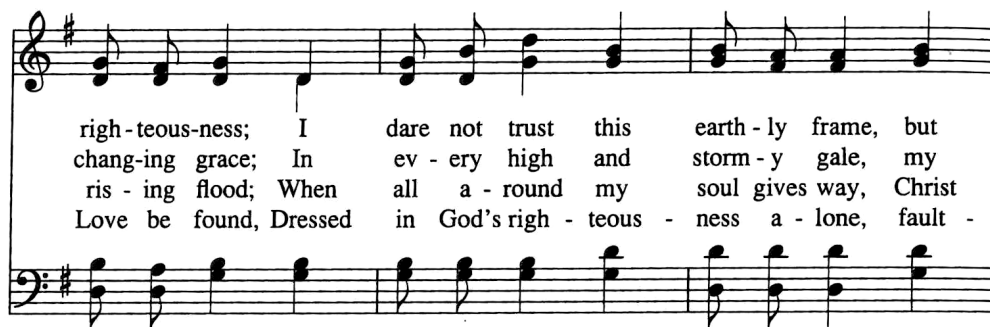
My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

Matt. 7:24-27; 1 Cor. 3:11; Heb. 6:19; Rev. 11:15

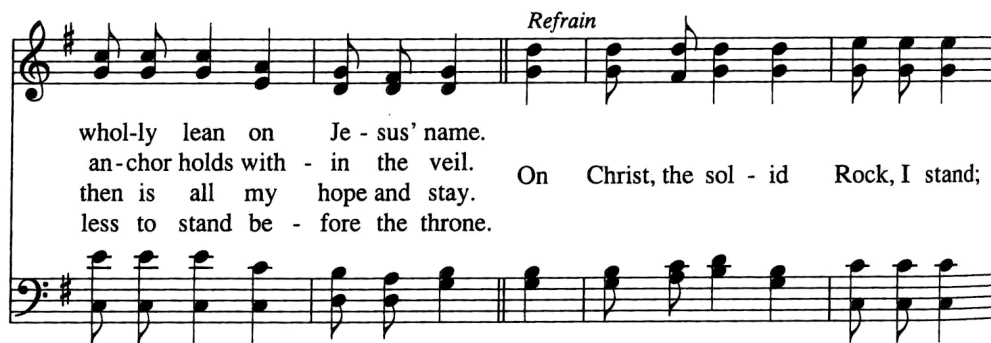
Edward Mote, c. 1834; alt.



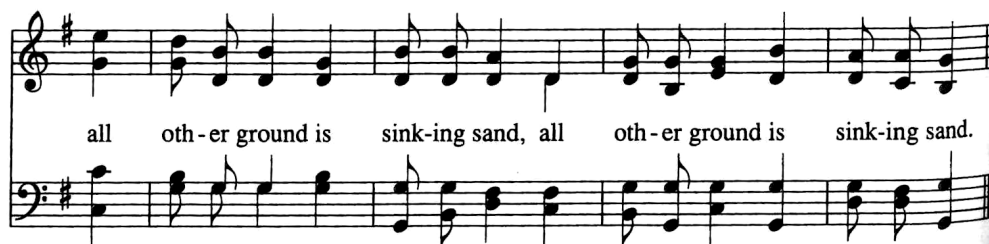
1 My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je - sus' love and
2 When shad - ows veil my Sav-ior's face, I rest up - on un -
3 Christ's oath and cov - e - nant and blood sup - port me in the
4 When Christ shall come with trum-pet sound, oh, may I then in



right-eous-ness; I dare not trust this earth - ly frame, but
chang-ing grace; In ev - ery high and storm - y gale, my
ris - ing flood; When all a - round my soul gives way, Christ
Love be found, Dressed in God's right - eous - ness a - lone, fault -



Refrain
whol-ly lean on Je - sus' name.
an-chor holds with - in the veil. On Christ, the sol - id Rock, I stand;
then is all my hope and stay.
less to stand be - fore the throne.



all oth - er ground is sink-ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink-ing sand.

William Bradbury met great success by composing hymn tunes and religious songs in a lively, popular style. He also helped establish music programs in New York public schools, served a church, and co-founded a piano company.

Tune: SOLID ROCK L.M. with refrain
William B. Bradbury, 1863

*Opening Prayer

Liturgist

God of hope, when negativity tempts us toward fear, cynicism, or despair, awaken us to your life-giving Spirit. Teach us to encourage one another, rejoice always, pray without ceasing, and give thanks in every circumstance. Like Jesus, may we choose compassion over judgment and healing over condemnation. Fill us with your light, that our worship may strengthen our hearts and renew hope for the world. Amen.

Special Music

“Cujus Animam” (from “Stabat Mater”) — G. Rossini

Solo: Rev. Daniel J. Doty

*Cujus animam gementem
Contristatam et dolentem
Pertransivit gladius*

Through her weeping soul, compassionate and grieving, a sword passed.

*Cujus animam gementem
Contristatam et dolentem
Pertransivit gladius*

He whose sighing soul, saddened and suffering, was pierced by the sword

Her soul, sighing, anguished and grieving, was pierced by a sword

*O quam tristis et afflicta
Fuit illa benedicta
Fuit illa benedicta
Mater, Mater unigeniti!*

Her grieving heart, anguished and lamenting, was pierced by a sword

Her soul bemoaning, torn by sadness and by pain, and by a sword transpierced.

*O quam tristis et afflicta
Fuit illa benedicta
Mater, Mater unigeniti!*

Whose soul, lamenting, sorrowing and grieving, was pierced by the sword

*Quae moerebat et dolebat
Et tremebat, cum videbat
Nati poenas inclyti
Et tremebat, cum videbat
Nati poenas inclyti*

Her soul, lamenting, inconsolable and sorrowing, was pierced by a sword

Through her soul, of joy bereaved, bowed with anguish, deeply grieved, now at length the sword hath passed.

*Quae moerebat et dolebat
Et tremebat, cum videbat
Et tremebat, cum videbat
Nati poenas inclyti*

Through her heart, his sorrow sharing, all his bitter anguish bearing, Lo! the piercing sword had passed.

Through her heart, his sorrow sharing, all his bitter anguish bearing, now at length the sword has passed.

A TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US

Children's Message

Wendy Brown

WE LIFT OUR PRAISE & PRAYER TO GOD

Naming our Prayers before God

Moments of Silent Prayer

Intercessory Prayer w/ Lords Prayer (using debts/debtors)

HEARING GOD'S WORD FOR THE DAY

Scripture Lesson

First Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 5:11-18

¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing. ¹² But we appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to respect those who labor among you, and have charge of you in the Lord and admonish you; ¹³esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. ¹⁴And we urge you, beloved, to admonish the idlers, encourage the faint-hearted, help the weak, be patient with all of them. ¹⁵See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all. ¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

Liturgist: The Word of God for the people of God

Everyone: THANKS BE TO GOD

*Hymn of Preparation

"Grace Alone" #436

(words and music on the following pages)

Gospel Lesson: Mark 3:1-6

³Again he entered the synagogue, and a man was there who had a withered hand. ²They watched him to see whether he would cure him on the Sabbath, so that they might accuse him. ³And he said to the man who had the withered hand, 'Come forward.' ⁴Then he said to them, 'Is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the Sabbath, to save life or to kill?' But they were silent. ⁵He looked around at them with anger; he was grieved at their hardness of heart and said to the man, 'Stretch out your hand.' He stretched it out, and his hand was restored. ⁶The Pharisees went out and immediately conspired with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him

Liturgist: The Word of God for the people of God

Everyone: THANKS BE TO GOD

Sermon

"The Answer to Negativity is Hope"

- Rev. Daniel J. Doty

THE OFFERING

Invitation to the Offering

436

Grace Alone

Unison

C Dm7 $\frac{C}{E}$ Am $\frac{C}{G}$ $\frac{G}{F}$ C Dm7 $\frac{C}{E}$ $\frac{Cmaj7}{E}$

1 Ev - ery prom - ise we can make, ev - ery prayer and
 2 Ev - ery soul we long to reach, ev - ery heart we

F G Am $\frac{G}{F}$ F $\frac{C}{E}$ F

step of faith; ev - ery dif - ference we will make
 hope to teach; ev - ery - where we share his peace

Dm7 Gsus G C Dm7 $\frac{C}{E}$ Am

is on - ly by his grace. Ev - ery moun - tain
 is on - ly by his grace. Ev - ery lov - ing

$\frac{C}{G}$ $\frac{G}{F}$ C Dm7 $\frac{C}{E}$ $\frac{Cmaj7}{E}$ F G

we will climb, ev - ery ray of hope we shine;
 word we say, ev - ery tear we wipe a - way;

WORDS and MUSIC: Scott Wesley Brown (1952-) and Jeff Nelson (20th c.)

Words and Music © 1998 Maranatha! Music (Admin. The Copyright Company)

Am $\frac{G}{F}$ F $\frac{C}{E}$ F Dm7 Gsus G7

ev - ery bless - ing left be - hind is on - ly by his
 ev - ery sor - row turned to praise is on - ly by his

C $\frac{C}{E}$ *Refrain* F $\frac{G}{B}$ C $\frac{C}{E}$

grace.
 grace. Grace a - lone which God sup - plies; strength un -

F $\frac{G}{B}$ C $\frac{C}{E}$ F $\frac{E7}{G\#}$

known he will pro - vide. Christ in us, our cor - ner -

Am $\frac{C}{G}$ Dm7 Gsus $\frac{Fmaj7}{G}$ G7 C

stone, we will go forth in grace a - lone.

Offertory

"Dance for the Lord" - Dixon

Organ: Nancy Lynn Robinson

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GIVE ONLINE HERE



*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

Generous God, receive these gifts as signs of our hope in your coming reign. May they strengthen weary hearts, bring healing where there is hurt, and extend compassion where there is judgment. Use us and these offerings to encourage one another, shine Christ's light, and share your love with the world. Amen.

WE ARE SENT BY GOD TO BE THE GOOD NEWS

*Closing Hymn

"My Hope is Built on Nothing Less" vs. 3-4

(words and music on page 3)

***Benediction**

***Congregation Response**

**"Go now in peace, never be afraid
God will go with you, each hour of every day.
Go now in peace, in faith and in love."**

Go Now in Peace—Besig, © Harold Flammer Music, A division of Shawnee Press, Inc.

Postlude

"Glorious Things of thee Are Spoken" - Hayden/Wold

Organ: Nancy Lynn Robinson

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THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED WITH OUR SERVICE TODAY

Tech Team:	Vince Scovern, Anne Pertick, Ann Hagan
Liturgist:	Chuck Victor
Ushers:	Tom Labay, Ann Hagan, Patrick Hagan, Larry Robinson
Greeters:	Cindy and Mike Cammel
Special Music:	Rev. Dan Doty

Today's altar flowers are provided by:

Marie Zimmer *"In Memory of my husband, Hugh"*

Ann Hagan *"Happy 96th Birthday to my mom, Dorothy Seal."*

PICNIC SUNDAY

August 30

10:00 AM

@ Lion's Park

On Sunday, August 30 (a 5th Sunday), we will have a worship service and a potluck picnic at the Cherry Tree Pavilion in Lions Park in Tallmadge. The service will start at 10:00 am as usual. The church will provide a hot dog bar and beverages. Please bring a salad/side/dessert for the picnic and your own table service. Games for all ages are planned! See you there!

KITCHEN SHOWER

September 3

12:00 PM

@ FCC Atrium

Ladies, You're Invited to a Kitchen Shower! Help us bless and stock our church kitchen with much-needed supplies. Visit the signup table in the atrium before or after church on **August 16, 23, or 30** to learn more and reserve your spot. Be sure to choose a slip from our **Kitchen Blessings Basket**, which will suggest a special item to bring as your shower gift for the church kitchen. Enjoy a delicious **potluck lunch**, fun **shower games**, fellowship, and opportunities to win **prizes** as we work together to support this important ministry. Come join the fun, share in the fellowship, and help fill our kitchen with blessings!



Picnic SUNDAY

AUGUST 30TH @ LION'S PARK

WORSHIP TOGETHER. EAT TOGETHER. GROW TOGETHER.

WORSHIP SERVICE AT 10:00 AM

POTLUCK PICNIC AFTER SERVICE

HOT DOG BAR & BEVERAGES PROVIDED BY THE CHURCH

GAMES FOR ALL AGES!

CHERRY TREE PAVILION, LIONS PARK
At the end of E. Garwood Drive in Tallmadge

PLEASE BRING
A SALAD, SIDE, OR DESSERT
& YOUR OWN TABLE SERVICE.

See you there! ♥

Rev. Daniel J. Doty, *Senior Minister*
Nancy Lynn Robinson, *Choir Director/Organist*
Wendy Brown, *Director of Family Ministries*

IN PERSON | ONLINE WORSHIP
SUNDAYS AT 10:00 AM

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Thursday: 9:00 am—12:00 pm

85 HERITAGE DR | TALLMADGE, OH 44278

330-633-4931 | FCCTALLMADGE.ORG

THE PRAYER CHAIN CONNECTION

We pray for the names listed below and also for many other church members and their concerns, which remain confidential. You may call or text Diana Caldwell with your prayer concerns @ 330-265-5723. *Bless be God who did not refuse me the kindness I sought in prayer. Psalm*

Brian Allman

Cindie Anderson

Debbie B.

Brenda Bagnoli

The Becking Family

Joyce Bojarski

Margarete Boschert

Ryan Boylan

Jim Caplinger

Matthew Chapman

Jane Charles

Patty Conely

Jeffry Cotton

Betty Cottrill

Bob Davis

Rylin Davis and family

Susan Dean

Sean and Sara Doty

Ron Drake

Elaine Engle

Ron Evans

Bonnie Fordham

Darrell Goodson

Eleanor Hall

Jim Jackson

Nancy Johnson

Anita Kelly-Lahrmer

The Klinginsmith Family

Yvonne Larson

Bill Laymon

Roberta Lewis

Kitty Maddox

Carol McFarland

Jack and Helen McKee

Donna Phillips

Bob Poff

Lt. John Norton

Ensign 5 Kaylie Spear

Lt. Maxwell Spear

Jeff Sullivan

Richard and Karen Thomason

Troy and Kara

Kim and Noel Walters

PO3 Kaitlyn Wetter

Don Woerz

Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group

Ladies,

YOU'RE INVITED TO A

KITCHEN SHOWER!

Let's bless our church kitchen together!



**THURSDAY,
SEPTEMBER 3RD**
at noon



Enjoy a
POTLUCK LUNCH
and fellowship!



Play games and
WIN PRIZES!



Pick a slip from our
**KITCHEN BLESSINGS
BASKET**
to see your
shower gift item!



*Come join the fun, SHARE IN THE FELLOWSHIP,
AND HELP FILL OUR KITCHEN WITH BLESSINGS!*

