

Floyd Whittier Corson

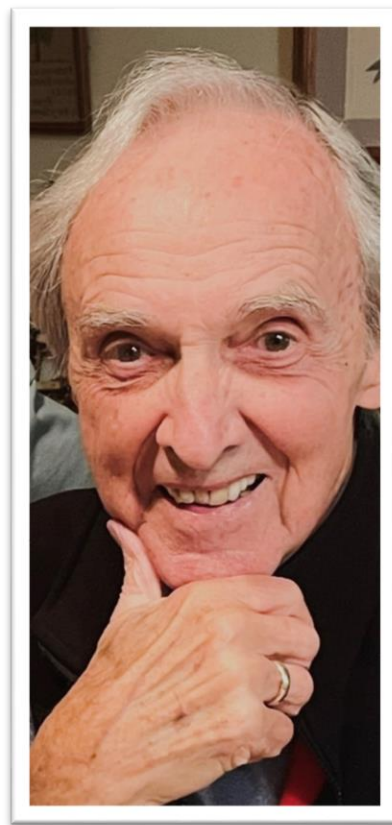
Celebrating a Life with Word & Music



April 26, 2025
First Church of Christ Congregational, UCC

Floyd Whittier Corson

September 21, 1930
September 25, 2024



Preparation for Worship

*The song of God is the music of divine love,
It plays uniquely through each person's life and work.
This song seeks to dance through the human spirit
and touch the world with love - Joyce Rupp*

Prelude

Nimrod, from the Enigma Variations – Sir Edward Elgar

Ray Cornils, Organ

Nun Danket Alle Gott – John Kramer

Dana Russian, Trumpet & Ray Cornils, Organ

Intermezzo In A major, Op. 118 No 2. – Johannes Brahms

Duncan Cumming, Piano

Welcome

Rev. Walt Hampton

Call to Worship

Rev. Walt Hampton

Opening Prayer

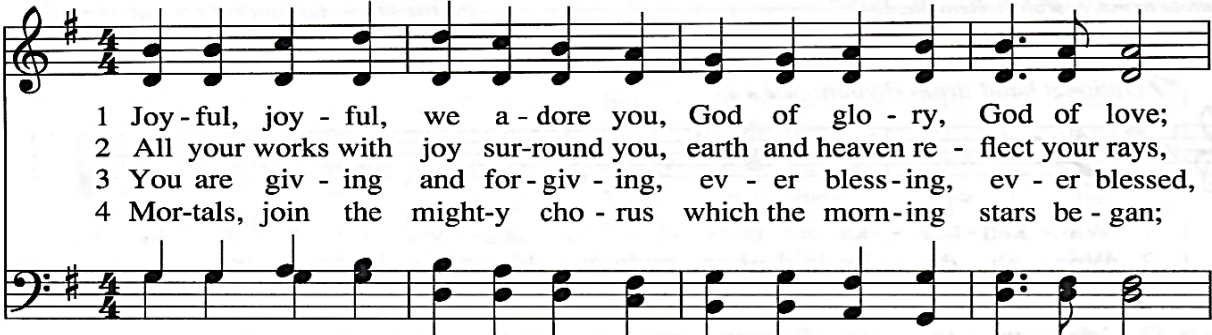
Rev. Walt Hampton

Hymn

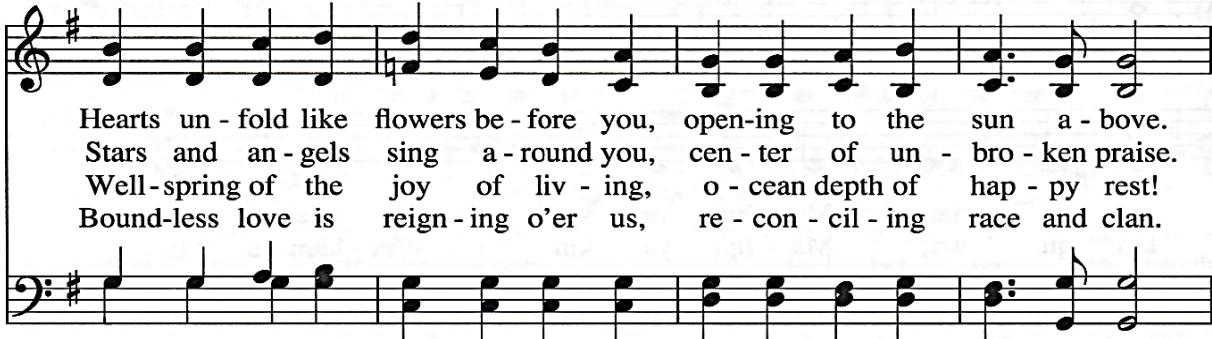
Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

Ps. 145:10; Isa. 49:13

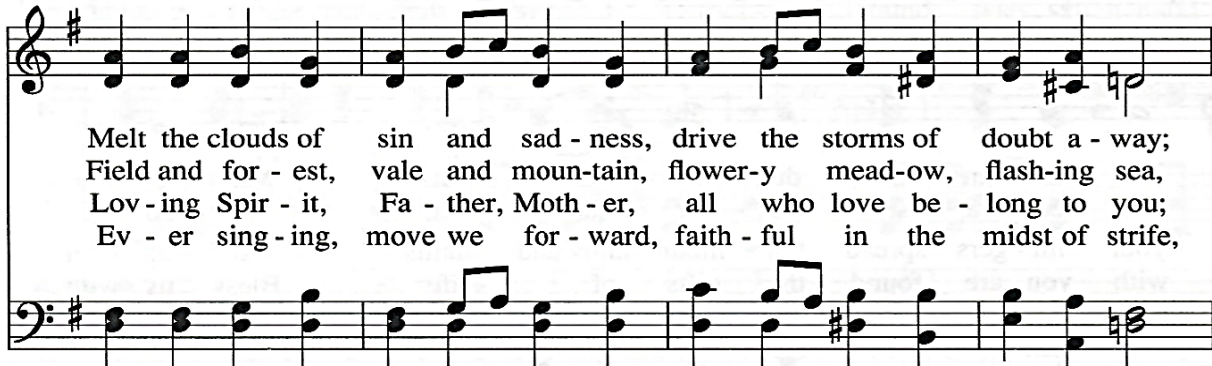
Henry van Dyke, 1907; alt.



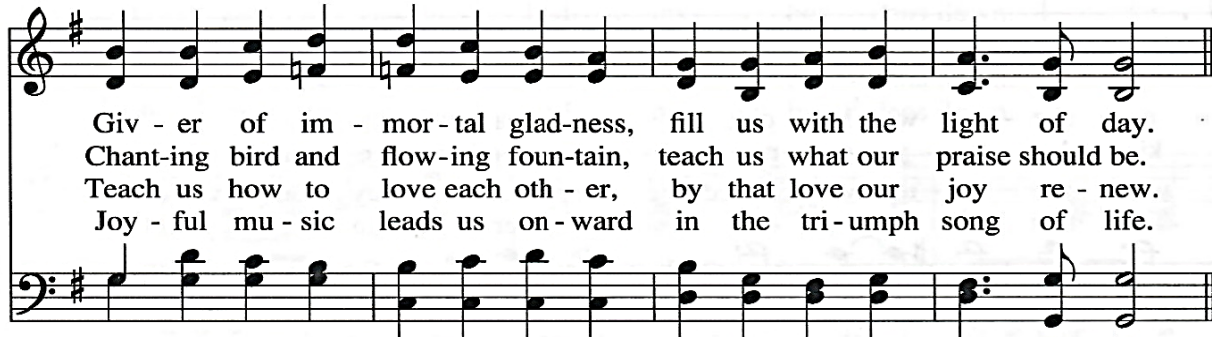
1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore you, God of glo - ry, God of love;
 2 All your works with joy sur-round you, earth and heaven re - flect your rays,
 3 You are giv - ing and for-giv - ing, ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blessed,
 4 Mor-tals, join the might-y cho - rus which the morn-ing stars be - gan;



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

Hebrew Scripture

Richard Brown, friend

Isaiah 40: 28 - 31 (Common English Bible)

- ²⁸ Don't you know? Haven't you heard?
The Lord is the everlasting God,
the creator of the ends of the earth.
He doesn't grow tired or weary.
His understanding is beyond human reach,
²⁹ giving power to the tired
and reviving the exhausted.
³⁰ Youths will become tired and weary,
young men will certainly stumble;
³¹ but those who hope in the Lord
will renew their strength;
they will fly up on wings like eagles;
they will run and not be tired;
they will walk and not be weary.

Psalms 17: 5 - 8

- ⁵ My steps have held to your paths;
my feet have not stumbled.
⁶ I call on you, my God, for you will answer me;
turn your ear to me and hear my prayer.
⁷ Show me the wonders of your great love,
you who save by your right hand
those who take refuge in you from their foes.
⁸ Keep me as the apple of your eye;
hide me in the shadow of your wings

Music Offering *Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

Lisa Ikerd, Handbells, niece & Anne Polak, Guitar, daughter

Psalms 150

Gail Etter, niece

- ¹ Praise the Lord.
Praise God in his sanctuary;
praise him in his mighty heavens.
² Praise him for his acts of power;
praise him for his surpassing greatness.
³ Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet,
praise him with the harp and lyre,
⁴ praise him with timbrel and dancing,
praise him with the strings and pipe,
⁵ praise him with the clash of cymbals,
praise him with resounding cymbals.
⁶ Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.
Praise the Lord.

Music Offering

Shine Like the Sun

Combined Choir, Chris Russian, Flute, friend
Richard Goss, Soloist, friend

Remembrance

Carl Lindblade, friend

Hymn A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Martin Luther, c. 1529

Ps. 46

Transl. Frederick H. Hedge, 1853; adapt. Ruth Duck, 1981

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er fail - ing,
2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be los - ing,
3 And though this world with dev - ils filled should threat - en to un - do us,
4 That word be - yond all earth - ly powers for - ev - er is a - bid - ing;

Our pres - ent help a - mid the flood of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing.
But there is one who takes our side, the One of God's own choos - ing.
We will not fear for God has willed the truth to tri - umph through us.
The Spir - it and the gifts are ours, for Christ is with us sid - ing.

For still our an - cient foe does seek to work us woe with craft and pow - er
You ask who that may be? Christ Je - sus sets us free! With might - y power to
The powers of e - vil grim, we trem - ble not for them; their rage we can en -
Let goods and kin - dred go, this mor - tal life al - so; the bod - y they may

great, and armed with cru - el hate, on earth with - out an e - qual.
save, vic - to - rious o'er the grave, Christ will pre - vail tri - um - phant.
dure, for lo, their doom is sure: one lit - tle word shall fell them.
kill; God's truth shall tri - umph still; God's reign en - dures for - ev - er.

There is speculation that this psalm paraphrase was written in 1527 when Martin Luther's friend was burned at the stake, or in 1529, when Lutheran German princes protested the revocation of their liberties. It has been translated into more than fifty languages.

Tune: EIN' FESTE BURG (isometric) 8.7.8.7.6.6.6.7.

Martin Luther, c. 1529

Harm. The New Hymnal for American Youth, 1930; alt.

For another version, see 440

Remembrances of an Uncle

Gina Whipple, niece

Music Offering *Secret of Life* – J. Taylor

Peter Eldridge & Paul Cummings, nephews

Remembrances of a Grandfather

Julia Edwards, granddaughter

Gospel Reading

Pastor Sue Davidson

Reflection

Pastor Sue Davidson

Blessing

Sara Handpicker, granddaughter

What Fire Comes to Sing In You – Jan Richardson

This blessing
had big ideas
about what it wanted
to say,
what it wanted you
to know,
to see.

This blessing wanted
to open your eyes
to the joy that lives
in such strange company
with sorrow—
wanted to make sure
to tell you,
lest you forget,
that no matter how long
it seems absent,
no matter how quiet
it becomes,
joy has never
been far from you,
holding a space

of celebration,
watching for you,
humming as it
keeps vigil.
But now that
it comes time
to speak it —
comes time to
lay these words
on your brow,
your beating heart —
all this blessing
can think to say is

*Look —
your life
a candle,
this day
a match.
Strike it and see
what blazes,
what fire comes
to sing in you.*

Words of Assurance

Pastor Sue Davidson

Hymn *All the Music Sung and Played Here*
To the tune of: *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*
Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, adapted

All the music sung and played here is a gift, O God, from you.
For as long as we have prayed here,
 we've been blessed by music, too.
By your Spirit, this musician found new depths of faith to share.
Music is a gift you've given and becomes our thankful prayer.

You played hymns and songs for singing,
 toes for tapping your good news,
Organ sounding, piano playing, faithful hearers in the pews.
With the trumpet and the cymbal, with guitar and violin,
Faith is found here and rekindled; hearts are lifted, once again.

Bless the talents he has brought here,
 for he offered you his best.
If the gifts are not in singing, may our joyful noise be blest.
If our world is ever silent, may we sing to you above.
Touched by grace, may each one present
 offer back this song of love.

BENEDICTION

Rev. Walt Hampton

You are invited to share your stories and remembrances at a reception from 4:00 til 6:00 PM at the Ledgeview Grill which is located on the second floor (handicapped accessible) of the North Conway Country Clubhouse at 76 Norcross Circle. It is located directly to the left of the North Conway Fire Station right behind Schouler Park in the heart of North Conway Village.

If you would like to make a gesture in Floyd's memory, the family is asking that you consider a donation to either The Greater Westfield Choral Association [PO Box 1968, Westfield, MA 01085-1968] or White Mountain Musical Arts [PO Box 2753, North Conway, NH 03860-2753], both are non-profit groups that Floyd had a direct hand in creating.

Some Glad Morning (I'll Fly Away) Peter Eldridge, nephew, Piano
Anne Polak, daughter, & Julia Edwards, granddaughter, Guitar

Some Glad Morning (I'll Fly Away)

Albert E. Brumley, 1932

Ps. 55:6

1 Some glad morn-ing when this life is o'er, I'll fly a - way;
2 When the shad-ows of this life have gone, fly a-way, fly a-way;
3 Just a few more wea - ry days and then,

to a home on God's ce - les - tial shore, I'll fly a - way.
Like a bird from pris - on bars has flown, fly a-way, fly a-way.
To a land where joys shall nev - er end,

Refrain

I'll fly a - way, O glo - ry, I'll fly a - way;
fly a-way, fly a-way, in the morn-ing;

When I die, hal - le - lu - jah, by and by, I'll fly a - way.
fly a-way, fly a-way.

This is a favorite song of the golden age of gospel music, in which heaven is vividly described and highly desired. Albert E. Brumley's musical style grew out of his Ozark mountain roots. He wrote this song while working in a cotton field.

Tune: I'LL FLY AWAY 9.4.9.4. with refrain
Albert E. Brumley, 1932

Postlude

Toccata on Amazing Grace – Christopher Pardini

Ray Cornils, Organ