

# Murray Presbyterian Church

## September 12, 2021 10AM

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost      We Worship in Spirit and in Truth on the Church Lawn  
9/11 Commemorative Service / E100 Kickoff / Sunday School Rally Day

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

Moments of Silent Reflection

Ringing of the Church Bell

Call to Worship

Leader: The heavens shout of God's glory!

**People: There is so much beauty in this earth and in the heavens!**

Leader: Day by day we are reminded of God's creative love.

**People: Day by day we are blessed with large and small visions of God's glory.**

Leader: Come, let us praise the God of creation.

**People: Let us sing and shout our praises of thanksgiving and joy to God.**

Prayer of Approach:

**Lord, we have come this day to hear your words of healing love and hope.  
Enter our hearts and our spirits and teach us to follow you. Give us courage  
and strength to be your faithful disciples. AMEN.**

Hymn: *This Is My Father's World*

#293 The Presbyterian Hymnal

"This Is My Father's World" by  
Franklin Lawrence Sheppard, Maltbie Davenport Babcock, Stan Loyd  
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CCLI Song Number: 5713909

**This is my Father's world,  
And to my listening ears  
All nature sings, and round me rings  
The music of the spheres.  
This is my Father's world:  
I rest me in the thought  
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas--  
His hand the wonders wrought.**

**This is my Father's world:  
The birds their carols raise,  
The morning light, the lily white,  
Declare their Maker's praise.  
This is my Father's world:  
He shines in all that's fair;  
In the rustling grass, I hear Him pass,  
He speaks to me everywhere.**

**This is my Father's world:  
O let me ne'er forget  
That though the wrong seems oft so strong,  
God is the Ruler yet.  
This is my Father's world:  
Why should my heart be sad?  
The Lord is King: let the heavens ring!  
God reigns; let earth be glad!  
This is my Father's world,  
And to my listening ears  
All nature sings, and round me rings  
The music of the spheres.**

Scripture Lesson:       Genesis 1: 1-28  
                                  (see insert)

Sermon:                         *"In The Beginning"*  
                                      *(E100 series, pt. 2)*  
                                      Reverend William McConnell

Hymn:       *Spirit*       #319 The Presbyterian Hymnal

words and music by James K. Manley  
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CCLI Song Number: 101393

**Spirit, spirit of gentleness,  
Blow through the wilderness, calling and free,  
Spirit, spirit of restlessness,  
Stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.**

**You moved on the waters, you called to the deep,  
Then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep;  
And over the eons you called to each thing;  
"Awake from your slumbers and rise on your wings."**

**Spirit, spirit of gentleness,  
Blow through the wilderness, calling and free,  
Spirit, spirit of restlessness,  
Stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.**

**You swept through the desert, you stung with the sand  
And you goaded your people with a law and a land;  
And when they were blinded with idols and lies,  
Then you spoke through your prophets to open their eyes.**

**Spirit, spirit of gentleness,  
Blow through the wilderness, calling and free,  
Spirit, spirit of restlessness,  
Stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.**

**You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill,  
Then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still;  
And down in the city you called once again,  
When you blew through your people on the rush of the wind.**

**Spirit, spirit of gentleness,  
Blow through the wilderness, calling and free,  
Spirit, spirit of restlessness,  
Stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.**

**You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes.  
From the bondage of sorrow all the captives dream dreams;  
Our women see visions, our men clear their eyes.  
With bold new decisions your people arise.**

**Spirit, spirit of gentleness,  
Blow through the wilderness, calling and free,  
Spirit, spirit of restlessness,  
Stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.**

Unison Prayer:

**God of all creation, our hearts are broken over the destruction and loss we remember this day. And we acknowledge, O Lord, that on that day of human carnage yours was the first heart to break. In our remembering, may we stand with those who mourn and those who cannot stop mourning. Through remembering, may we find new comfort in your care. In our remembering may we be drawn to a new hope for the whole world, and may we gain for ourselves a measure of your peace.**

**You who can turn the shadow of night into the bright promise of a new day, empower us to shape a world marked by ways of life that lead to justice and peace for all peoples. Fashion in us a people who are more ready to grow in understanding than eager to judge those who are different from us. Form us as a people determined to heal wounds rather than inflict them.**

**We pray at last that you would cultivate such love in us that we may reach out in compassion to all those who are still wounded by the events of that day; and in seeking to heal others, may we experience a love that makes us whole. This we pray in the strong name of Jesus our Christ. Amen**

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation

Prayer of Consecration

Sharing of the Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Offering of Ourselves and Our Gifts to God

Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise Him all creatures here below  
Praise Him above ye heavenly host  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen**

“Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow” The Worshiping Church # 809

Words by Thomas Ken, 1709

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CCLI Song Number: 2922140

Hymn: *America, the Beautiful* #418 The Worshiping Church

“America, the Beautiful”

Words by Katharine L. Bates, 1893, 1904 Music by Samuel A. Ward 1882

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CCLI Song Number: 33368

**O beautiful for spacious skies,  
For amber waves of grain,  
For purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain!  
America! America! God shed His grace on thee,  
And crown thy good with brotherhood  
From sea to shining sea!**

**O beautiful for pilgrim feet,  
Whose stern impassioned stress  
A thoroughfare for freedom beat across the wilderness!  
America! America! God mend thine every flaw,  
Confirm thy soul in self control  
Thy liberty in law!**

**O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife,  
Who more than self their country loved,  
And mercy more than life!  
America! America! May God thy gold refine,  
Till all success be nobleness,  
And every gain divine!**

**O beautiful for patriot dream  
That sees beyond the years  
Thine alabaster cities gleam  
Undimmed by human tears!  
America! America! God shed His grace on thee,  
And crown thy good with brotherhood  
From sea to shining sea!**

Benediction and Benediction Response

“May The Lord” words and music by  
Alfred V. Fedak, Keith Landis

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CCLI Song Number: 2163569

**May the Lord, mighty God  
Bless you and keep you forever  
Grant you peace, perfect peace  
Courage in every endeavor.  
Lift up your eyes and see His face,  
and His grace forever  
May the Lord, mighty God,  
bless you and keep you forever.**

- 1** In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. **2** Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.
- 3** And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. **4** God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. **5** God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day.
- 6** And God said, "Let there be a vault between the waters to separate water from water." **7** So God made the vault and separated the water under the vault from the water above it. And it was so. **8** God called the vault "sky." And there was evening, and there was morning—the second day.
- 9** And God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear." And it was so. **10** God called the dry ground "land," and the gathered waters he called "seas." And God saw that it was good.
- 11** Then God said, "Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds." And it was so. **12** The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. **13** And there was evening, and there was morning—the third day.
- 14** And God said, "Let there be lights in the vault of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark sacred times, and days and years, **15** and let them be lights in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth." And it was so. **16** God made two great lights—the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars.

<sup>17</sup> God set them in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth, <sup>18</sup> to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. <sup>19</sup> And there was evening, and there was morning—the fourth day.

<sup>20</sup> And God said, “Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the vault of the sky.” <sup>21</sup> So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living thing with which the water teems and that moves about in it, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>22</sup> God blessed them and said, “Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth.” <sup>23</sup> And there was evening, and there was morning—the fifth day.

<sup>24</sup> And God said, “Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: the livestock, the creatures that move along the ground, and the wild animals, each according to its kind.” And it was so. <sup>25</sup> God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.

<sup>26</sup> Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals,<sup>[a]</sup> and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”

<sup>27</sup> So God created mankind in his own image,  
in the image of God he created them;  
male and female he created them.

<sup>28</sup> God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.”

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**