

Morning Worship  
Presbytery of Baltimore  
893 Gathering, October 21, 2021

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*God's works in creation are too wonderful, too ancient, too beautiful, too good to be desecrated. Restoring creation is God's own work in our time, in which God comes both to judge and to restore.*

*PCUSA Environmental Policy (1990)*

Prelude – H/She's Got the Whole World in His/Her Hands

Opening Responses (together)

God above us –  
trees, birds and sunshine, stars and moonlight –  
God above us.

God beneath us –  
earth, rocks and rivers, roots and caverns –  
God beneath us.

God around us –  
seas, winds and cities, animals and people –  
God around us.

God within us –  
hope, tears and laughter, love and wonder –  
God within us.

God above us, God beneath us,  
God around us, God within us.  
we celebrate that you made us, you love us  
and you call us to work and rest in you.

Hymn – God of Great and God of Small

1. God of great and God of small,  
God of one and God of all,  
God of weak and God of strong,  
God to whom all things belong,  
alleluia, alleluia,  
praise be to your name.
2. God of land and sky and sea,  
God of life and destiny,  
God of never-ending power,  
yet beside me every hour,  
alleluia, alleluia,  
praise be to your name.

3. God of silence, God of sound,  
God by whom the lost are found,  
God of day and darkest night,  
God whose love turns wrong to right,  
alleluia, alleluia,  
praise be to your name.
4. God of heaven and God of earth,  
God of death and God of birth,  
God of now and days before,  
God who reigns forevermore,  
alleluia, alleluia,  
praise be to your name.

### Call to Confession

### Prayer of Confession

Holy God, Maker of all:  
Have mercy on us.

Jesus Christ, servant of the poor:  
Have mercy on us.

Holy Spirit, Breath of life:  
Have mercy on us.

Holy God of steadfast love,  
in your presence we confess  
our failure to be what you created us to be.  
You call us to care for your creation,  
but we ignore your call, and refuse to listen.  
We are sorry for the bad decisions we have made.  
We are sorry for the people we have hurt.  
We are sorry for the damage we have caused to the planet.  
Forgive us, God of grace.  
Do not abandon us to our foolishness.  
Teach us to treasure your gifts  
of water, air, land, light and darkness,  
and to see the good of all creation  
so that we may be a blessing.

### Assurance of Grace

### Lesson – 1Peter 1:1-26

Sermon      A Living Hope      Avery Davis Lamb

An Affirmation for the Season of Creation (*together*)

We belong to the Creator  
in whose image we are all made.  
In God we are breathing, in God we are living,  
in God we share the life of all creation.

We belong to Jesus Christ,  
the true icon of God and of humanity.  
In Christ God is breathing, in Christ God is living,  
through Christ we are reconciled.

We belong to the Holy Spirit,  
who gives us new life and strengthens our faith.  
In the Spirit truth is living,  
the breath of God always moves us.

We belong to the Holy Trinity,  
who is one in all and Three-in-One.  
In God we are all made,  
in Christ we are all saved,  
in the Spirit we are all united.

Thanks be to God!

The Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

*God is here.*

***The Spirit is with us.***

*People of God, open your hearts.*

***We open them to God and one another.***

*Let us give thanks to the living God.*

***We thank God with joy.***

*[The prayer continues...]*

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

*We share the bread and the cup around the table in our homes.*

Prayer After Communion

## Hymn – All Things Bright and Beautiful

Refrain:

All things bright and beautiful,  
all creatures great and small,  
all things wise and wonderful,  
the Lord God made them all.

1. Each little flower that opens,  
each little bird that sings,  
God made their glowing colors;  
God made their tiny wings.  
(Refrain)
2. The purple-headed mountain,  
the river running by,  
the sunset, and the morning  
that brightens up the sky:  
(Refrain)
3. The cold wind in the winter,  
the pleasant summer sun,  
the ripe fruits in the garden,  
God made them every one.  
(Refrain)
4. God gave us eyes to see them,  
and lips that we might tell  
how great is God Almighty,  
who has made all things well.  
(Refrain)

Blessing (together)

Bless to us, O God,  
the moon that is above us,  
the earth that is beneath us,  
the friends who are around us,  
your image deep within us.  
Amen.

Postlude – Every Praise Our God

### **WORSHIP NOTES:**

Resources used or reworked include: *The Iona Abbey Worship Book, 2001 and 2017; The Wee Worship Book, Fifth Incarnation.*

The Affirmation of Faith was written by Per Harling, a Swedish pastor and prolific hymn writer, who composed this affirmation for the ecumenical celebration of the Season of Creation.