



DOUGLAS UCC
A JUST WORLD FOR ALL

Order of Service for Sunday, September 11, 2022

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Thank you for joining us today.

For Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries, and Prayer List, [visit this week's E-Pistle here](#), where you can also subscribe to receive it by email, if you like.

***- stand if you wish to, and are able.**

Congressional Responses in Bold

Prelude *Oh What a Beautiful Morning*

Peter Black

(Please use this time for quiet reflection and preparation for worship)

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting of Altar Candles & Ringing in the Hour

Let us recognize the light of the world within us and ring in the hour of worship.

Introit (please stand)

Love and Justice

Love and justice, peace and power, show us how to live each hour. Raise us up and set us free, show us how to live and be. Tell your neighbors, tell your friends, here's a place hope never ends. Love and Justice, Peace, and Power – God is with us in this hour. God is with us in this hour. God is with us in this hour. God is with us in this hour.

Call to Worship

Psalm 104

Reader: Sue Scott

One: O God, the earth is full of your creatures.

Many: In your wisdom, you have made them all. How manifold are your works!

One: Yonder is the sea, great and wide. Creeping things innumerable are there.

Many: Living things both small and great all look to you, O Creator God.

One: When you open your hand, they are filled with good things.

Many: You give them their food in due season.

One: You send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.

Many: May the glory of God endure forever. Amen.

***Opening Hymn,**

To You, O God, All Creatures Sing

(Black New Century Hymnal No.17)

(Find Music at the end of this program)

Unison Prayer

Creator God: You have gifted us with the blessing of animals, those in the wild, those on farms, and those in our own homes. We thank you for the gift of our animal companions: for the joy they bring us; for their unconditional love and forgiveness; and for the benefits they are to our health and to our Spirit. And yet, we know that we have not always been faithful caretakers of our animals. Forgive us when we have dirtied their environment, polluted the waters, and killed off their food supplies. Forgive us when we have neglected animals in our own communities; when we have inflicted cruelty upon them in the name of 'sport' or in the production of food. Help us to be better stewards of the creatures great and small that you have entrusted to our care. Amen.

Assurance of Grace and Peace

One: Peace be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Let us offer one another a sign of Peace.

Passing the Peace *Let It Breathe On Me*

*Let it breathe on me, let it breathe on me,
let the breath of the spirit breathe on me.
Let it breathe on me, let it breathe on me,
Let the breath of God now breathe on me.*

Words of Integration & Guidance

By Eckhart Tolle

I believe that animals are closer to God than humans. They are closer to the Source. Humans are more lost in the mind forms. "Be-ing" is more obscured to humans because of the overlay of ego and mental formation. Animals are at a level prior to thinking. They haven't lost themselves in thought. So our pets keep us in touch with our innermost core: the "Be-ing" beyond thinking. I call animals "Guardians of Being" (especially animals that live with humans), because, for many humans, it's only through their contact with animals that they get in touch with that level of Be-ing. For some people, it's the only relationship that they have where there's no fear and where they realize they are being accepted and not judged. I believe that pets are keeping millions of people sane who would otherwise become deeply neurotic in our alienated world. There are teachings that say every being is a spark of the divine of God. You can look into the eyes of animals and see that spark, that innermost core. You can see it sometimes more clearly in an animal than in a human being because the human being has the veil of mind: negative emotions and ego. I believe that our pets fill a vital function in the collective consciousness of humanity. I call them "Guardians of Being," because they show us what we have lost and - once we realize that - they can help us in our shift into a deeper state of consciousness. Of course, we don't want to be confined to only deep relationships with pets, but they can teach us how to relate deeply to another being, and then we can learn to relate deeply to humans also. That has to be the next step.

Creation Justice: Animals

The Words of Holy Scripture

One: A Reading of Scripture from Genesis 1:24-31

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Many: Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Lesson

One: The Holy Gospel according to Luke 12:22-27

Many: Glory to you, O Christ.

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Many: Praise to you, O Christ.

Homily “Spirituality of Animals” **Rev. Salvatore Sapienza**

Offering & Offertory

Bless the Beasts and Children

Jeff Spangler and Peter Black

Composers: Barry DeVorzon and Perry Botkin Jr.

Joys & Concerns/Tibetan Prayer Bell

One: Thanks be to God!

Many: Alleluia!

One: O God,

Many: Hear our prayer.

***Doxology** *Give Thanks to the Lord*

Give thanks to the Lord for God is good and God’s mercy shall endure.

For God alone has done marv’lous things, give thanks unto the Lord.

God made the earth and heaven with a strong and mighty hand.

God has moved us to sing, proclaim this song!

Give thanks unto our God.

***Celebration of Holy Communion**

One: God be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

Many: We lift them up to God.

One: Let us give thanks to God.

Many: It is good to give God thanks & praise

***Creation's Praise** *Holy Holy Holy*

Holy holy holy, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full, are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the One who comes, who comes in God's name.

Hosanna in the highest.

(Please be seated)

Breaking of the Bread *This is the Body of Christ*

This is the body of Christ.

Broken that we may be whole:

This cup, as promised by God,

true to the word, cradles our Lord.

Food for the good of the soul.

Sharing of the Bread & Cup

(grape juice only on both sides of the aisle)

Receive the Bread of Life. **Amen.**

The Cup of Love, the Drink of Compassion. **Amen.**

***The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Mother/Father, always and everywhere, 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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.
Amen.**

***Hymn of Sending** *O Mighty God, When I Survey in Wonder*
(Black New Century Hymnal No.35)
(Find music at the end of this program)

Benediction

Postlude *Circle of Life*
Peter Black

Keep up with the Douglas UCC community
and the work of our service groups here:

www.douglasucc.org
<https://www.youtube.com/douglasucc>
<https://www.facebook.com/douglasucc>
<https://www.instagram.com/douglasucc>

To You, O God, All Creatures Sing

Ps. 148

St. Francis of Assisi, 1225

Unison



1 To you, O God, all crea-tures sing, and all cre - a - tion, ev - ery -
 2 Your wind that blows the tem-pest by, your clouds that sail a - cross the
 3 Your flow - ing wa - ters, crys - tal clear, make mel - o - dies for you to
 4 To you, O God, day af - ter day, your plan - et earth in ev - ery

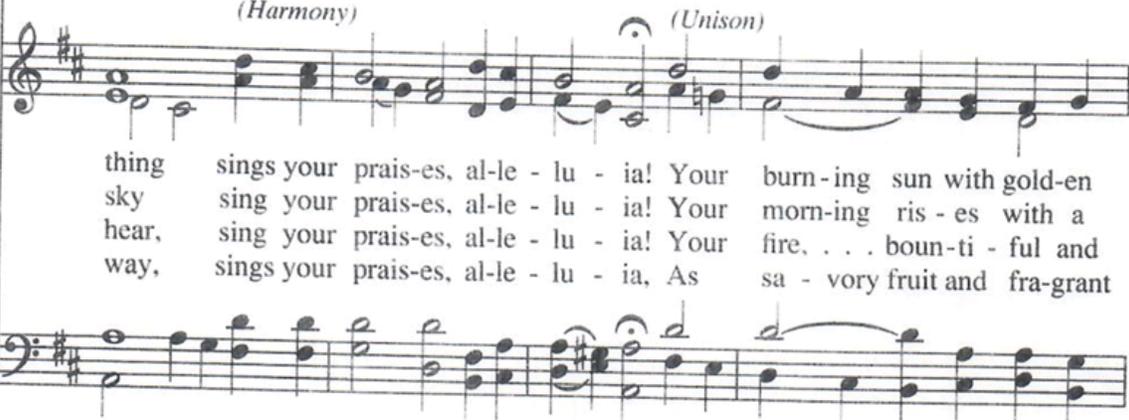


ev - ery way sings your prais - es, al - le - lu - ia! As fruit, fra - grant

(Harmony) *(Unison)*



thing sings your prais - es, al - le - lu - ia! Your burn - ing sun with gold - en
 sky sing your prais - es, al - le - lu - ia! Your morn - ing ris - es with a
 hear, sing your prais - es, al - le - lu - ia! Your fire, . . . boun - ti - ful and
 way, sings your prais - es, al - le - lu - ia, As sa - vory fruit and fra - grant



beam, your sil - ver moon with soft - er gleam sing your prais-es,
 song, and lights of eve - ning sing a - long, sing your prais-es, al-le -
 bright, re - mem - bering your warmth and light, sings your prais-es,
 flower show forth your glo - ry and your power. sing - ing prais-es.

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

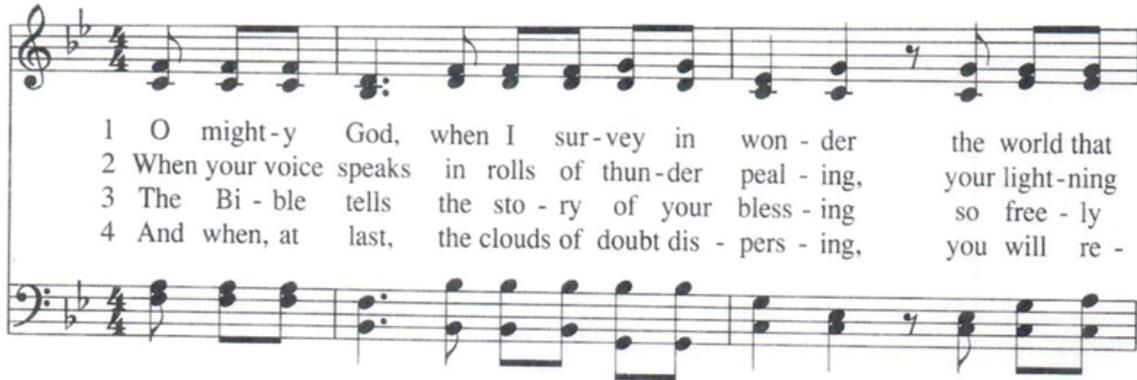
(Unison)

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

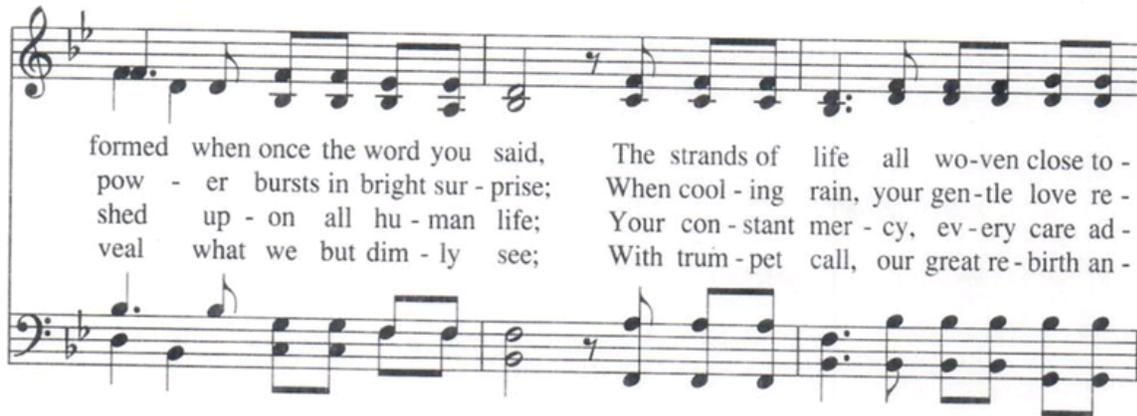
O Mighty God, When I Survey in Wonder

Carl Boberg, 1885

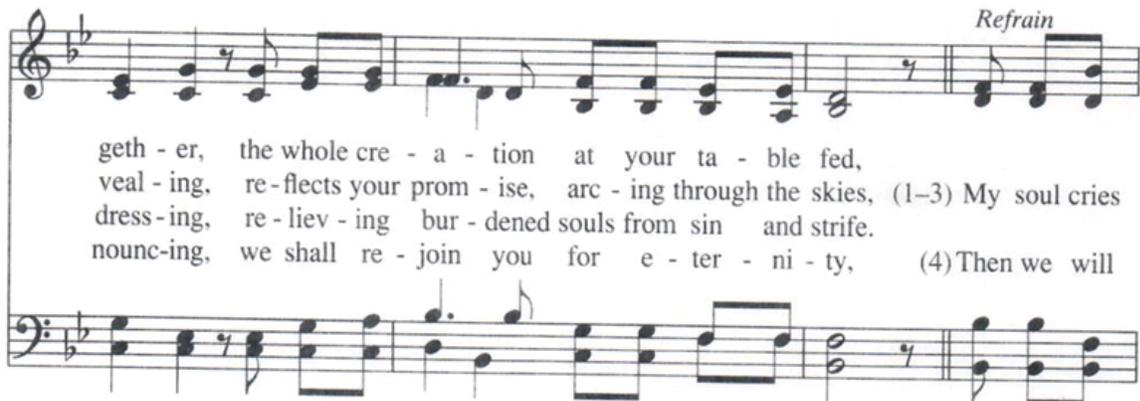
Transl. The New Century Hymnal, 1994



1 O might-y God, when I sur-vey in won - der the world that
 2 When your voice speaks in rolls of thun-der peal - ing, your light-ning
 3 The Bi - ble tells the sto - ry of your bless - ing so free - ly
 4 And when, at last, the clouds of doubt dis - pers - ing, you will re -

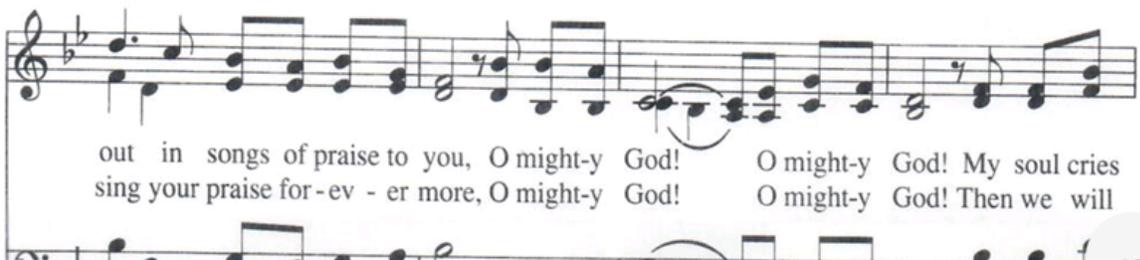


formed when once the word you said, The strands of life all wo-ven close to -
 pow - er bursts in bright sur - prise; When cool - ing rain, your gen-tle love re -
 shed up - on all hu - man life; Your con - stant mer - cy, ev - ery care ad -
 veal what we but dim - ly see; With trum - pet call, our great re - birth an -



Refrain

geth - er, the whole cre - a - tion at your ta - ble fed,
 veal - ing, re - flects your prom - ise, arc - ing through the skies, (1-3) My soul cries
 dress - ing, re - liev - ing bur - dened souls from sin and strife.
 nounc - ing, we shall re - join you for e - ter - ni - ty, (4) Then we will



out in songs of praise to you, O might-y God! O might-y God! My soul cries
 sing your praise for - ev - er more, O might-y God! O might-y God! Then we will

GC

out in songs of praise to you, O might-y God! O might-y God!
sing your praise for - ev - er - more, O might-y God! O might-y God!

The musical score consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature (C). The bottom staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. The melody is primarily in the treble staff, with the bass staff providing harmonic support. The lyrics are placed between the two staves, aligned with the notes.

Tune: O STORE GU