

Sunday, May 18, 2025
Church Care Sunday – Fifth Sunday of Easter

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (Inspired by Psalm 148)

Celebrate our God, from the plains to the mountains!

Celebrate our God, from the waters and hills.

Sing to our God who designed creation.

Fill the air with song to the One who painted the world with love.

Let us praise our God, the author of grace.

Let us worship our God, the composer of joy.

***Hymn**

“From All That Dwell Below the Skies”

New Century Hymnal #27

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Prayer for Illumination

Spirit of Joy- Basking in your presence, we dance in the knowledge that your presence dwells with us. We celebrate your name, your grace, your love in this space with our siblings. We proclaim our excitement that we, together, can glorify your name through sharing your love. May this minute be the start of a new chapter of our love for you and our love for our neighbors. Amen.

Anthem

“I Want Jesus to Walk with Me” by Larry Shackley

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Scripture

Psalm 148

Carol Hacker

Sermon

Rev. Abby Gackenhimer

Music of Reflection

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Prayer Response

“To My Humble Supplication” Genevan Psalter

Contributors: Joseph Bryan 1620; Genevan Psalter 1543 © Public Domain

Our Offering: A Prayer for All Church Clean-Up Sunday

Our offering today is our gift of time and talent. However, if you would like to leave a monetary gift, there are offering plates in the back. Thank you for gifting your time, talent, and treasure.

Abundant God, you made us in your image and breathed in us a spirit of generosity that is both gift and response. As stewards of Your Abundance, move us, to give as we have received—abundantly, generously, and joyfully. As the Spirit moves us to give of our time and talent today, bless our hands and hearts as we respond with gratitude to our

call to be faithful stewards of these church buildings and grounds. Everything is a gift from you. So, today, as we wash windows and pews, weed and prune, paint and put hammer to nail, may we do so with a generous and grateful heart. May our work today be a blessing to others as we continue to make these spaces a bright and safe place where all are welcome.

Hymn “God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens” *New Century Hymnal #556

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Benediction

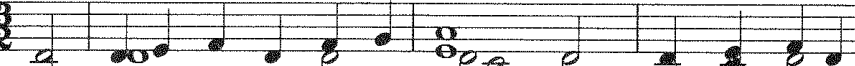
Benediction Response “Lift Your Light” *by Mary MacDonald*

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Postlude

Worship Liturgy: Call to Worship and Prayer for Illumination: ***Glorify God: Service Prayers for the Second Sunday of Easter C*** was written by the Rev. Michelle L. Torigian, Senior Pastor of St. Paul United Church of Christ, Belleville, Illinois.

Unison



1 From all that dwell be-low the skies let the Cre-a-tor's praise a-
2 E-ter-nal are your mer-cies, God; your truth stands ev-er high and

(Harmony)

(Unison)

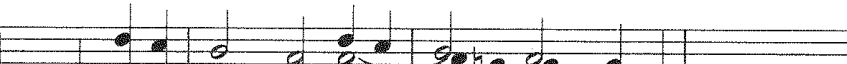
rise; Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Let the Re - deem - er's name be
broad: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Your praise shall sound from shore to

(Harmony)

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves, a treble staff on top and a bass staff on the bottom. Both staves are in the key of D major, indicated by two sharps (F# and C#) on the key signature. The time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the harmony is written in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the staves. The melody starts with a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, and a half note C5. The harmony starts with a half note D3, followed by a quarter note E3, a quarter note F#3, and a half note G3. The lyrics are: sung through ev - ery land, by ev - ery tongue. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - shore till suns shall rise and set no more.

sung through ev - ery land, by ev - ery tongue. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
shore till suns shall rise and set no more.

(Unison)



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

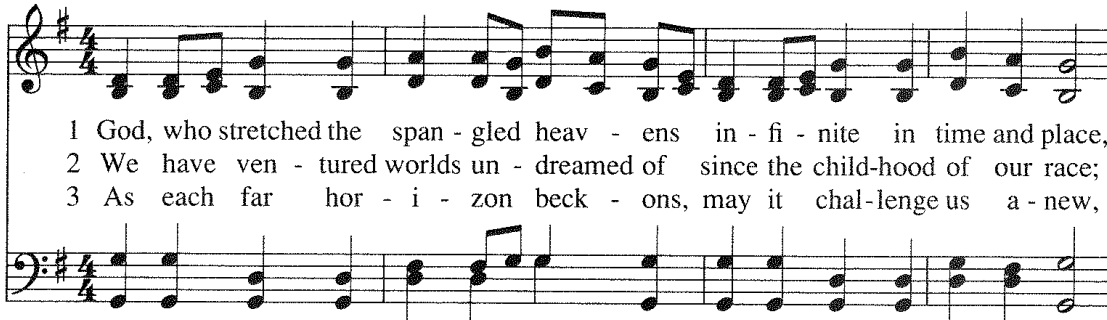
Isaac Watts, author of more than 600 hymns, paraphrased the two verses of Psalm 117 into this two-stanza hymn, which was included in his Psalms of David, 1719. The tune originated in a German Catholic hymnal.

Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN
8.8.4.4.8.8. with alleluias
Geistliche Kirchengesäng, *Cologne*, 1623
Harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

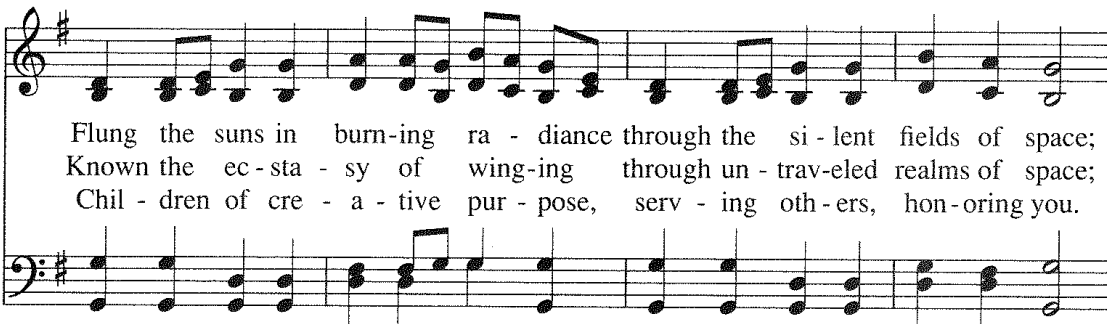
God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens 556

Catherine Cameron, 1967

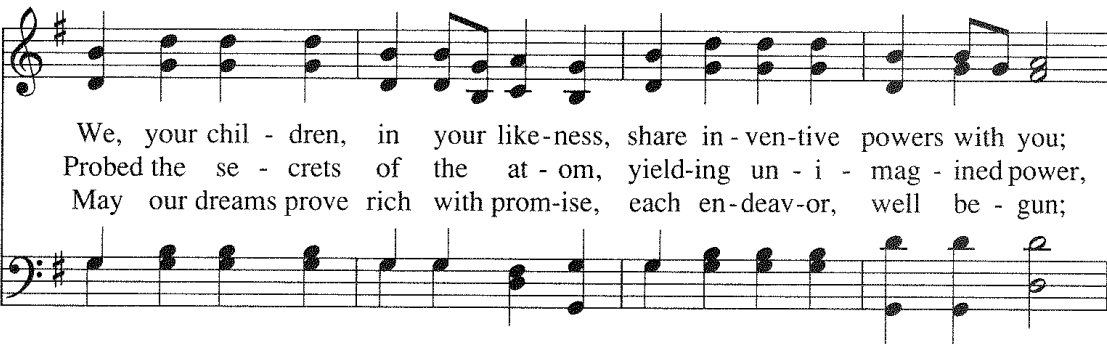
Gen. 5:1-2; Isa. 42:5-9



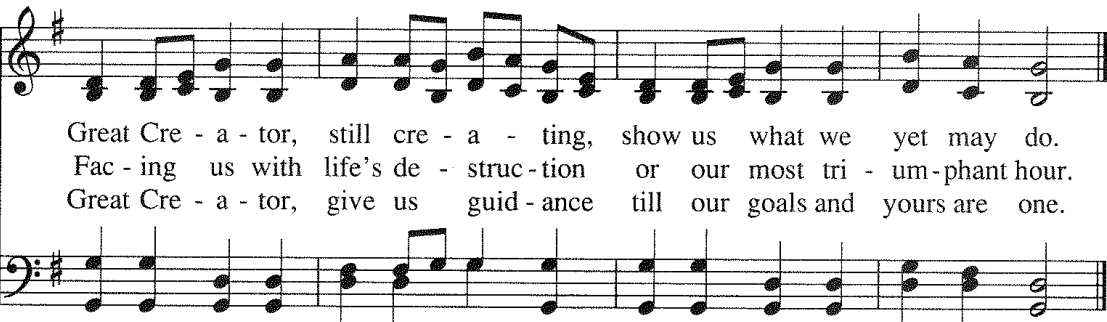
1 God, who stretched the span - gled heav - ens in - fi - nite in time and place,
 2 We have ven - tured worlds un - dreamed of since the child-hood of our race;
 3 As each far hor - i - zon beck - ons, may it chal-lenge us a - new,



Flung the suns in burn-ing ra - diance through the si - lent fields of space;
 Known the ec - sta - sy of wing-ing through un - trav-eled realms of space;
 Chil - dren of cre - a - tive pur - pose, serv - ing oth - ers, hon - oring you.



We, your chil - dren, in your like-ness, share in - ven-tive powers with you;
 Probed the se - crets of the at - om, yield-ing un - i - mag - ined power,
 May our dreams prove rich with prom-ise, each en-deav-or, well be - gun;



Great Cre - a - tor, still cre - a - ting, show us what we yet may do.
 Fac - ing us with life's de - struc-tion or our most tri - um-phant hour.
 Great Cre - a - tor, give us guid - ance till our goals and yours are one.

Catherine Cameron, a professor of social psychology in California, wrote this text in 1967 with Haydn's Austrian Hymn in mind. This tune, Holy Manna, appeared in The Columbian Harmony (1825), and was attributed to the compiler of that volume, William Moore.

Tune: HOLY MANNA 8.7.8.7.D.
 William Moore, 1825