

**Peace United Church of Christ
September 15th, 2024
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
10:30am**



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Prelude

Impromptu in Gb, Schubert

Welcome and Announcements

Ringling of the Bells

*Call to Worship

The heavens are telling the glory of God,

Glory to God!

All of creation shines with God's love,

Glory to God!

We celebrate our community and the natural world that holds us,

Glory to God!

Let us join our hearts in worship and our voices in song.

*Song

All Things Bright and Beautiful

#31 NCH

Refrain:

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,

All things wise and wonderful, our dear God made them all.

***Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colors, and made their tiny wings.***

Refrain:

***The purple headed mountain, the river running by,
The sunset, and the morning that brightens up the sky.***

Refrain:

***The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden, God made them every one.***

Refrain:

*Prayer of Confession

God of our lives, you see us at our best and at our worst, and still you love us. We acknowledge that we are human. We have done things to separate ourselves from one another and from you. Forgive us and make us whole. Remind us of your promise that nothing can ever separate us from your love, and that your love will always leave us changed. Amen.

*Assurance of God's Love

*Passing of the Peace

Story for All Ages

Amanda McElray Hunter

Sending the Children

***Goodbye sweet children, it's time to leave this place,
May our love hold you all with grace.
Our hearts go with you 'til you come back to this place.
So we bid you goodbye, goodbye, goodbye.***

Contemporary Reading

Lost and Found, Laura Foley

Phyllis Cook, reader

On my sophomore science field trip
to the rocky Maine coast,
I sat captivated by a tidal pool, a little village
of crawling crabs, snails, starfish darting,
a sea anemone appearing to sing.
I stayed so long, I forgot the rising tide,
my teachers, classmates waiting
on the bus. On the exam,
I couldn't calculate the pitch of waves,
or chemical composition of anything,
but I knew how to lose myself
in the world of tiny shifting things.

The heavens are telling the glory of God;
and the firmament proclaims God's handiwork.
Day to day pours forth speech,
and night to night declares knowledge.
There is no speech, nor are there words;
their voice is not heard;
yet their voices goes out through all
the earth,
and their words to the end of the world.

In the heavens God has set a tent for the sun,
which comes out like a bridegroom
from his wedding canopy,
and like a strong man runs its
course with joy.
Its rising is from the end of the heavens,
and its circuit to the end of them;
and nothing is hid from its heat.

The law of the Lord is perfect,
reviving the soul;
the decrees of the Lord are sure,
making wise the simple;
the precepts of the Lord are right,
the commandment of the Lord is clear,

rejoicing the heart;
enlightening the eyes;
the fear of the Lord is pure,
enduring forever;
the ordinances of the Lord are true
and righteous altogether.
More to be desired are they than gold,
even much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey,
and drippings of the honeycomb.

Moreover by them is your servant warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.
But who can detect their errors?
Clear me from hidden faults.
Keep back your servant also from the insolent;
do not let them have dominion over me.
Then I shall be blameless,
and innocent of great transgression.

Let the words of my mouth and the
meditation of my heart
be acceptable to you,
O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Thanks be to God.**

Choir Anthem or Special music *The Heavens are Telling*, Haydn Mary Pat Renaud,
Carrie Kelsey, and Kirby Wood, soloists

Sermon Rev. Corinne Freedman Ellis

Song *Nearer, My God, to You* #606 NCH

***Nearer, my God, to you, nearer to you.
I'll bear the cross as Christ calls me to do
and pray each day anew:***

Nearer my God, to you, nearer my God, to you, nearer to you.

***When I am wandering as Jacob did,
and in the deepest night the path is hid,
my dreams will bring me, too,***

Nearer my God, to you, nearer my God, to you, nearer to you.

***Let Jacob's ladder fill the sky above,
and angels carry down the faith and love
to keep this goal in view:***

Nearer my God, to you, nearer my God, to you, nearer to you.

***Then, waking from the night to morning air
by Bethel's stone, I'll know you heard my prayer,
and how my yearning grew:***

Nearer my God, to you, nearer my God, to you, nearer to you.

Community Prayers and the Prayer of Jesus

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kin-dom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kin-dom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Choral Amen

Offertory

I Want Jesus to Walk With Me, trad.

Kirby Wood, soloist

*Closing Song

Peace Will Surely Come

#13 P&W

***Peace will surely come.
Justice thy will be done.
When in Love we offer our hand.
We come into the promised land.
War must surely end.
Your enemy is a long lost friend.
The killing fields are charred and dead.
Love your neighbor, that's what Jesus said.
Hunger must surely end.
Abundance is close at hand.
With Bread and the Fishes we share this feast.
With everyone, the most and the least.
In Montgomery she would not move
To the salty sea he marched for truth
They're calling out day and night
Open your eyes and walk in the light.***

*Benediction

*Postlude

Assisting in Today's Service:

Cindy Macaulay, Greeter
Pam Kramer, Marci Tuggle and Warren Post, Ushers

Peace United Church of Christ Staff

Alex Nelson – Livestream Technician

Amanda McElray Hunter - Children, Youth and Small Group Coordinator

Bri Dornbush - Office Coordinator

Rev. Corinne Freedman Ellis - Pastor

Carrie Kelsey – Kitchen Manager

Dan Shepard - Maintenance

Jim Pospisil - Music Director

Mali Lorenz - Bookkeeper

Rachel Obed - Business Manager

Sophia Farell – Soundboard Technician