

## The Worship of God

13th Sunday after Pentecost – September 4, 2022 – 9:00 Morning Worship

**Welcome to First Presbyterian Church via Zoom!**

PRELUDE

“All Creatures of Our God and King” Gerald Peterson & Paul Manz

WELCOME

### GATHERING AROUND GOD’S WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP

God, maker of plants and animals and all things, invites us to this place.

**We are glad to be here.**

God, who has created all things for our goodness, invites us to this place.

**We are glad to be here.**

God, who has called us to care for Earth and all its inhabitants, invites us to this place.

**We are glad to be here.**

Come, let us worship God!

OPENING PRAYER

Creator God, we are awed by the creation you have made –

the plants and animals (including humans) that you have placed within this world.

**In this time of worship, may we be aware of the gifts of flora and fauna to Creation, and all created things.**

SING

“All Creatures of Our God and King”

#15

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of hawk and puffin, koala and panda, of moose and squirrel,  
of tiger and cobra; God of violet and daffodil, gum tree and redwood,  
of mountain meadows and rainforest jungles:  
we are in awe of all you have done for us.

**You created a world of plants and animals that can live in such wondrous harmony;  
yet too often we exploit one another, we devastate, and we leave things in ruin.**

Forgive us and guide us in the restoration of the harmony you intended.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

We do not change the world by worrying about it  
but by dedicating ourselves and our actions to doing God’s will.

When we fail, God forgives us and asks us to try again.

Know that ours is the God of perpetual second chances!

**Amen.**

SHARING GOD’S PEACE

I invite you to turn to one another and share a sign of peace:

You’re invited to unmute yourselves and exchange peace with one another

## LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON

Psalm 104:14-23

SECOND LESSON

Luke 15:1-10

...The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

REFLECTION

Rev. Susan Phillips

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SING

"The Earth Belongs to God Alone"

#715

GIVING OUR GIFTS

DOXOLOGY

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

#607

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

May God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to God.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

You, God of oceans – commanded the sea to part and form dry land.

You filled the oceans with life

and it challenges and encourages our senses.

**God of plants and animals, you invite us to live in Creation with others –  
to respect them, to care for them,  
to do all we can to guarantee a place for them long into tomorrow.**

God of the storm, sometimes you rattle us –

rain and wind and snow challenge us,

reminding us that we are small parts of your creation,

and we are a community, invited to huddle together against all that threatens us.

**God of the cosmos, when we turn in upon ourselves and our tiny worlds  
open us to a wider understanding of you and our world.**

**Encourage us to open ourselves to all that you are in our midst,  
a creative and divine Spirit ever-present and ever-loving.**

We offer now this bread and this cup,  
made from elements of the earth,  
formed by human hands, and brought now  
that we might use them to remember  
the presence of the Cosmic Christ in our daily lives.

Bless them.

Bless us.

Bless all the others with whom we share this delicate world.

**Amen.**

COMMUNION IS SHARED

THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts & debtors)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FROM THE CHAT WINDOW

**SENDING INTO GOD'S WORLD**

SING

“Hamba Nathi”

SENDING

May the God who frees the hawk to soar,  
who waters the tree to shelter the bird,  
who clothes the grass with lilies,  
open your spirit to the wisdom and joy abundant in Creation,  
and freely given to you in grace.

**Amen.**

POSTLUDE

“All Glory Be to God on High”

Johann Gottfried Walther