



**Pleasant Hill Presbyterian Church  
Online Worship Service  
Sunday, July 26, 2020 at 11am  
17th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
“Kingdom of Dirt” Week 4**

**Gathering Around the Word**

Welcome and Announcements

The Rev. Jennie Sankey

Musical Meditation

in Gratitude for the Life of Carol Mahoney  
Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

Hyoun Joo Song

Call to Worship

The Rev. Katie Day

One: Blessed be God whose word gives hope and shapes our dreams,

**All: whose love has conquered death.**

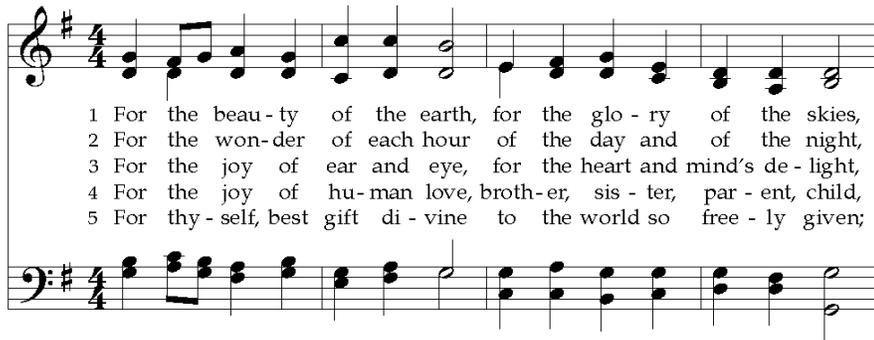
One: Blessed be God who orders our way and guides our steps,

**All: who leads us into life.**

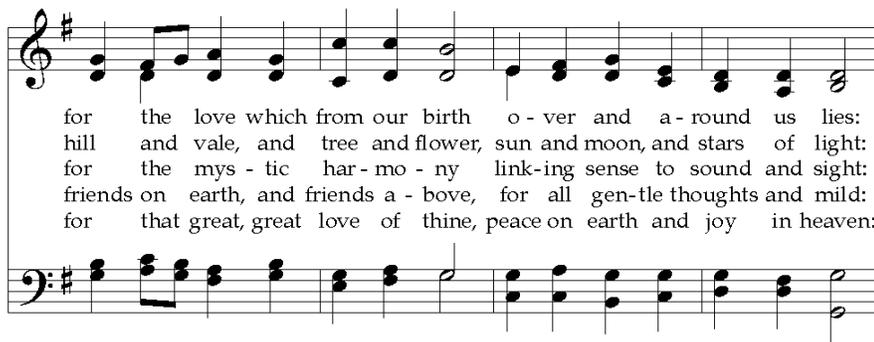
One: Let us worship God!

CREATION AND PROVIDENCE

## For the Beauty of the Earth 14



1 For the beau-ty of the earth, for the glo-ry of the skies,  
 2 For the won-der of each hour of the day and of the night,  
 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de-light,  
 4 For the joy of hu-man love, broth-er, sis-ter, par-ent, child,  
 5 For thy-self, best gift di-vine to the world so free-ly given;



for the love which from our birth o-ver and a-round us lies:  
 hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:  
 for the mys-tic har-mo-ny link-ing sense to sound and sight:  
 friends on earth, and friends a-bove, for all gen-tle thoughts and mild:  
 for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:

*Refrain*



Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate-ful praise.

In the course of many revisions, the original eucharistic emphasis of this text has shifted to a hymn of thanksgiving for a wide range of human experience, with a Christological summation. It is set here to the tune that is customary in North America, though not elsewhere.

TEXT: Folliot Sandford Pierpoint, 1864, alt.  
 MUSIC: Conrad Kocher, 1838; abr. William Henry Monk, 1861; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

DIX  
 7.7.7.7.7

Call to Confession

Katie

Prayer of Confession

**God of mystery, God of life, we imagine that we are capable judges of power and wisdom and goodness. We trust our own standards; we separate and categorize; we mark the performance of others. We fail to trust your power, hidden in all**

**things, in small things. We fail to watch for you, working out your purposes, tending your land. Gracious God, hidden and manifest, transform our withered imaginations until we yield the judgments we trust to a love we cannot control. Amen.**

Assurance of Grace

Katie

\*Passing of the Peace

Katie

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

## **The Word Read and Proclaimed**

Children's Sermon

Katie

Prayer for Illumination

The. Rev Steve Sankey

First Scripture Reading

Psalm 119:129-136

Steve

Your decrees are wonderful; therefore my soul keeps them. The unfolding of your words gives light; it imparts understanding to the simple. With open mouth I pant, because I long for your commandments. Turn to me and be gracious to me, as is your custom toward those who love your name. Keep my steps steady according to your promise, and never let iniquity have dominion over me. Redeem me from human oppression, that I may keep your precepts. Make your face shine upon your servant, and teach me your statutes. My eyes shed streams of tears because your law is not kept.

Anthem

What is the World Like?

Brittney Garrett

Second Scripture Reading

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Jennie

He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

Sermon

Kingdom of Dirt: Seeds, Yeast, Pearls and Fish

Jennie

## Responding to the Word

Affirmation of Faith

from *The Confession of 1967*

Jennie

**Already God’s reign is present as a ferment in the world, stirring hope in people and preparing the world to receive its ultimate judgement and redemption. With an urgency born of this hope, the church applies itself to present tasks and strives for a better world. It does not identify limited progress with the kingdom of God on earth, nor does it despair in the face of disappointment and defeat. In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial achievement to the final triumph of God.**

Prayers

Katie

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom 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 kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Invitation to Offering

Jennie

To give: ● return to [www.pleasanthillpc.org](http://www.pleasanthillpc.org) and click on the Giving tab or

● text givePHPC to 73256 or

● mail your offering to the church – 3700 Pleasant Hill Road Duluth, GA 30096

Prayer of Dedication

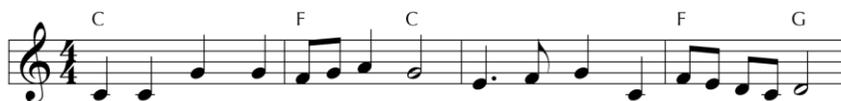
Jennie

Hymn

*God of Great and God of Small*

#19

# God of Great and God of Small 19



1 God of great and God of small, God of one and God of all,  
 2 God of land and sky and sea, God of life and des - ti - ny,  
 3 God of si - lence, God of sound, God by whom the lost are found,  
 4 God of heaven and God of earth, God of death and God of birth,



God of weak and God of strong, God to whom all things be - long,  
 God of nev - er - end - ing power, yet be - side me ev - ery hour,  
 God of day and dark - est night, God whose love turns wrong to right,  
 God of now and days be - fore, God who reigns for - ev - er - more,

## Refrain



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, praise be to your name.

Although it uses remarkably simple language, this text affirms a great mystery: beyond all our powers of explanation, God holds together all the opposites that seem to pull us in one direction or another. Yet God is present to them all and also to us; for that we give praise.

TEXT: Natalie Sleeth, 1973  
 MUSIC: Natalie Sleeth, 1973; arr. Beverly A. Howard, 2012  
 Text and Music © 1973 Carl Fischer, Inc.

GOD OF GREAT AND SMALL  
 7.7.7.7 with refrain

## Following the Word into the World

Charge and Benediction

Jennie

Postlude

*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God....*

*arr. Tim Albrecht*

Some of this morning's prayers are adapted from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion*.