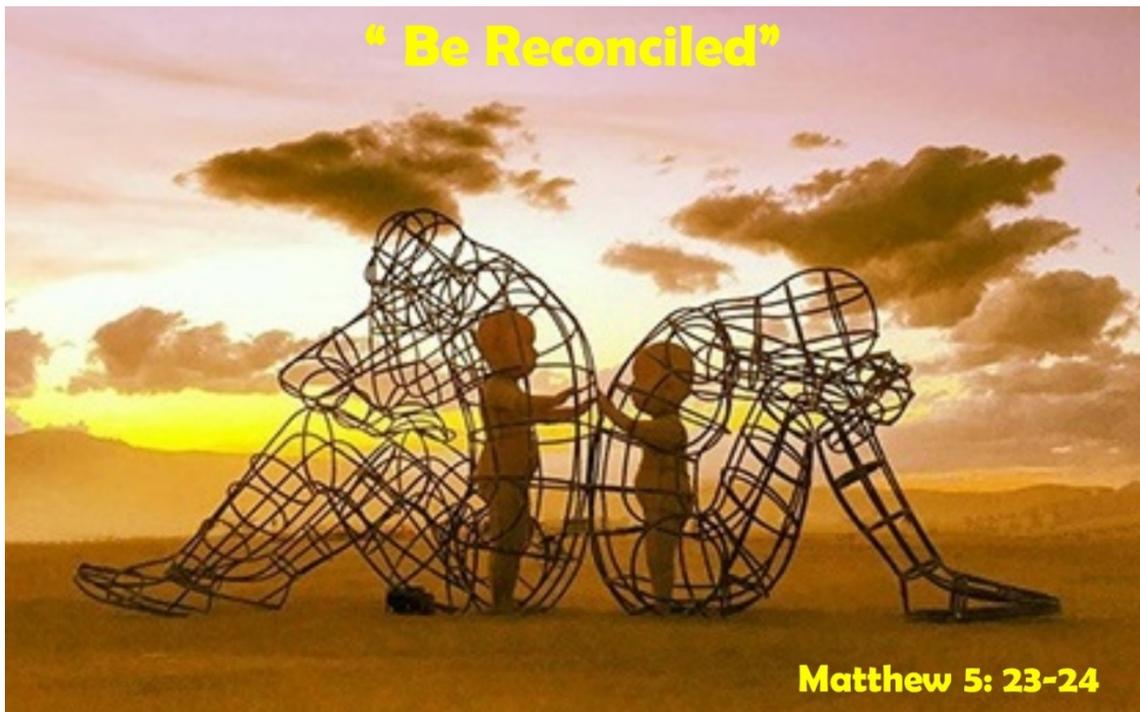


**Pennsylvania Southeast Conference  
of the United Church of Christ**



**Friday Morning  
2018 Annual Meeting  
Worship Bulletin**

**Matthew 5:23-24** So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister<sup>[a]</sup> has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister,<sup>[b]</sup> and then come and offer your gift. (NRSV)

Friday Morning – 9:45 am

Verse 1 of “In the Bulb, there is a Flower”  
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One: Sometimes, it’s difficult to see hope in the midst of death. Sometimes, it is hard to think about rainbows when the clouds are darkening. For all of us, death and loss are uncomfortable realities to live with.

*All: We are people of the resurrection. This is what makes us different, and a bit concerned. Concerned about the afterlife; concerned about this life too.*

Two: Yes, we are the people of the resurrection, yet we also love this life that we live in community, with all of its peaks and valleys. We can see where we are now, but God can see where we might be.

*All: If we focus on this life only, we are to be most pitied. If we ignore the needs around us now, we have much to be concerned about later.*

*Silence*

Verse 2 of “In the Bulb, There is a Flower”

One: We fear the unknown and we fear silence. We want answers that we can be illusive, just like we want to fill every moment with noise so we don’t have to listen to God. And yet, God is still speaking.

*All: God is still speaking, and we struggle to listen. We fear the darkness, and we love the light. Yet, the light sometimes shows us truth about ourselves that we don’t want to know.*

Two: It is easy to get lost in the past, while the present is yearning to be lived. We have been called to remember the past, embrace the present, and look forward to a bright, yet uncertain future.

*All: God sees within the mystery – God is the mystery – and God leads us to futures we could never imagine.*

Silence

Verse 3 of "In the Bulb, There is a Flower"

One: So, lift up your hearts and embrace the new possibilities that God is bringing into our midst!

*All: We lift them up to God, who made the universe and all that is in it!*

Two: If our hearts are troubled, we are in good company. Still, God has called us to allow the truth to set us free! May this weekend be one of transformation, reconciliation, and new beginnings!

*All: Thanks be to God – Amen!*

Musicians: The Rev. Zachary Jackson, The Rev. David Heckler, The Rev. Dr. Steve Ohnsman, PhD  
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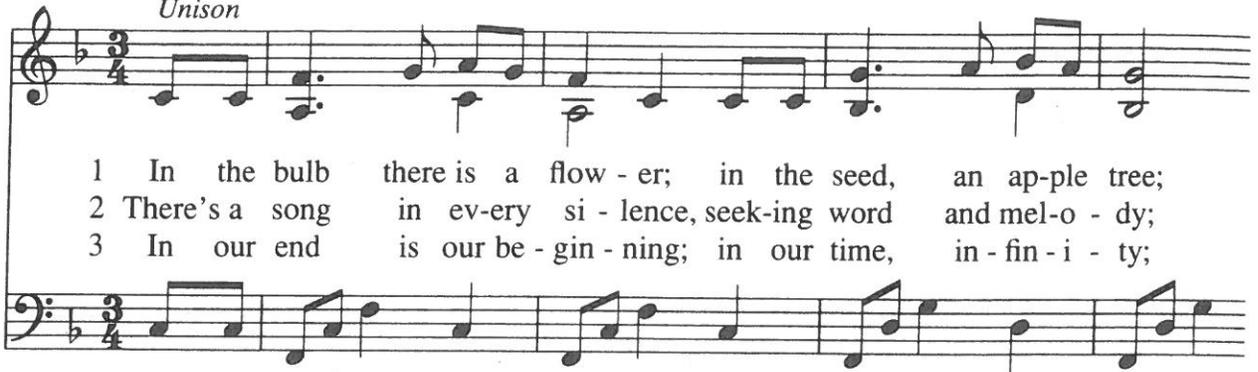
Liturgists: Rev. Melanie Lawrence-Caldwell, Rev. Roger Ulrich

This service was primarily created by Steve Ohnsman and dramatically improved by the PSEC  
Worship Team

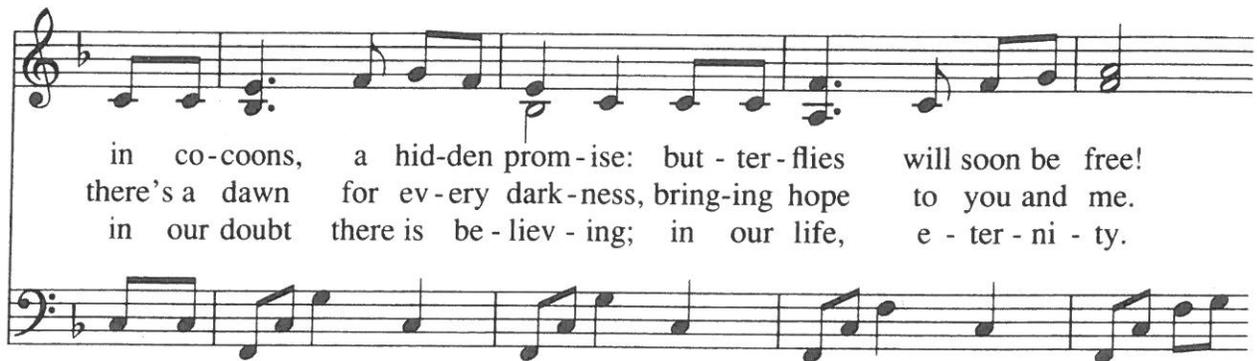
# In the Bulb There Is a Flower

Natalie Sleeth, 1985

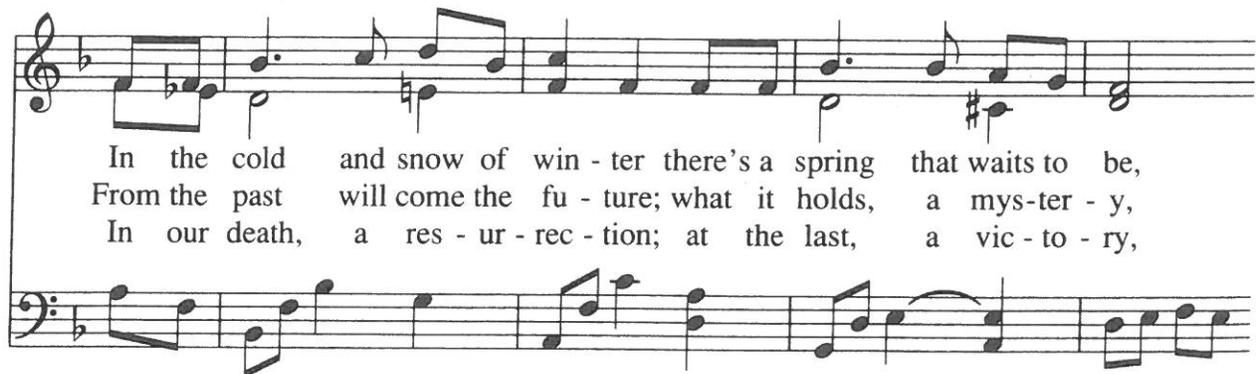
Unison



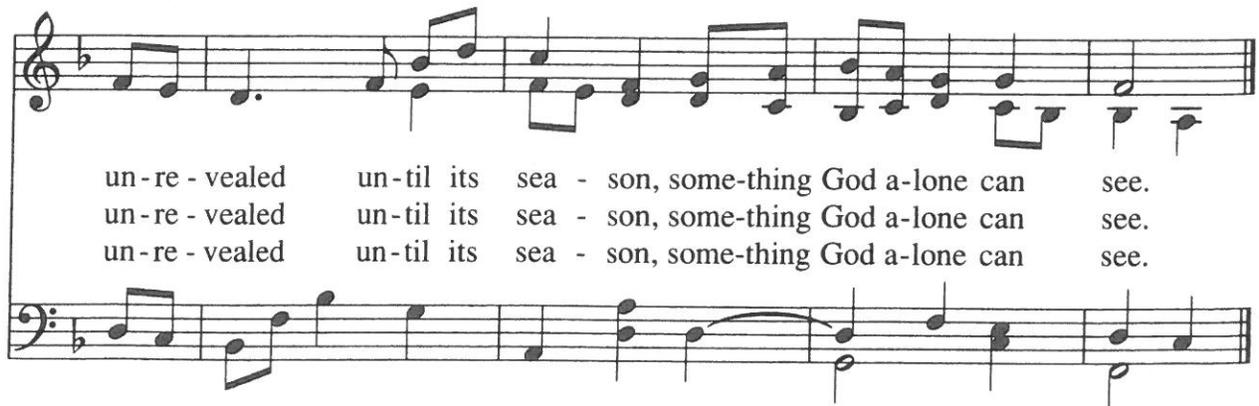
1 In the bulb there is a flow - er; in the seed, an ap - ple tree;  
2 There's a song in ev - ery si - lence, seek - ing word and mel - o - dy;  
3 In our end is our be - gin - ning; in our time, in - fin - i - ty;



in co - coons, a hid - den prom - ise: but - ter - flies will soon be free!  
there's a dawn for ev - ery dark - ness, bring - ing hope to you and me.  
in our doubt there is be - liev - ing; in our life, e - ter - ni - ty.



In the cold and snow of win - ter there's a spring that waits to be,  
From the past will come the fu - ture; what it holds, a mys - ter - y,  
In our death, a res - ur - rec - tion; at the last, a vic - to - ry,



un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.  
un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.  
un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.