

SEASON OF CREATION



FOREST

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Sunday, September 6, 2020 • 10:00 a.m.

In the order of service, the words
that are spoken by a leader are in regular type.

Words spoken by the assembly are in boldface type.

For music, the words in regular type are sung by all,
unless otherwise noted.



Prelude

“Morning Has Broken” • Larry Shackley

Welcome

Invocation

In the name of the Creator, the fountain of life,
the name of Christ, the pulse of life,
and the name of the Spirit, the breath of life. Amen.

Holy! Holy! Holy!
Earth is filled with God’s presence.

Christ, we come into your presence today
to worship in this sanctuary called Earth,

a planet filled with your presence,
quivering in the forests,
vibrating in the land,
pulsating in the wilderness,
shimmering in the rivers.

God, reveal yourself to us in this place
and show us your face in all creation.

Holy! Holy! Holy!
Earth is filled with God’s presence.

Opening Hymn • "Canticle of the Sun"

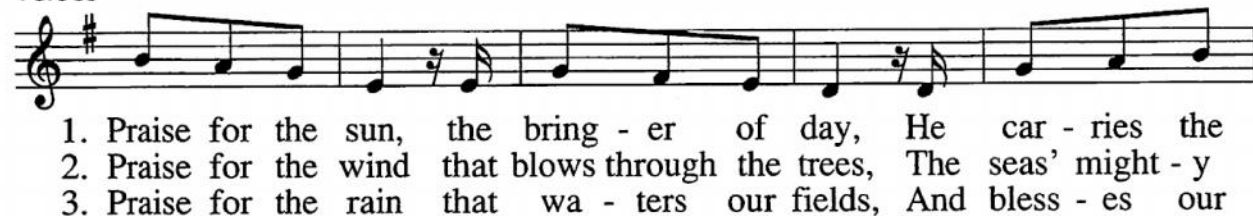
Gather, Third Edition 576

Refrain



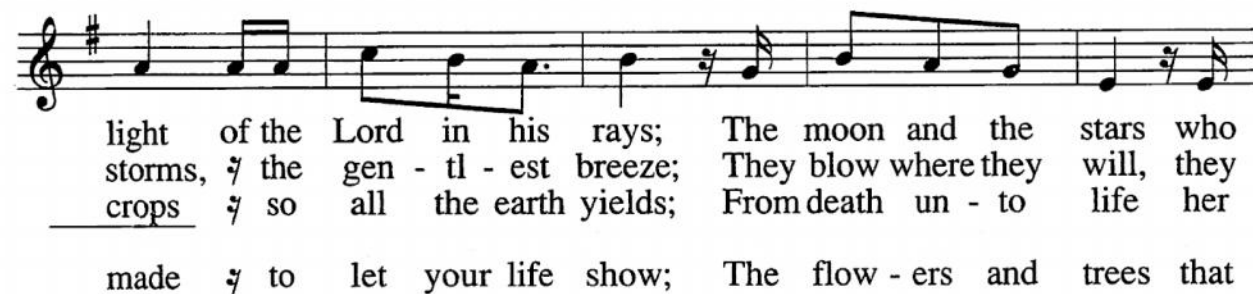
The heav - ens are tell - ing the glo - ry of God,
and all cre - a - tion is shout - ing for joy. Come,
dance in the for - est, come, play in the field, and
sing, sing to the glo - ry of the Lord.

Verses

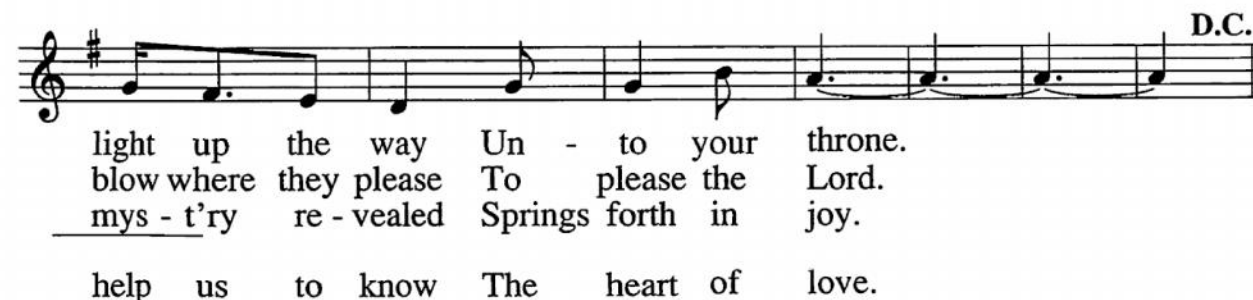


1. Praise for the sun, the bring - er of day, He car - ries the
2. Praise for the wind that blows through the trees, The seas' might - y
3. Praise for the rain that wa - ters our fields, And bless - es our

5. Praise for the earth who makes life to grow, The crea - tures you



light of the Lord in his rays; The moon and the stars who
storms, the gen - tl - est breeze; They blow where they will, they
crops so all the earth yields; From death un - to life her
made to let your life show; The flow - ers and trees that



light up the way Un - to your throne.
blow where they please To please the Lord.
mys - t'ry re - vealed Springs forth in joy.
help us to know The heart of love.

Call to Worship

We invite the forests to worship with us:

**mountain ash and alder,
quivering ferns and glistening moss!**

We quiver with the trees as they shake before God:

**when tempest and storm hit,
and raging winds invade the forest.**

We invite the great trees of the forest to celebrate life:

**fir and spruce,
giants of the forest where eagles and squirrels
build their home!**

We invite the forest night-life to sing:

**ancient owls and timid moths,
frogs and swirling bats!**

We join with the fauna of the forest in praising God:

**deer and racoon,
butterflies and hawks and rabbits!**

We celebrate the song of the forest!

Sing, forest, sing!

We celebrate the song of the forest!

Sing, forest, sing!

Confession

Today, we remember and confess that we have become alienated from Earth and that we have violated the forests in our garden planet.

**We are sorry.
We have acted without thought,
we have been motivated by self-interest.**

**We have ignored the destruction of our forests,
the death of old-growth giants
and species breathing their last.**

We are sorry.

We are sorry. We are sorry.

Absolution

Christ hears your confession through the cross
and forgives your sins against the forest.

**Christ, teach us to love Earth
and return to Earth as our home.**

I speak for Christ:
I invite you to come home to Earth
By rejoicing in the forest.

Shalom! Shalom!

Prayer of the Day

Together, now we pray;

**God, our Creator, whose glory fills our planet,
help us to discern your vibrant presence among us,
especially in the mysteries of the forest.**

**Help us empathize with your forest creatures who are suffering.
Lift our spirits to rejoice with the forest
and all the creatures of the forest.**

**In the name of Christ,
who reconciles and renews all things in creation. Amen.**

First Reading

A reading from Genesis.

Genesis 2:4b-22

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Acts 17:22-28

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.



Gospel Acclamation

Psalm Project: Shout for Joy 11

Refrain



Hal-le - lu - jah, hal-le - lu - jah, hal-le -



lu - jah, hal-le - lu - jah.



1 From the sky, from be - yond the moon and stars,



let it ring from the



Refrain
high - est, bright - est place.

Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to John.
Glory to you, O Lord.

John 3:1-16

The Gospel of our Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

"THE STORY MATTERS"

Rev. Mike Greenwalt.

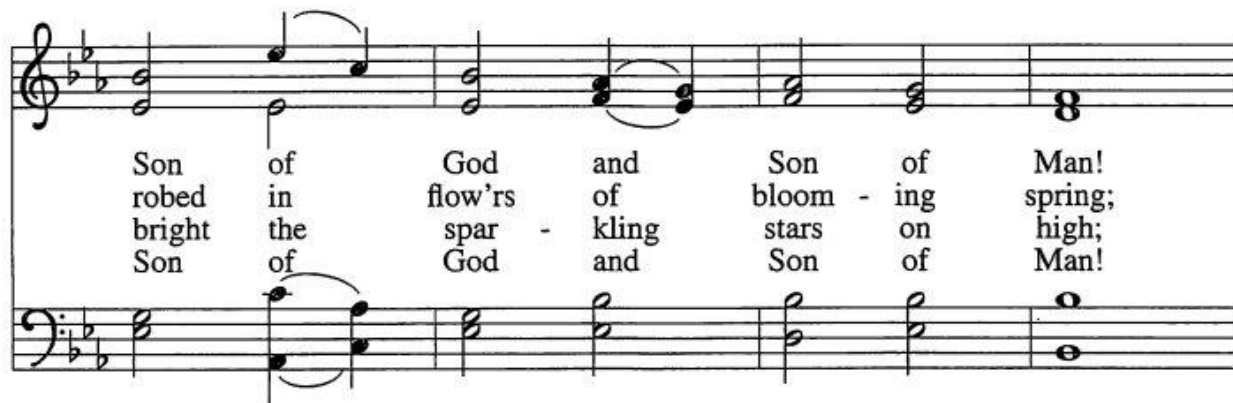
Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Hymn of the Day • "Beautiful Savior"

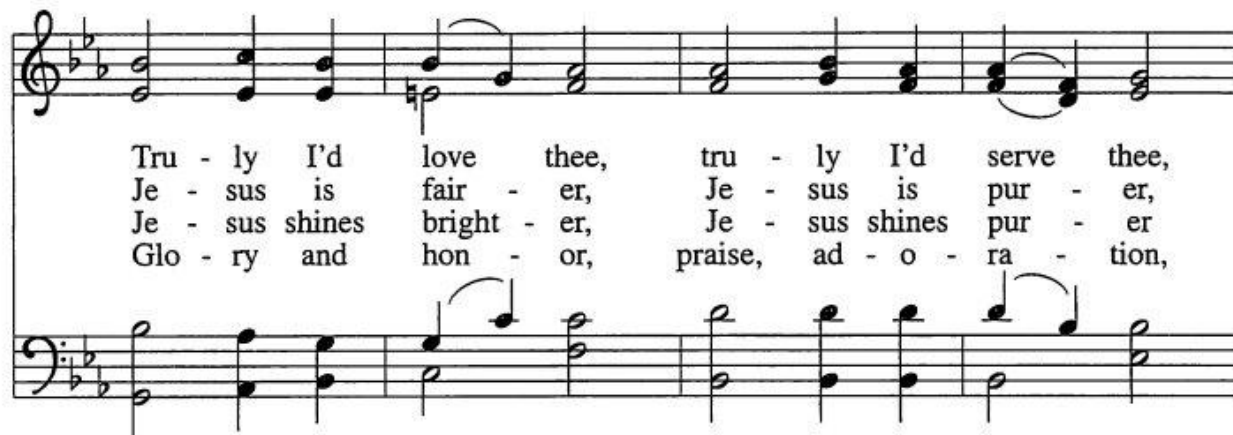
Evangelical Lutheran Worship 838



1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,



Son of God and Son of Man!
 robed in the flow'rs of spring;
 bright in the spar - kling stars on high;
 Son of God and Son of Man!



Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er,
 Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,



light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
 he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.
 than all the an - gels in the sky.
 now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

A Creation-Centered Affirmation of Faith

Together, now we affirm our faith.

**We believe that God creates,
renews, and celebrates all things.**

**We believe Earth is a gift, a sanctuary,
a sacred planet filled with God's presence.**

**We believe God became flesh and blood,
made of the stuff of the earth,
a human being called Jesus,
who lived and breathed,
suffered and died on a cross,
whose obedience unto death
saves all humanity and all creation.**

**We believe in the risen Christ,
the heart of all creation who reconciles all things to God,
who renews all creation to the end of the universe.**

**We believe the Holy Spirit breathes life into all creation,
who groans in empathy with all
who suffer from a broken creation,
who waits with us for the rebirth of a new creation.**

**We believe that with Christ,
we will rise and with Christ
celebrate together that gift of a new and eternal creation.**

Offering

We give to the Lord of our tithes and offerings.

Ways that you can give electronically:

TEXT

- Text “Give” to 253-292-9599.
- You will be sent a message to (a) text your giving amount and/or (b) set up recurring giving.

ONLINE via the MVLC WEBSITE

- Visit www.mtviewlutheran.org.
- Hover over the “GIVE” dropbox.
- Choose “Make a Donation via Bank Account” or “Make a Donation via Credit/Debit Card.”
- Fill out all information on the page and then click the blue “GIVE” button.
- If you want it to remember your information, visit “SIGN IN” and create an account.
- NOTE: Online giving is a one-time gift unless you check “Make this Gift Recurring.”

Offertory

*“My Shepherd Will Supply My Need”
Bill Kohler, saxophone*

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray.

**Gracious God,
through your loving care
you give us every good gift to share.**

**Receive our offerings as a sign of our faithfulness.
Make us mindful of and helpful to all those in need.
Teach us again and again to care. Amen.**

Sharing the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Prayers of the People

Drawn together in the compassion of God,
we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

At the conclusion of each petition:

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

All these things and whatever else you see that we need,
we entrust to your mercy; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.



The Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

**your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Sending

Christ calls you to be his disciples,
to serve him with love and compassion
and to serve Earth by caring for creation.

We will remember the forest!
We will groan with creation!
We will sing with the trees!

Blessing

The Spirit of God,
who is above all and in all and through all,
fill you with the knowledge of God's presence in Earth
and the stirring of Christ within you.

Go in peace,
serving Christ and loving Earth!

We go in peace,
serving Christ
and tending Earth!

Sending Hymn • "The Trees of the Field"

CCLI #20546

Sing twice.

♩ = 126

VERSE

Em

You shall go out with joy — and be led forth with peace.

5 D⁷/F[♯] G C/G G D/F[♯] D⁷

— The moun - tains and the hills will break forth — be -

9 B/D[♯] Em

-fore you; There'll be shouts of joy, — and all the trees of the field will

CHORUS

14 Em/B B⁷ Em/B B⁷ Em D⁷ G

clap, will clap their hands. And all the trees of the

19 C/G G D

field will clap their hands, — the trees of the field will

claps

24 G C/G G

clap their hands; — The trees of the field will

claps

28 D G D⁷

clap their hands, — while you go

31 Em B⁷ Em

out with joy.

D.S. al Fine

You shall go

Postlude

Please register your worship attendance online at
www.mtviewlutheran.org/worshipattendance

Please submit prayer requests online at
www.mtviewlutheran.org/prayerrequest



Worship Notes

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SEASON OF CREATION

SUNDAYS OF SEPTEMBER • ONLINE WORSHIP AT TEN A.M.

FOREST • LAND • WILDERNESS • RIVER

