



July 12, 2026

"In the Beginning"

Guest Preacher:
Rev. Jennifer Jaimes

Gathering Music

Prelude & Lantern Lighting "It's a Song of Praise to the Maker"

R. Duck

...acknowledging the light of Christ among us

please observe silence as we settle into sacred time and space

Words of Welcome & Announcements

Spark of Goodness

Rebecca Dennis

***Call to Worship** (*responsive*)

We gather this morning as the people of God.

We gather together with praise and thanksgiving.

As God breathed life into creation,

Let the Holy Spirit breathe new life into us.

Open our ears to hear your Word;

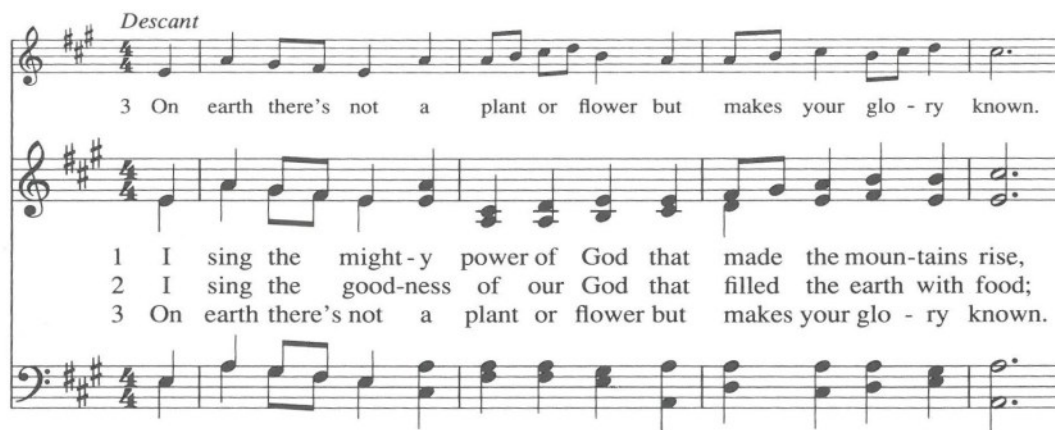
Open our hearts that we would be shaped by your Word. Let us worship our God!

* = Sitting or standing

*Opening Hymn

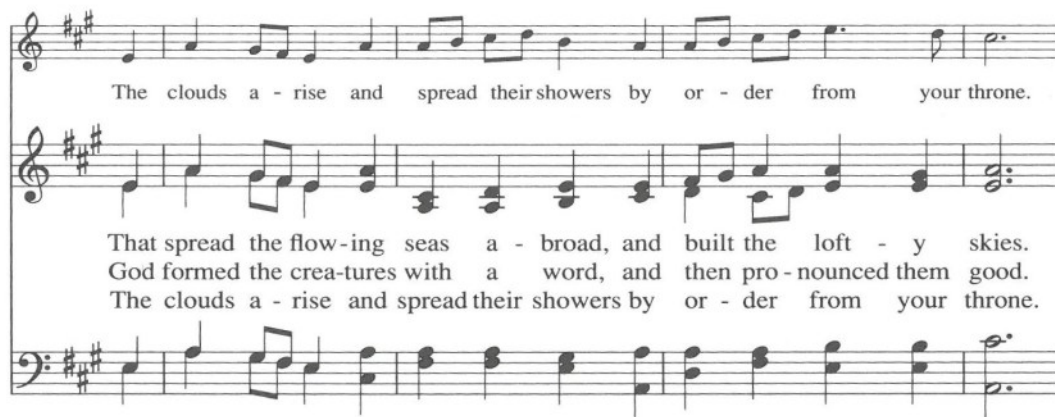
"I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

Descant



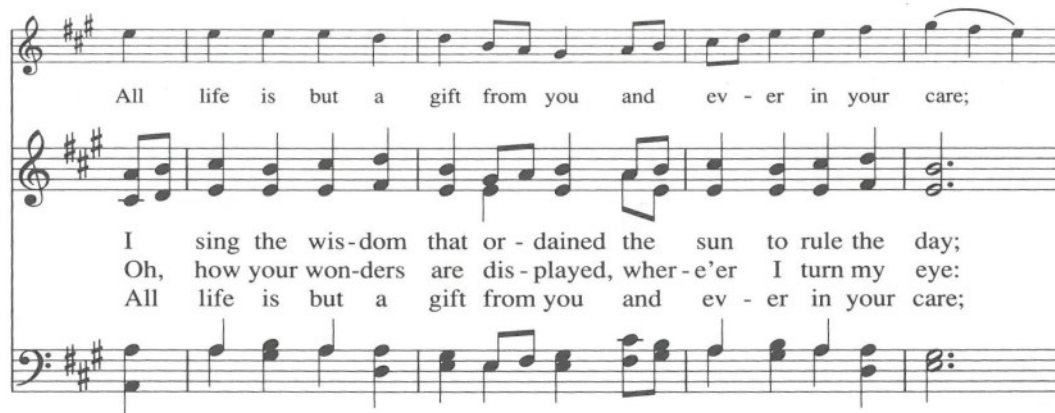
3 On earth there's not a plant or flower but makes your glo - ry known.

1 I sing the might-y power of God that made the moun-tains rise,
 2 I sing the good-ness of our God that filled the earth with food;
 3 On earth there's not a plant or flower but makes your glo - ry known.



The clouds a - rise and spread their showers by or - der from your throne.

That spread the flow-ing seas a - broad, and built the loft - y skies.
 God formed the crea-tures with a word, and then pro - nounced them good.
 The clouds a - rise and spread their showers by or - der from your throne.

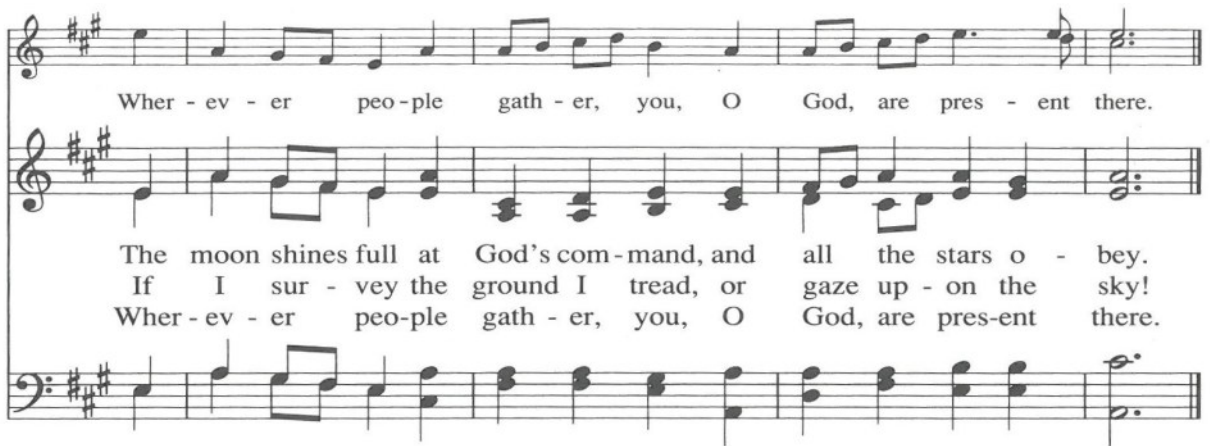


All life is but a gift from you and ev - er in your care;

I sing the wis-dom that or - dained the sun to rule the day;
 Oh, how your won-ders are dis-played, wher-e'er I turn my eye:
 All life is but a gift from you and ev - er in your care;

The tune Ellacombe was named for a place in Devonshire, England. It was first published in a collection of tunes used in the private chapel of the Duke of Wirtemberg, and was possibly sung with the text "Ave Maria, klärer."

Tune: ELLACOMBE C.M.D.
 Gesangbuch der herzoglichen
 Wirtembergischen katholischen Hofkapelle, 1784
Descant, The New Century Hymnal, 1993



Centering Ourselves *...in stillness and breath*

Prayer of Confession and Longing *(unison)*

Our God, forgive us for failing to understand and accept the great demands placed upon us by your love. We enlist in your causes, but find ourselves losing interest. We promise to be courageous, but find ourselves afraid. We want to be sensitive, but find ourselves hard and callous. Forgive us; take our limitations and turn them into possibilities for service. Have mercy on us and grant us your peace. Amen.

Musical Interlude *... to accompany our quiet prayers*

Assurance of Grace *(responsive)*

The peace of Christ be with you! And also with you!

Passing the Peace *(seated)*

...smiles and gestures of peace — to those online and seated near us

Sung Invitation *...as young people come forward*

This little light of mine...

Singing “Happy Birthday”

Eli’jah Carroll (7/11), Tom Dusbabek (7/11), Cheri Schwartz (7/11)

Wondering Together

Blessing One Another

...with arms wide open

Young Ones: God be with you

All: And also with you

Sung Affirmation

...as young people depart or return to families

Ev'rywhere I go...

“Rooted and Growing” | Children (age 4+) and youth can join Claire for an activity
Children 3 and under | Families supervise their own toddlers

We welcome the sounds and movements of children who stay in worship!

Responsive Reading from the Old Testament | found on insert

Genesis 1–2:4

Morning Message

“In the Beginning”

Prayer Hymn (p. 6 of bulletin) “For the Beauty of the Earth”

Prayers of the People

*We share aloud prayers for ourselves, others, and parts of the world
Please tell Rev. Jennifer if you prefer yours not be printed in our Prayer Corner*

...God, in your love **Hear our prayer**

Prayer of Jesus (unison)

Heavenly Father, heavenly Mother,
Holy and blessed is your true name.
We pray for your reign of peace to come,
We pray that your good will be done,
Let heaven and Earth become one.
Give us this day the bread we need,
Give it to those who have none.
Let forgiveness flow like a river between us,
From each one to each one.
Lead us to holy innocence
Beyond the evil of our days —
Come swiftly Mother, Father, come.
For yours is the power and the glory and the mercy:
Forever your name is All in One. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

We give by cash, check or electronically (scanning the QR code)

***Blue electronic giving cards** found in pew pockets.*



Offertory

“Waiting for You”

Grundy

*Song of Thanks

Halle, Halle, Halle-lu-u-ja.
Halle, Halle, Halle-lu-u-ja.
Halle, Halle, Halle-lu-u-ja.
Halleluja! Halleluja

*Prayer of Dedication *(unison)*

We give thanks, O God, for all that you have given us. Pour out your blessing on these tithes and offerings, that they might be a source of blessing in our church, in our community, and in our world. We offer this prayer in the name of the Creator, the Christ and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*Closing Hymn (p. 7 of bulletin) “Lord Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”

*Benediction

*Sending Song

...forming a circle (not holding hands)

“Let There Be Peace on Earth”

**Let there be peace on Earth, and let it begin with me
Let there be peace on Earth, the peace that was meant to be.**

With God as creator, family all are we.

Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.

**With ev’ry step I take, let this be my solemn vow;
To take each moment, and live each moment in peace eternally!
Let there be peace on Earth, and let it begin with me.**

*Parting Music

...as we greet one another

Today Following Worship:

10:30 am | All are welcome to linger for refreshments and good company!

For the Beauty of the Earth

*St. 1-3, Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1864; alt.**St. 4, Miriam Therese Winter, 1993*

1 For the beau-ty of the earth, for the splen-dor of the skies,
 2 For the won-der of each hour of the day and of the night,
 3 For the joy of hu-man love, broth-er, sis-ter, par-ent, child,
 4 For the good that love in-spires, for a world where none ex-clude,

For the love which from our birth o-ver and a-round us lies,
 Hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light,
 Friends on earth, and friends a-bove, for all gen-tle thoughts and mild,
 For a faith that nev-er tires, and for ev-ery heart re-newed,

Refrain

God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grate-ful praise.

Folliott S. Pierpoint, author of numerous hymns, penned these verses near his native city of Bath, England, on a late spring day when flowers were in full bloom and all the earth seemed to rejoice.

Tune: DIX 7.7.7.7. with refrain

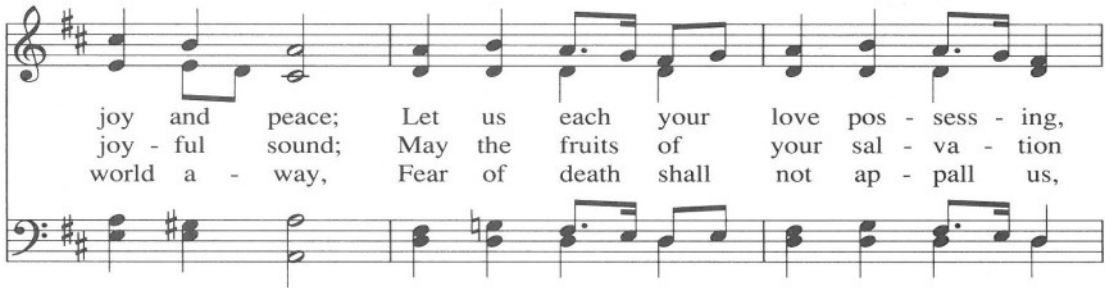
Conrad Kocher, 1838

Adapt. William H. Monk, 1861

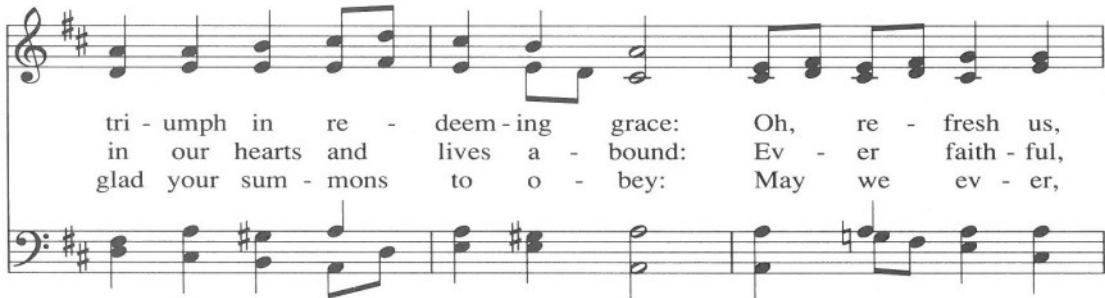
“Lord Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”



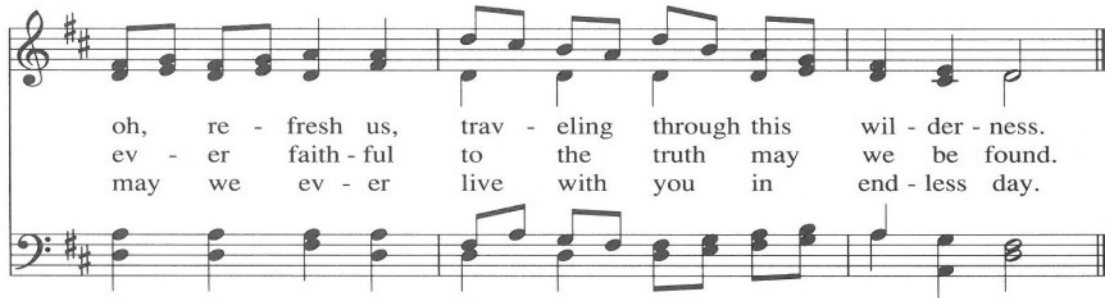
1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless - ing; fill our hearts with
 2 We give thanks and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's
 3 So that when your love shall call us, Sav - ior, from the



joy and peace; Let us each your love pos - sess - ing,
 joy - ful sound; May the fruits of your sal - va - tion
 world a - way, Fear of death shall not ap - pall us,



tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace: Oh, re - fresh us,
 in our hearts and lives a - bound: Ev - er faith - ful,
 glad your sum - mons to o - bey: May we ev - er,



oh, re - fresh us, trav - eling through this wil - der - ness.
 ev - er faith - ful to the truth may we be found.
 may we ev - er live with you in end - less day.

Influenced by George Whitefield's preaching, John Fawcett joined the Baptist church, and served as minister in Wainsgate, England, for fifty-four years. Yielding to the persuasion of his parishioners, he declined invitations to move elsewhere. He wrote more than 160 hymns.

Tune: SICILIAN MARINERS 8.7.8.7.8.7.
 Sicilian melody, 18th century
 The European Magazine and Review, 1792

Sabbatical Support Team

**Mary Horak Binger, Nat Graf, Naomi Kirstein,
Debbie Knox, Dan Warnes (out of town 7/4-7/11), Eli'jah Carroll,
and Megan Adams**

This team is available to visit when you need a listening ear or a caring presence.

**Megan (651-439-5667, office@stcroixunitedchurch.org) and
Nat (651-470-0408, ngraf11@gmail.com)**
will serve as main lines of contact, yet we welcome you to reach out to any of us.



Outdoor Worship This Summer

@ Lakeside Park Beach House (95 Central Ave, Bayport)
Join us in worshipping down by the river on these dates:
July 26, August 9 & 23

Thank you to today's partners: Rev. Jennifer Jaimez (Guest Preacher), Sharon Neuenfeldt (Worship Accompanist), Heather Kennedy-Bordeaux (choir director), Lori Mildon (flutist & fellowship), Kathy Iverson (liturgist & greeter), David Kirstein & Gary Piasecki (ushers), St. Croix United Choir, Carol Dusbabek (children's message), Paul Spilseth, Bob Dickie & Mark Stephan (tech team), Jackie Savage (sanctuary organizer), Claire Spilseth & Kathleen Dennison (children's activity), Sharri Kinkead (altar flowers)



St. Croix United Church

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Eli'jah Carroll | Youth Coordinator

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In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.

Then God said, “Let there be light;” and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness.

God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

And God said, “Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so.

God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

And God said, “Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, “Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.” And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good.

And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

And God said, “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light

And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.”

And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.” And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, “Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.” So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.”

God said, “See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so.

God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created. In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens...