



Service of Worship July 6, 2025 9:30am
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Gathering

SONG TO GATHER

“Revelation Song”
All

Jennie Lee Riddle

**Worthy is the Lamb who was slain; Holy, holy is he.
Sing a new song to him who sits on heaven’s mercy seat.**

**Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty.
Who was and is and is to come.
With all creation I sing, “Praise to the King of kings
You are my ev’rything and I will adore you.”**

**Clothed in rainbows of living color, flashes of lightning rolls of thunder.
Blessing and honor, strength and glory and power be
To you, the only wise king.**

**Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty.
Who was and is and is to come.
With all creation I sing, “Praise to the King of kings
You are my ev’rything and I will adore you.”**

WELCOME

Rev. Karen Wright

*CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: In the beginning, God stepped up to the plate and spoke light into the darkness.

ALL: God created the world in love and called it good.

ONE: God painted the skies, shaped the seas, and formed each living creature with care.

ALL: God crowned humanity with glory and honor, calling us stewards of creation.

ONE: Today, we worship the God who leads off with love — setting the tone for all that follows.

ALL: We come to praise our Creator, who calls us good and invites us to live with purpose and grace. Let us lift our voices in awe and gratitude — our God is still creating, still calling, still leading off with love!

*SONG TO PRAISE

“Your Love Awakens Me”

Chris Quilala & Phil Wickham

All

**There were walls between us. By the cross you came and broke them down,
you broke them down.**

**And there were chains around us. By your grace we are no longer bound,
No longer bound.**

**You called me out of this grave. You called me into the light.
You called my name and then, my heart came alive.**

**Your love is greater. Your love is stronger.
Your love awakens, awakens, awakens me. (Repeat)**

**Feel the darkness shaking. All the dead are coming back to life.
I’m back to life.**

**Hear the song awaken all creation singing, “We’re alive
’cause you’re alive!”**

**You called me out of this grave. You called me into the light.
You called my name and then, my heart came alive.**

**Your love is greater. Your love is stronger.
Your love awakens, awakens, awakens me. (Repeat)**

**And what a love we’ve found. Death can’t hold us down.
We shout it out: we’re alive ’cause you’re alive! (Repeat)**

**Your love is greater. Your love is stronger.
Your love awakens, awakens, awakens me. (3X)**

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

(Awakening to Worship, our child-friendly worship time, is on summer hiatus. Our Nursery welcomes young children, and our ushers can assist families to the nursery located in the children's wing. Worship bags are available for children who stay in worship.)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Emily Nelson Dixon

In the beginning, God led off with love — creating beauty, order, and life. God crowned us with glory and entrusted us with this good world. But too often, we step out of rhythm with God's purpose. Let us return to the One who created us in love and calls us to live in that love. Let us confess our sin before God and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Creator God, You formed us from the dust, breathed life into us, and called us good. You invited us to step up to the plate and play our part in your world — to care for creation, to honor one another, to live in love. But we have missed the mark. We have swung at selfishness and let grace pass us by. We have dropped the ball on justice, and we have turned away from your purpose. Forgive us, O God. Remind us that your love still leads off — that your mercy is new every morning, and your Spirit is always ready to guide us home. Shape us again in your image, and help us to walk, run, and live in your love. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, hear this good news: The same God who called light from darkness, who formed stars and seas and every living thing — has also formed you in love. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free to live as God's beloved. Step up with courage. Step out in love.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

ONE: May the peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: **And also with you and all others!**

*SONG OF PEACE

"God of Wonders"

Marc Byrd & Steve Hindalong

All

**Lord of all creation, of water, earth, and sky:
The heavens are your tabernacle. Glory to the Lord on high!**

**God of wonders beyond our galaxy, you are holy, holy.
The universe declares your majesty, you are holy, holy.
Lord of heaven and earth, Lord of heaven and earth.**

**Early in the morning, I will celebrate the light.
When I stumble in the darkness, I will call your name by night.**

**God of wonders beyond our galaxy, you are holy, holy.
The universe declares your majesty, you are holy, holy.
Lord of heaven and earth, Lord of heaven and earth.**

Equipping

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 8 (NRSVue)

Emily Nelson Dixon

O Lord, our Sovereign,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory above the heavens.
Out of the mouths of babes and infants
you have founded a bulwark because of your foes,
to silence the enemy and the avenger.
When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars that you have established;
what are humans that you are mindful of them,
mortals that you care for them?
Yet you have made them a little lower than God
and crowned them with glory and honor.
You have given them dominion over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under their feet,
all sheep and oxen,
and also the beasts of the field,
the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.
O Lord, our Sovereign,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

SONG TO REFLECT

"Indescribable"

Laura Story & Jesse Reeves

Praise Team

*From the highest of heights to the depths of the sea,
Creation's revealing your majesty.
From the colors of fall to the fragrance of spring,
Ev'ry creature unique in the song that it sings.*

All exclaiming:

*Indescribable, uncontainable; you placed the stars in the sky,
and you know them by name.*

*All powerful, untamable; awestruck, we fall to our knees
As we humbly proclaim you are amazing, God.*

*Who has told ev'ry lightning bolt where it should go,
Or seen heavenly storehouses laden with snow?
Who imagined the sun and gives source to its light,
Yet conceals it to bring us the coolness of night?*

None can fathom.

*Indescribable, uncontainable; you placed the stars in the sky,
And you know them by name. You are amazing, God;
Incomparable, unchangeable; you see the depths of my heart
And you love me the same. You are amazing, God.*

*You see the depths of my heart and you love me the same.
You are amazing, God.*

*You see the depths of my heart and you love me the same.
You are amazing, God.*

*You see the depths of our hearts and you love us the same.
You are amazing, God.*

SCRIPTURE LESSON

How God Made Everything

(Based on Genesis 1:1–2:4a)

Growing in God's Love: A Story Bible

Elizabeth F. Caldwell and Carol A. Wehrheim, editors)

Long ago, before telescopes and microscopes, before scientists discovered everything they know today, people told stories about the beginning of the world. This is the story about the beginning of the world that the people of God told. They thought everything God made was beautiful.

At first, it was really hard to see. Water was everywhere. So God made light, the light you see every morning when you wake up. When God saw the light, God said, "It's beautiful!"

The God moved the water around. Some of it, God spread all over the world. Some of it, God put up in the clouds in the sky for rain. God said, "Water's beautiful too!"

After that, God put the world's water in the oceans and lakes and rivers. Then the dry ground you walk on appeared. In the ground, God planted grass and trees and everything that grows outside your window and outside everyone's windows. God made the geranium in the little pot on your windowsill too. God said, "Aren't all these plants beautiful?"

To make sure we all have light, day and night, God made the big sun that you see every day. Then God made the moon and the stars you see when you lie on your back on the ground at night. God said, "Don't you think they're beautiful too?"

Finally, God made all the animals everywhere, the fish and the crabs and the whales in the water, and the birds flying up with the clouds in the sky. God made all the animals around us on the ground. Then God made us, people. God said, "Wow! You're all beautiful."

Then God spoke to us for the first time. God told us who we are and what we should do. God said, "You're all my people in the world I made. I made you just enough like me that you too can see how beautiful everything is. Take care of the world. Keep it beautiful. Keep it just as beautiful as I made it."

Holy Wisdom, Holy Words
Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"Love Leads Off"

Rev. Karen Wright

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

SONG FOR GIVING

"Morning Has Broken"
All

Eleanor Farjeon/Cat Stevens

**Morning has broken like the first morning,
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning,
Praise for the springing fresh from the world.**

**Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven,
Like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
Sprung in completeness where his feet pass.**

**Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning.
Born of the one light Eden saw play.
Praise with elation, praise ev'ry morning,
God's recreation of the new day.**

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

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

The Words of Institution

The Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Music During Communion "O Come to the Altar" Elevation Worship
Praise Team

Are you hurting and broken within, overwhelmed by the weight of your sin?

Jesus is calling.

Have you come to the end of yourself, do you thirst for a drink from the well?

Jesus is calling.

O come to the altar; the father's arms are open wide.

Forgiveness was bought with the precious blood of Jesus Christ.

Leave behind your regrets and mistakes. Come today; there's no reason to wait.

Jesus is calling.

Bring your sorrows and trade them for joy; From the ashes a new life is born.

Jesus is calling.

Oh, what a savior, isn't he wonderful; sing alleluia, Christ is risen.

Bow down before him, for he is lord of all; Sing alleluia, Christ is risen.

O come to the altar; the father's arms are open wide.

Forgiveness was bought with the precious blood of Jesus Christ.

Prayer After Communion

Sending

***SONG TO SEND**

"A Thousand Hallelujahs"

Brooke Ligertwood

All

**Who else would rocks cry out to worship? Whose glory taught the stars to shine?
Perhaps creation longs to have the words to sing, but this joy is mine.**

**With a thousand "hallelujahs," we magnify your name.
You alone deserve the glory, the honor and the praise.
Lord Jesus, this song is forever yours,
A thousand "hallelujahs" and a thousand more.**

**Who else would die for our redemption? Whose resurrection means I'll rise?
There isn't time enough to sing of all you've done, but I have eternity to try.**

**With a thousand "hallelujahs," we magnify your name.
You alone deserve the glory, the honor and the praise.
Lord Jesus, this song is forever yours,
A thousand "hallelujahs" and a thousand more.**

**Praise to the Lord, to the Lamb, to the King of heaven.
Praise for he rose; now He reigns. We will sing forever.**

**With a thousand "hallelujahs," we magnify your name.
You alone deserve the glory, the honor and the praise.
Lord Jesus, this song is forever yours,
A thousand "hallelujahs" and a thousand more.**

**Stand in body or spirit*

GOD'S PEACE TO YOU

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PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11100 College Boulevard ♦ Overland Park, KS 66210
Phone (913) 345-1256 ♦ www.gcpc.org

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