*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 15 Worship**

**August 17, 2025**

**Prelude** Paul W., musician

**Welcome and Protocol Honoring Home**

**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 Great is Thy Faithfulness**  Paul W., musicians

Great is thy faithfulness, God my Creator,

There is no shadow of turning with Thee;

Thou changes not, Thy compassions they fail not;

As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

*(Refrain)*

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!*

*Morning by morning new mercies I see;*

*All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;*

*Great is thy faithfulness, God, unto me.*

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,

Sun, moon and stars in their courses above,

Join with all nature in manifold witness,

To thy great faithfulness, mercy and love (to Refrain)

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,

Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide;

Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,

Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! (to Refrain)

**Invocation**

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

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

1. You lead me, You guide me

You comfort and restore me

You guard me, You hold me

You keep me from my enemies

(Chorus)

Gloria Gloria Alle-lu-ia Alle-lu-ia

Gloria Gloria Alle-lu-ia Alle-lu-ia

You sought me, You found me

You hold me in my deepest pain

You made me, You know me

And you will take me home again

(Repeat Chorus)

**2. V1. When the music fades** and all is stripped away and I simply come

 Longing just to bring something that's of worth that will bless

 your heart

[Pre-Chorus]

I'll bring you more than a song for a song in itself is not what you have

required

You search much deeper within through the way things appear

you're looking into my heart

[Chorus]

I'm coming back to the heart of worship and it's all about you, it's all

about you Jesus

I'm sorry God for the thing I made it when it's all about you, it's all

about you Jesus

 V2. Christ of endless worth no one could express how much you deserve

 Though I'm weak and poor all I have is yours, every single breath

[back to Pre-Chorus]

**Reading St. Francis Prayer for Peace** Joey D, lector

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.
O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.

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

**Response We Are Standing on Holy Ground** Paul W, musician

V1. As I walked through the door I sensed God’s presence

And I knew this was a place where love abounds

For this is the temple, the Loving God abides here

And we are standing in God’s presence

On holy ground

(Chorus) We are standing on holy ground

And I know there are angels all around

Let us praise Jesus now

We are standing in God’s presence

On holy ground

V2. In God’s presence there is joy beyond measure

And at God’s feet peace of mind can still be found

If you have a need, I know God has the answer

Reach out and claim it for we are standing

On holy ground (to chorus)

**Reading Acts 3:1-10** Erik W, lector

One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the time of prayer—at three in the afternoon. Now a man who was lame from birth was being carried to the temple gate called Beautiful, where he was put every day to beg from those going into the temple courts. When he saw Peter and John about to enter, he asked them for money. Peter looked straight at him, as did John. Then Peter said, “Look at us!” So the man gave them his attention, expecting to get something from them.

Then Peter said, “Silver or gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk.” Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man’s feet and ankles became strong. He jumped to his feet and began to walk. Then he went with them into the temple courts, walking and jumping, and praising God. When all the people saw him walking and praising God, they recognized him as the same man who used to sit begging at the temple gate called Beautiful, and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

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

**Response Amazing Grace**

Amazing Grace! (how sweet the sound)

That saved a soul like me!

I once was lost, but now am found,

Was bound, but now I’m free.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,

And grace my fears relieved.

How precious did that grace appear,

The hour I first believed.

When we've been there ten thousand years,

Bright shining as the sun,

We've no less days to sing God's praise

Than when we first begun.

Amazing Grace! (how sweet the sound)

That saved a soul like me!

I once was lost, but now am found,

Was bound, but now I’m free.

**Sermon At the Gate Called Beautiful**  Rev. Pressley S, preacher

**Offertory I Will Change Your Name** 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

**Communion** Rev. Pressley S, celebrant

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**

**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**

**Announcements** Rev. Pressley S, liturgist

* **Book Group - Let Your Life Speak, Parker Palmer, Ch. 3,** Tuesday, August 19th, 7:30pm on Zoom.
* **Marketing Monthly Meeting** - Wednesday, August 13th, 7pm on Zoom

**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**