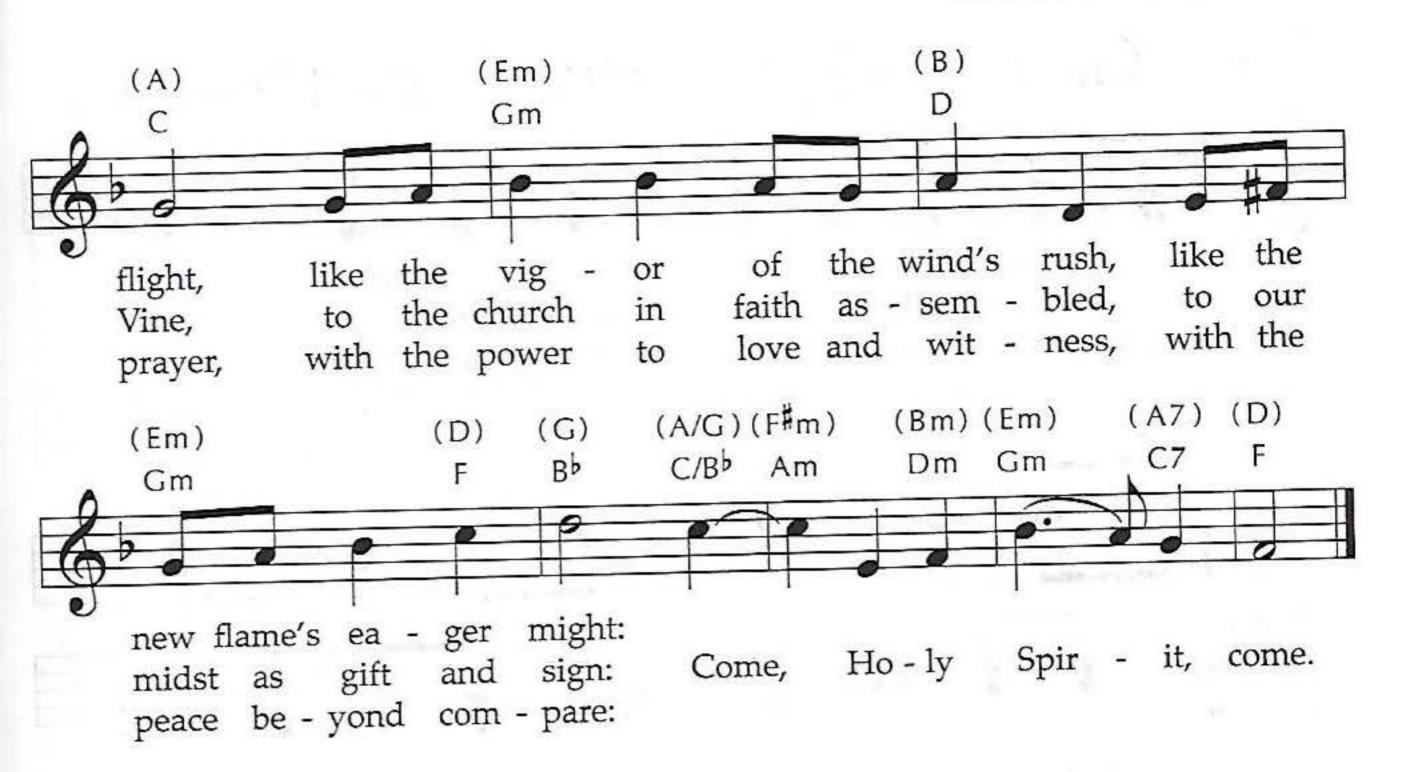
## Presbytery of Boston September 14, 2023 Stated Presbytery Meeting Order of Worship

Opening Prayer:	Eternal God, you have called us this evening from many homes and communities as members of Your one body. Guide us in this time together, and so fill us with your Spirit, that in faith, hope and love we may worship you.
Opening Hymn:	Breathe on me Breath of God
Call to Confession:	The proof of God's love is that while we were sinners, Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him, we can dare with confidence to approach God seeking forgiveness for our sins.
Prayer of Confession (Unison):	Merciful God, we humble ourselves in your presence, confessing our unworthiness and our sinfulness in your sight. We have broken your holy law. We have not sought first your kingdom and righteousness. We have been anxious and troubled about many things, and have neglected the things that belong to our peace. We have not loved our neighbor as ourselves, or done to others as we would want them to do to us. Gracious God and heavenly Father, you gave your Son Jesus Christ, to save us from our sins. Free us from our self- centeredness so we may love You and love others, and thus bring honor to Your Name. Through the grace of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, Amen.
Assurance of Pardon:	The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.
Response (Unison):	Thanks be to God.
Scripture:	Romans 13:8-10 <sup>8</sup> Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup> The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery," "You shall not murder," "You shall not steal," "You shall not covet," <sup>[a]</sup> and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one

Reflection:	command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>[b] 10</sup> Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.
Small Group Discussion:	<ul> <li>10 min small group sharing based on reflection questions:</li> <li>What/How is the law of God fulfilled in loving our neighbors as ourselves?</li> <li>What makes it challenging to help you practice love that fulfills God's law? (fear, judgement, difference, etc.) What helps you to practice love that fulfills the law? (empathy, intention, relationship, etc.)</li> <li>What actions might we take, as individuals and as a presbytery support one another in loving to fulfil the law?</li> </ul>
Closing Hymn and Offering:	We are One in the Spirit Offering: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
Closing Prayer:	By your will, O God, we go out into the world with good news of your undying love, and actions to minister in the midst of human need, showing the wonders of your grace.

GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

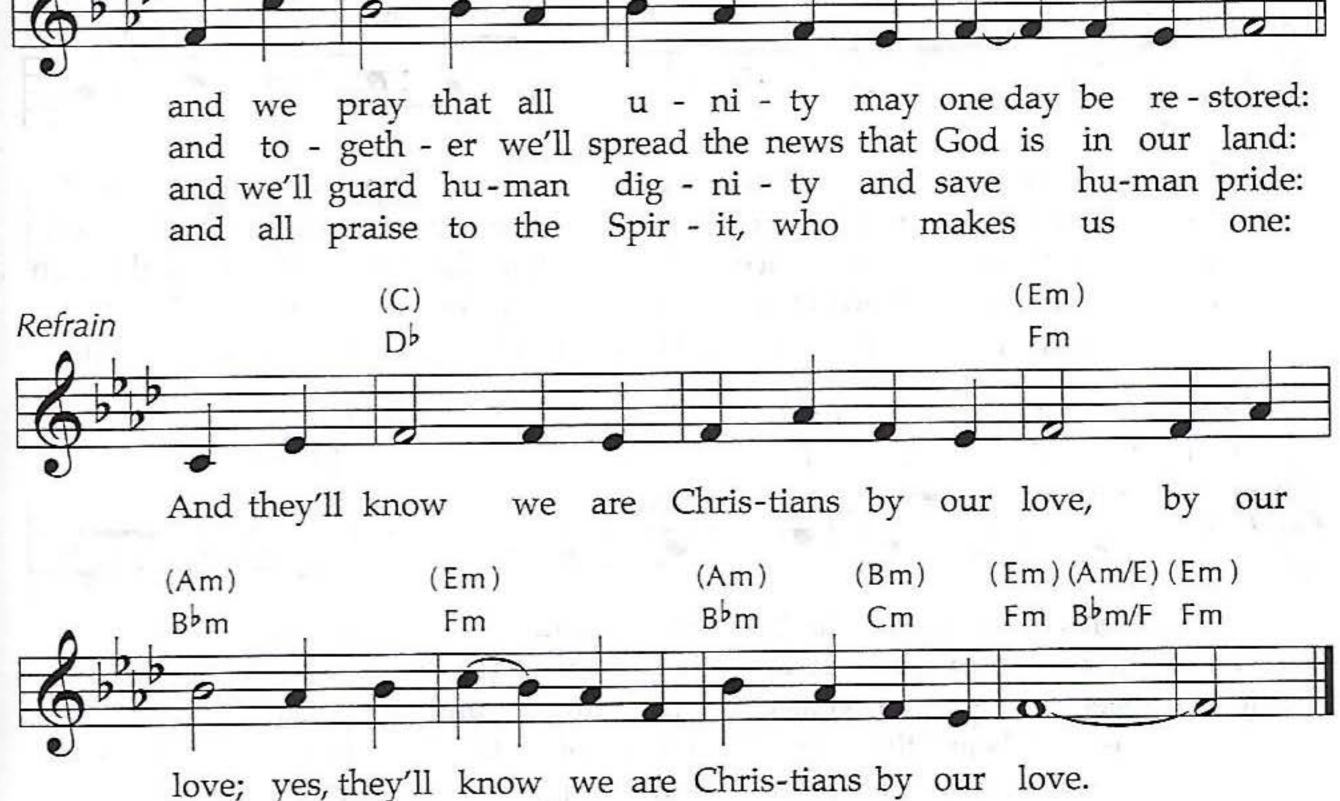






In both Hebrew and Greek, the words for "spirit" can equally well be translated as "breath" or "wind," so it is very appropriate to address the Holy Spirit as the "Breath of God." This tune by an English organist has become the customary one in North American hymnals.

## THE CHURCH 300 We Are One in the Spirit They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love (Em) (Bm)Capo 1:(Em) Cm Fm Fm in the Lord; in the Spir-it; we are one one We are We will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand; 2 We will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side; 3 praise to the Fa-ther, from whom all things come, 4 All (Em)(Am)Fm Bbm in the Lord, the Spir - it; we are one in one are we with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand, walk will we with each oth - er; we will work side by side, will work we all praise to Christ Je - sus, God's Son, on - ly and (Em) (Am)Bbm Fm



A parish priest at St. Brendan's on the South Side of Chicago in the 1960s was very involved in the local Civil Rights movement and needed something for his youth choir to sing at ecumenical, interracial events. Finding nothing, he wrote this song in a single day.