



Did you know Edward Beecher...

Edward Beecher was the son of Rev. Lyman Beecher, brother of Henry Ward Beecher, Harriet Beecher Stowe and others. With Isabella Porter he had eleven children. After studying at Yale and Andover he became minister of Park Street Church in Boston and, later, President of the newly founded Illinois College.

He was a close friend of Elijah Lovejoy and is said to have been present when the pro-slavery mob rioted and killed Lovejoy and destroyed his anti-slavery press. Beecher's appeal from the pulpit of the First Congregational Church (the Brick Church) in Galesburg, Illinois, inspired Mary Anne Ball Bickerdyke to become Mother Bickerdyke and the Florence Nightingale of America.

...was a Congregationalist?

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Call To Worship

L: We gather together, to ask the Lord's blessing

C: God chastens and hastens, divine will to make known

L: The world's constant oppressors will cease from distressing

C: For we have the voice, and heart, and will to be God's pilgrim people

L: Come, let us worship as God's pilgrim people

Invocation (in unison)

Gracious God, we thank You for Jesus Christ, who inspired our ancestors to be who they became, and for each like revelation of Yourself in the hearts of all who followed them in the last four centuries. Teach us to know that Christ can inspire us this and every hour to be what we ought to be ourselves. Amen

Historical story by: Rev. Will Lange

Liturgy by: Rev. Tom Richard