*Mountain Spirit Metropolitan Community Church*

*A spiritual community born out of LGBTQIA+ Appalachia*

*“I praise you for I am fearsomely and wonderfully made.”*

*Ps. 139.14*

**Proper Sunday 13 Worship**

**August 3, 2025**

**Prelude** Paul W., musician

**Welcome and Protocol Honoring Home** Christine W., liturgist

**All: We bless these mountains in which we gather, and all the animals, plants, and elements for whom this is home;**

**We bless all who have walked this land and called this place home long before us;**

**We bless and honor Congregation Beth Israel for sharing their home with us;**

**And we pray that we will be a blessing in this place.**

**May peace be among us. Amen.**

**Gathering Song Joyful People, Come and Worship**  Christine W. And Paul W., musicians

Joyful people, come and worship!

Lift your happy hearts in song,

Giving praise for our church family

In God’s house, where all belong,

Celebrating our uniqueness

Filled with love and pride today,

Forth we travel on faith’s journey

We, who once had turned away.

And today we lift our voices,

Of amazing love we sing,

Giving thanks and praise to Yahweh

For the joy that love can bring!

Praising Jesus and the Spirit,

Singing of amazing grace,

Here we see that same sweet Spirit

On each blessed sibling’s face.

God, whose mercies know no bound’ries

Heard our cries for liberty,

Broke the chains of fear that bound us

Lifted, loved, and set us free!

Learning how to love each other

How to live and how to grow,

Children of God’s new creation

Onward, upward now we go!

**Invocation**

**ALL:** **Come Holy Spirit. Come any way you want. Just come. Amen**

**Worship Songs** Rev. Pressley S., musician

**1.Oh, Your love reaches to the skies**

But there's no space between You and I

Wherever I go, I'm never alone

I'm waking up, I come alive

[Chorus]

The past is gone, the future can wait

Oh, my soul, what a beautiful day

What a beautiful day

I breathe You in, shout out Your praise

Oh, my soul, what a beautiful day

What a beautiful day

Your face, brighter than the sun

Your grace rewrites every wrong

Wherever I go, I'm never alone

I'm waking up, I come alive (back to chorus)

[Bridge]

My past is in the grave, my sin is washed away

This is Christ in me, this is Christ in me

I'm living unashamed, now my heart's forever changed

This is Christ in me, this is Christ in me

**2.From the highest of heights to the depths of the sea**

Creation's revealing Your majesty

From the colors of fall to the fragrance of spring

Every creature unique in the song that it sings

All exclaiming

(Chorus)

Indescribable, uncontainable,

You placed the stars in the sky and You know them by name.

You are amazing God

All powerful, untameable,

Awestruck we fall to our knees as we humbly proclaim

You are amazing God

(Verse)

Who has told every lightning bolt where it should go

Or seen heavenly storehouses laden with snow

Who imagined the sun and gives source to its light

Yet conceals it to bring us the coolness of night

None can fathom

(Chorus)

Indescribable, uncontainable,

You placed the stars in the sky and You know them by name.

You are amazing God

All powerful, untameable,

Awestruck we fall to our knees as we humbly proclaim

You are amazing God

**3. As the deer panteth for the water**

So my soul longeth after Thee

You alone are my heart's desire

And I long to worship Thee.

[Chorus]

You alone are my strength my shield

To You alone may my spirit yield

You alone are my heart's desire

And I long to worship Thee

I love you more than gold or silver

Only You can satisfy

You alone are the real joy giver

And the apple of my eye

[back to Chorus]

You're my friend and you are my comfort

Even though you are unseen

I love you more than any other

So much more than anything

[back to Chorus]

**Readings Lucas/Luke 12:13-21 Susan P and Angel P, lectors**

*(English)* Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me."

But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?"

And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions."

Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly.

And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?'

Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods.

And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.'

But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?'

So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

Let us hear Living Words. **Thanks be to God.**

*(Spanish)* Uno de entre la multitud le pidió:

—Maestro, dile a mi hermano que comparta la herencia conmigo.

—Hombre —respondió Jesús—, ¿quién me nombró a mí juez o árbitro entre ustedes?

»¡Tengan cuidado! —advirtió a la gente—. Absténganse de toda avaricia; la vida de una persona no depende de la abundancia de sus bienes».

Entonces les contó esta parábola:

—El terreno de un hombre rico produjo una buena cosecha. Así que se puso a pensar: “¿Qué voy a hacer? No tengo dónde almacenar mi cosecha”. Por fin dijo: “Ya sé lo que voy a hacer: derribaré mis graneros y construiré otros más grandes, donde pueda almacenar todo mi grano y mis bienes. Y diré: Alma mía, ya tienes bastantes cosas buenas guardadas para muchos años. Descansa, come, bebe y goza de la vida”. Pero Dios le dijo: “¡Necio! Esta misma noche te van a reclamar la vida. ¿Y quién se quedará con lo que has acumulado?”.

»Así sucede al que acumula riquezas para sí mismo, en vez de ser rico delante de Dios».

Palabra de Dios. **Te alabamos Dios.**

**Response How Great Thou Art** Paul W And Christine W, musicians

[Verse 1]

O Lord my God, When I in awesome wonder,

Consider all the Worlds Thy hand hath made.

I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder

Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed

[Chorus]

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee

How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee

How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

[Verse]

When Christ shall come, with shouts of acclamation

And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart

Then I shall bow in humble adoration

And there proclaim, My God, how great You are! (chorus)

**Sermon Buried Treasure**  Rev. Pressley S., preacher

**Offertory I Will Change Your Name** Rev. Dr. Joan S.,liturgist Christine W. And Paul W., musician

I will change your name

You shall no longer be called

Wounded, outcast, lonely or afraid

I will change your name

Your new name shall be

Confidence, joyfulness, overcoming one

Faithfulness, friend of God

One who seeks My face

**Community Prayers** Christine W., liturgist

**Our Mother who lives within us, we celebrate your many names.**

**Your wisdom come, your will be done, unfolding from the depths within us.**

**Each day you give us all that we need.**

**You remind us of our strengths, and we embrace them.**

**You support us in our power, and we act with courage.**

**For you are the dwelling place within us,**

**the empowerment around us,**

**and the celebration among us, now and forevermore. Amen**

**Communion** Rev. Pressley S, celebrant, Angel P, acolyte

C: God is with you. **All: And also with you**

C: Let us open our hearts. **All: We open them to God**

C: Let us give God thanks and praise **All: It is a good and joyful thing to do**

**Santo, santo, santo**

**Mi corazón te adora**

**Mi corazón sabe decir**

**Santo eres tú**

**Holy, Holy, Holy**

**My heart, my heart adores you**

**My heart knows how to say to you**

**You are holy, God**

**Announcements** Rev. Pressley S, liturgist

* **New Book Group - Let Your Life Speak, Parker Palmer, Ch. 2,** Tuesday, August 5th, 7:30pm on Zoom.
* **Blue Ridge Pride** sign-up sheet for volunteers
* Congratulations to Erik W. Who spoke at the invitation of our Moderator to an international gathering of UFMCC’s Partners in Hope on Zoom this past week. Erik also spoke about Mountain Spirit to a gathering at General Conference recently. Well done!

**Benediction** Rev. Pressley S., liturgist

**All will be well; and all will be well;**

**And all manner of thing will be well;**

**All will be well, be well.**

**Go out with peace. Go out with kindness. Go out with Love,**

**In the name of the Creator, Christ, Comforter, and All that are Wise and Good. Amén/Amen**