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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PENDLETON, OREGON – AUGUST 7, 2022
CHURCH IN THE WOODS



- Children's Activity Bags are available.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

There is a potluck after the service, please join us at the Camp Kitchen.

HYMN GTG #15 *All Creatures of Our God and King Vss. 1-3*

1. All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
O brother sun with golden beam,
O sister moon with silver gleam,
sing praises! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
2. O brother wind with clouds and rain,
you nurture gifts of fruit and grain.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
O sister water, flowing clear,
make music for your Lord to hear.
Sing praises! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
3. O brother fire, so warm and bright,
chase off the shadows of the night.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Dear mother earth, who day by day
unfolds such blessings on our way,
sing praises! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof,
the world and all that dwells therein.

We live in God's world, we are not alone.

We share this life with the heavens and the earth,
**with the waters and the land, with trees and grasses,
with fish, birds, and animals, with creatures of every form,**
and with all our brothers and sisters.

God saw all that was made, and behold, it was very good.

HYMN GTG #15 *All Creatures of Our God and King* Vss. 4-6

4. All who for love of God forgive,
all who in pain or sorrow grieve,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ bears your burdens and your fears;
so, even in the midst of tears,
sing praises! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

5. And you, most gentle sister death,
waiting to hush our final breath:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,
fair is the night that leads us home.
Sing praises! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

6. O sisters, brothers, take your part,
and worship God with humble heart.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
All creatures, bless the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One!
Sing praises! Alleluia!

CALL TO CONFESSION AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION

SONG:

Good Lord, Deliver us

Peter Fargo

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

In the water of baptism, God pours out mercy and blessing. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace as you share the blessing with others and care for this good earth, that all creation may declare God's glory. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Having received the peace of Christ, let us share that peace
with one another. The peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you.

PRAYER FOR GOD'S WISDOM

Creator God, we come to you having heard creation groaning in travail.
Speak to us through your holy word that with insight and compassion
we may care for all creation. Amen.

SCRIPTURE Psalm 65

REFLECTION Calm in Chaos *Rev. Jonathan Mitchell*

SCRIPTURE Genesis 1

SERMON Rev. Cyndi Wunder

HYMN OF RESPONSE *Everything is Holy Now* Peter Mayer

VERSE 1 When I was a boy each week,
On Sunday we would go to church,
Pay attention to the priest.
And he would read the holy word,
And consecrate the holy bread
And ev'ryone would kneel and bow.
Today the only dif'rence is
Ev'rything is holy now.
Ev'rything, ev'rything, ev'rything is holy now.

VERSE 2 When I was in Sunday school,
We would learn about the time
Moses split the sea in two,
And Jesus made the water wine.
And I remember feeling sad,
Miracles don't happen still,
And now I can't keep track
Cause ev'rything's a miracle.
Ev'rything, ev'rything, ev'rything's a miracle.

BRIDGE 1 Wine from water is not so small,
But an even better magic trick
Is that anything is here at all.
So the challenging thing becomes
Not to look for miracles,
But finding where there isn't one.

VERSE 3 When holy water was rare at best
It barely wet my fingertips.
Now I have to hold my breath
Like I'm swimmin' in a sea of it.
It used to be a world half there,
Heaven's second rate hand me down.
Now I walk it with a reverent air,
'Cause ev'rything is holy now.

CHORUS Ev'rything is holy now. (8x)

BRIDGE 2 Read a questioning child's face
And say it's not a testament.
That'd be very hard to say.
See another new morning come
And say it's not a sacrament
I tell you that it can't be done.

VERSE 4 This mornin' outside I stood.
I saw a little red wing bird
Shining like a burning bush,
And singing like a scripture verse.
It made me want to bow my head.
I remember when church let out.
How things have changed since then.
Ev'rything is holy now.

VERSE 3 It used to be a world half there,
Heaven's second rate hand me downs,
Now I'm walking with a reverent air,
'Cause ev'rything is holy now.

CHORUS Ev'rything is holy now. (8x)

STATEMENT OF FAITH: *From A Brief Statement of Faith*

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.

In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.

But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.

Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.

We deserve God's condemnation.

Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.

In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth.

Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage.

Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.

Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still.

With believers in every time and place,

we rejoice that nothing in life or in death

can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God, creator of the universe,

Fill us with your love for the creation, for the natural world around us, for the earth from which we come and to which we will return. Awake in us energy to work for your world; let us never fall into complacency, ignorance, or being overwhelmed by the task before us. Help us to restore, remake, renew. **Amen.**

Jesus, who raised the dead to life,

Help us to find ways to renew what we have broken, damaged and destroyed: Where we have taken too much water, polluted the air, poured plastic into the sea, cut down the forests and soured fertile soils. Help all those who work to find solutions to damage and decay; give hope to those who are today working for a greener future. **Amen.**

Spirit of the Living God,
At the beginning you moved over the face of the waters. You brought life into being, the teeming life that finds its way through earth and sea and air, that makes its home around us, everywhere. You know how living things flourish and grow, how they co-exist; how they feed and breed and change. Help us to understand those delicate relationships, value them, and keep them from destruction. **Amen.**

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; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERING

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Gracious and holy God
For galaxies stretching out beyond all imagining and for the planet that is our home: We give you thanks, O God.
For creating us in your image, and inviting us to live in harmony with you and in peace with your children; We give you thanks, O God.
For people of vision who have taught us ways of justice and love; and for our friend, Jesus, who points us to your reign still: We give you thanks, O God. Now empower us to live as your people;
May our lives be thank-you notes for all these gifts! Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN

GTG #526 *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

1. Let us talents and tongues employ,
reaching out with a shout of joy:
bread is broken; the wine is poured;
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

Refrain:

Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again;
pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Refrain:

Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again;
pass the Word around: loaves abound!

2. Christ is able to make us one;
at the table he sets the tone,
teaching people to live to bless,
love in word and in deed express. [Refrain]
3. Jesus calls us in, sends us out
bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
gives us love to tell, bread to share:
God (Immanuel) everywhere! [Refrain]

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this bread to set before you, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

Blessed be God forever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this wine to set before you, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become for us the cup of salvation.

Blessed be God forever.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING WITH WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

You are worthy of our thanks and praise, Lord God of life,
for by the breath of your mouth you have spoken your word,
and all things have come into being.

You fashioned us in your image
and placed us in the garden of your delight
to tend and keep your creation.

Though we chose the path of rebellion you did not abandon your people
nor your world.

In the sign of the rainbow you drew all creatures
into your covenant of grace.
In choosing a people for yourself
you placed them in a land of plenty
and furnished them with laws and prophets
to guide them in seeking your reign of justice, mercy and peace.

Lord God, you are the most holy one,
enthroned in splendor and light,
yet in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ
you reveal the power of your love
made perfect in human weakness.

Amen. Lord, we believe.

Embracing our createdness,
Jesus showed the way of salvation;
loving to the end, he gave himself
to death for us and for all the world;
dying for all that he had made,
he set us free from the bonds of sin,
and released creation from its bondage to decay.

Amen. Lord, we believe.

On the night before he died
he took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

Amen. Lord, we believe.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Amen. Lord, we believe.

Gracious God, by your Holy Spirit
let these gifts of your creation be
to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;
form us into the likeness of Christ
and make us a perfect offering in your sight. **Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Look with favor on your people
and in your mercy hear the cry of our hearts.
Bless the earth, heal the sick,
let the oppressed go free
and fill your Church with power from on high.
Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Gather your people from the ends of the earth
to feast with all your saints at the table in your kingdom,
where the new creation is brought to perfection
in Jesus Christ our Lord;
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honor and glory be yours, almighty God,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

SENDING HYMN:

GTG #300

We Are One in the Spirit

1. We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord;
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord;
And we pray that all unity will one day be restored.

Chorus: And they'll know we are Christians
by our love, by our love,
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

2. We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand;
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand;
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land.
3. We Will work with each other, we will work side by side;
We will work with each other, we will work side by side;
And we'll guard each man's dignity and save each man's pride.
4. All praise to the Father, from whom all things come;
And all praise to Christ Jesus, His only Son.
And all praise to the Spirit who makes us one.

BLESSING, BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE