

Because We Do Not See the One

The parable of the vineyard

Proper 22, Year A

Because we do not see the One
who animates all things,
we sometimes think we own a world
we're only fostering
and miss the God-revealing chance
to tend and then to share
the time, the skill, the life, the gifts
we find within our care.

God puts us on a patch of ground
and sets us tending vines
so we can learn the alchemy
that changes grapes to wine,
and greed to hospitality,
and guardedness to grace,
that makes of walled and fence-crossed lands
one wide, inviting space.

Our ground is good, the sun is bright,
the rain renews the land,
and we as gracious gardeners
enflesh God's gracious hand.
This is the Messianic dream,
a table richly spread
where God, unseen, is yet perceived
and everyone is fed.

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Because We Do Not See the One

Star of the County Down, Irish Folk Song

Michael Hudson (b.1950)

arr. Albert Blackwell

1. Be - cause we do not see the One who a - ni - mates all
2. God puts us on a patch of ground and sets us tend - ing
3. Our ground is good, the sun is bright, the rain re - news the

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vines so we can learn the al - che - my that chang - es grapes to
land, and we as gra - cious gar - den - ers en - flesh God's gra - cious

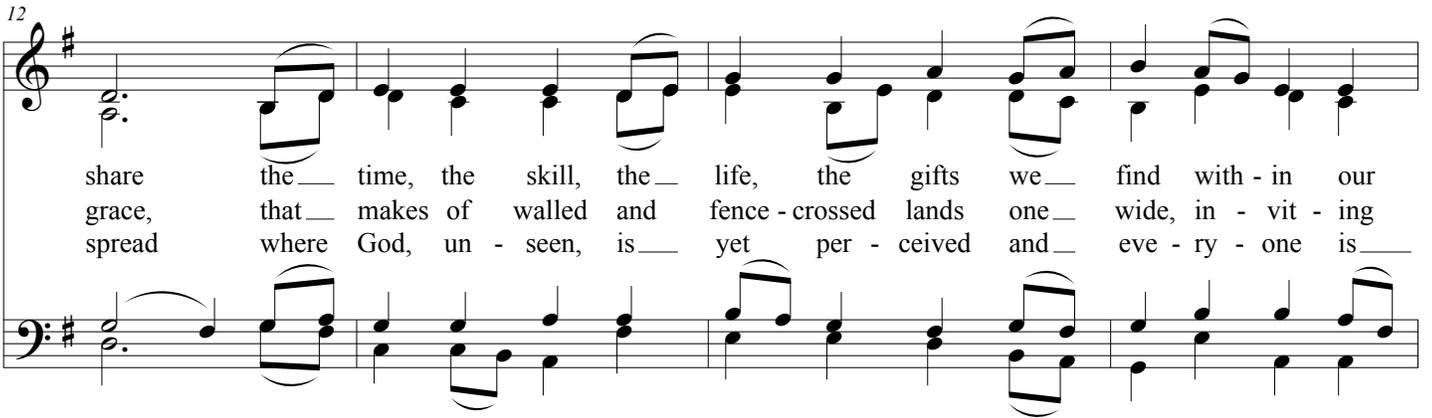
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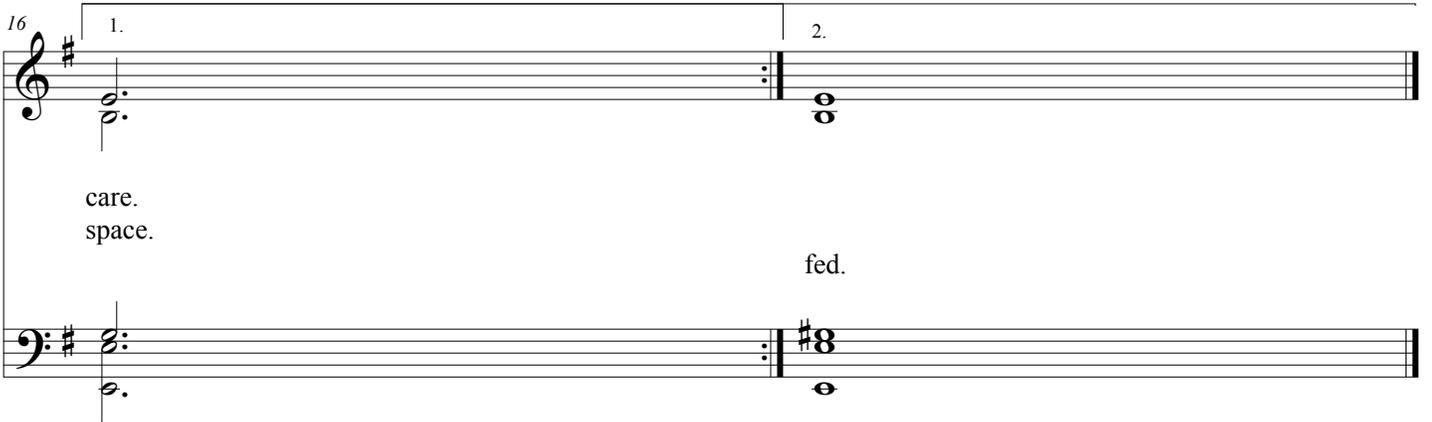
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share the time, the skill, the life, the gifts we find with - in our
grace, that makes of walled and fence - crossed lands one wide, in - vit - ing
spread where God, un - seen, is yet per - ceived and eve - ry - one is

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1. care. space. 2. fed.