

CHRISTIAN UNITY

(Standing)

Almighty God, you are the one who called this universe into being. Out of nothing you created everything that is.

By your power you hold together all space and time and substance.

By your hand alone, Creator God, the inanimate elements became alive so that we could live and move and have our being.

We celebrate life, the precious life you have given us, and we celebrate that unity of mind and emotions, of body and soul, that you want us to enjoy and share with each other.

We rejoice in the centrality of Jesus Christ in all your works, for he was with you from the very beginning, and is supreme over all creation.

We praise you that Christ is before all things, and that in him all things hold together, especially our very fragile, vulnerable, and often broken lives.

DUKE STREET (22 Q)

Lord of all be - ing, throned a - far,
Lord of all life, be - low, a - bove,

The first system of musical notation is in treble and bass clefs, 2/2 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written on a treble clef staff, and the bass line is on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

your glo - ry flames from sun and star;
whose light is truth, whose warmth is love,

The second system of musical notation continues the melody and bass line from the first system. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

cen - ter and soul of ev - 'ry sphere,
be - fore your ev - er - blaz - ing throne

yet to each lov - ing heart how near!
we ask no lus - ter of our own.

(Kneeling or sitting)

We know that we will remain less than the whole persons you have called us to be in Christ Jesus until we acknowledge our sins to you, and so we bow before you and pray:

Almighty God, we confess that we have tried to run away and hide from you. We constantly deceive ourselves into thinking that we can live without you. We have made idols of our own achievements. We have treated other persons as though they did not bear your image. We have failed to enfold and include all persons within the outstretched and open arms of Jesus Christ, our Savior. And we have left undone those deeds of lovingkindness and godly justice that you want us to pursue in your name. Bring your Spirit upon us in a gracious, healing way. Make us agents of reconciliation as we live within your holy presence. Amen.

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(Sitting)

BEECHER

Breathe, O breathe your lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry trou - bled breast;

let us all in you in - her - it, let us find the prom - ised rest.

Take a - way the love of sin - ning; Al - pha and O - me - ga be;

end of faith, as its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.

We thank you, gracious God, for establishing the church as a single body of interdependent members, each having a place and purpose.

We know that we need each other and are called to appreciate the great variety of gifts you have given us to use.

Help us to rejoice with those who are feeling joy and delight.

Help us to sing with those who are singing your love and praise.

Help us to taste the agony of those who are hurting.

Help us to share the burden of those who are in distress.

Take away jealousy and resentment from our hearts when we see others achieving success.

Fill us with that spirit of unity in Christ that lets us see and feel and know that we all belong to you through the grace we have received.

Teach us to know and love the world-wide church called out of all peoples and nations. Make visible the unity that you desire as we express a spirit of reconciliation in all our relationships. Show us that we are part of the one and only body of Jesus Christ, unified by faith, scattered for witness and service. Lead us to appreciate the richness of our diversity and your creative power at work in our various traditions and customs. Make us all one with you by the inspiration and guidance of your Spirit.

Lead us into lives worthy of our calling in Christ, with all lowliness, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another in love, and eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. We pray for this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

(The liturgist may use one or more of the following or other expressions of worship from our own and other traditions to convey our sense of unity in Christ.)

Let us sing a new hymn.

(As the liturgist directs.)

Let us pause in silence and wait upon God.

Let us stand and greet each other with the right hand of fellowship and say, "The peace of God be with you."

Let us make prayer requests for ourselves and others.

(To be included in a prayer of intercession by the liturgist.)

Let us hear the watchword for the day and reflect upon it.

Let us lift our hands in a prayer of praise.

(The liturgist offers prayer.)

Let us pray together for the grace that we need, saying:

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Dear God, as we your people gather in every time and place around this wondrous earth, may we be strengthened by our awareness of one another and united by our mutual prayers.

Hear us and help us all, we pray.

CHRISTIAN UNITY

May the variety of traditions and customs of your whole church become a multitude of lights to reveal the good news needed by people everywhere. May the variety of our ministries and service convey your redemptive love and bind us ever closer to one another.

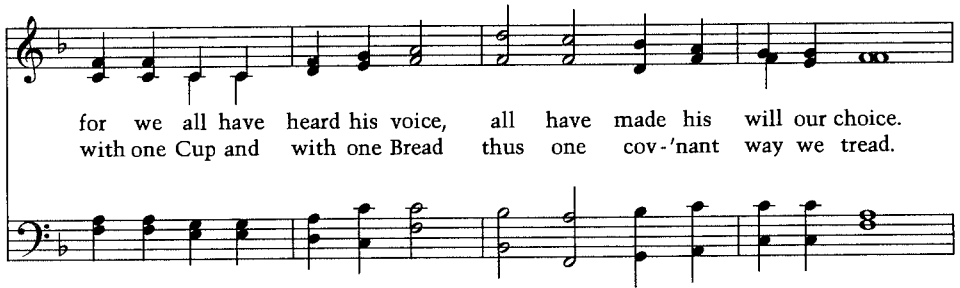
Grant us grace to unite in essentials, to accept diversity in non-essentials, and to love one another in all things.

(Standing)

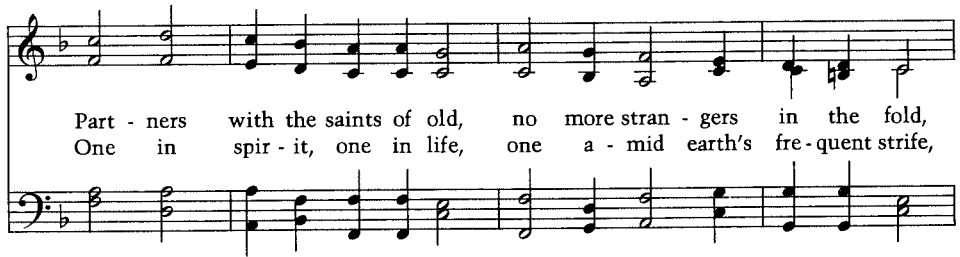
GAUDEAMUS PARITER



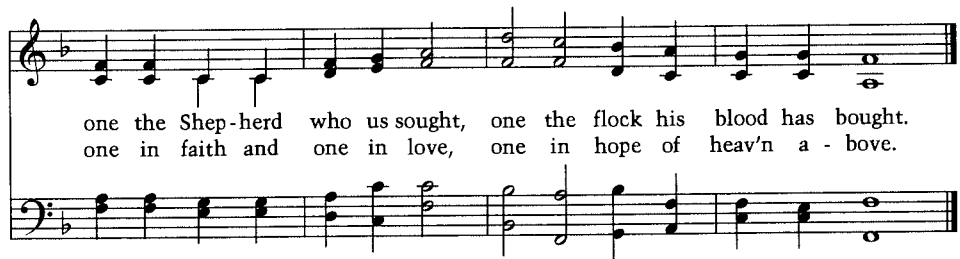
Join we all with one ac-cord; praise we all our com-mon Lord;
One the name in which we pray, one our Sav-ior day by day;



for we all have heard his voice, all have made his will our choice.
with one Cup and with one Bread thus one cov-nant way we tread.



Part - ners with the saints of old, no more stran - gers in the fold,
One in spir - it, one in life, one a - mid earth's fre - quent strife,



one the Shep-herd who us sought, one the flock his blood has bought.
one in faith and one in love, one in hope of heav'n a - bove.

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