

September 17, 2023 + 10:30 A.M.

Seventeenth Sunday of Pentecost

**We Join in Worship**

*If you need extra space for a wheelchair or walker, or if you have young children with you, please feel free to make use of our  
Prayground, the extra space across the aisle from the sound booth.*

**PRELUDE**

*In The Garden*

C. Austin Miles

**WELCOME**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Christ's peace is with us always, no matter where we may be. And so, Christ's peace is with each and every one of us in this moment. Let us take it in. Let us really feel it. If able, stand where you are and make signs of Christ's peace all around. If you are worshiping from home, call somebody from the church and greet them with Christ's peace after the service.

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP** (Adapted from *Psalms* 103)

Leader: God forgives all our iniquity, God heals all our diseases, God redeems our lives from the Pit, God crowns us with steadfast love and mercy! God satisfies us with good as long as we live so that our youth is renewed like the eagle's.

**ALL: Bless the LORD, O our souls, and all that is within us, bless God's holy name! Bless the LORD, O our souls, and let us not forget all God's benefits!**

Leader: The LORD works vindication and justice for all who are oppressed. The LORD's ways were made known to Moses, the LORD's acts to the people of Israel. The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. The LORD will not always accuse, nor will the LORD's anger be kept forever.

**ALL: Bless the LORD, O our souls, and all that is within us, bless God's holy name! Bless the LORD, O our souls, and let us not forget all God's benefits!**

Leader: The LORD does not deal with us according to our sins nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is the LORD's steadfast love toward us! The steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting! The LORD's throne has been established in the heavens, and the LORD's kingdom rules over all.

**ALL: Bless the LORD, O our souls, and all that is within us, bless God's holy name! Bless the LORD, O our souls, and let us not forget all God's benefits!**

Leader: Bless the LORD, O you angels, you mighty ones who do the LORD's bidding, obedient to the spoken word. Bless the LORD, all you hosts, you ministers who do the LORD's will!

**ALL: Bless the LORD, in all works, in all places. Bless the LORD, O our souls!**

**\*OPENING HYMN: "Morning Has Broken" (469)**

**INVITATION TO CONFESSION:**

Leader: In his letter to the Romans, Paul writes, "Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God." Trusting in God's mercy at the judgment seat, let us be accountable in our shared confession.

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)**

**O God, the great I Am, hold ourselves accountable before you and before each other. Help us to repair what we have broken with our transgressions and so to reconcile with each other and with you. We confess that we all too often feel inadequate when you call upon us to work for your Kingdom. We judge ourselves and convince ourselves that we are not enough. In doing this, we show that we do not trust you. We do not trust that you created us well and worthy. We do not trust that you empower us. We do not trust that you know what you are doing. Forgive us for failing to see the true potential that we have as your children. In your holy name we pray. Amen.**

**KYRIE: Glory to God, No. 579 (unison)**

**Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

**Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.**

**Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**Leader: Friends, hear the good news! Christ died and lived again for us!**

**ALL: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Hallelujah! Thanks be to God!**

## **GLORIA PATRI (577)**

**Glory be to the Father, and the Son, and Holy Ghost;**

**As it was in the beginning, is now, ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now, ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

## **STATEMENT OF FAITH: (From *A Brief Statement of Faith*)**

**In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!" With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

<b>We Hear God's Word</b>
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## **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**Guide us, O God, the great "I Am," by your Word, and Holy Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover peace. In your holy name we pray. Amen.**

**HEBREW BIBLE LESSON: Exodus 4:1-9**

**EPISTLE LESSON: Romans 14:7-12**

**GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 18:15-20**

**SERMON: Sibling Power**

**MUSICAL MEDITATION:***Shine, Jesus, Shine*

Graham Kendrick

*Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory, blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire. Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy, send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.*

- 1. Lord, the light of your love is shining in the midst of the darkness shining; Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us, set us free by the truth you now bring us. Shine on me, shine on me.*
- 2. Lord, I come to your awesome presence from the shadows into your radiance; by the blood I may enter your brightness, search me, try me, consume all my darkness. Shine on me, shine on me.*
- 3. As we gaze on your kingly brightness, so our faces display your likeness; ever changing from glory to glory, mirrored here may our lives tell your story. Shine on me, shine on me.*

<b>We Respond in Faith</b>
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**PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE 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.**

**OFFERING INVITATION:**

Leader: God empowers us through partnership with God and partnership with each other. When we combine our gifts, we become effective Kingdom builders. Let us give our tithes and offerings as part of a community of empowerment. If you are worshiping here today, you can place your offering in the plate as you leave. If you are worshiping online, I encourage you to mail in checks or take advantage of our online giving options through the website. Now let us take a moment to reflect on stewardship as we hear the offertory.

**OFFERTORY***You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore*

Cesareo Gabarain

**\*DOXOLOGY****Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;****Praise God, all creatures high and low;****Alleluia! Alleluia!****Praise God, in Jesus fully known;****Creator, Word, and Spirit one;****Alleluia! Alleluia!****Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!****\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION: (Unison)**

**O God, the great I Am, we offer these gifts to you and to the work of your Kingdom. Inspire us to keep sharing our gifts with each other and thus empowering each other. In your holy name we pray. Amen.**

## We Go Into the World

**\*CLOSING HYMN:** “How Great Thou Art” (Glory to God 625)

### BENEDICTION

#### POSTLUDE

*He Lives*

Alfred H. Ackley

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\* So that we can properly greet people who come to the building during Sunday morning worship, Door A will be the only unlocked external door during the worship service.

## Life of the Church

### PEEK AT THE WEEK:

SUNDAY 9/17:	Adult Study – 9:00 AM Worship in Person Outside in the Garden & Online – 10:30 AM Church Luncheon
MONDAY 9/18:	GA – 6:30 PM Al-Anon – 7:00 PM
TUESDAY 9/19:	Faith Development – 6:30 PM (Zoom)
WEDNESDAY 9/20:	“Bring Your Own Bible” Bible Study 7-8 PM (Zoom) GA – 7:00 PM
THURSDAY 9/21:	Choir – 7:00 PM
SATURDAY 9/23:	Gladys’ Table Prep

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **CHURCH-WIDE LUNCHEON AFTER WORSHIP TODAY!** Pastor Tyler and the ruling elders on session are hosting a luncheon to mark the start of a new program year, celebrate the trustees’ work in renewing the garden path, and have our follow-up conversation on ideas from May’s visioning luncheon. Come for food, fellowship, and fruitful discussion about our church’s journey!
- **HEAR YE! HEAR YE! HEAR YE!** We are once again going to pick up the Christmas decorating project at Habitat. If you have any Christmas trees, ornaments, wreaths, etc. that you are not using, please think about donating them to this project. You can call or text Cheryl Steen, and she will make arrangements with you to get them to where they need to be. Also, please give some thought to donating a few hours October 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th or 28th from 9:30 AM—1:00 PM for decorating at the ReStore. Lunch will be provided.
- **CHOIR PRACTICE IS ON THURSDAYS AT 7:00 PM!** All are welcome at all skill levels and all voice ranges! The most important thing is giving God glory with joy! We will gather in the choir room, near Door C.
- **PARTICIPATE IN PSALMTEMBER 2023!** Everyone is encouraged to get creative and participate in Psalmtember, started by Marc Hong. Start by reading the whole Psalm in the table each day, consider what emotions it stirs up in you, choose a creative medium that speaks to you, and make some art! Folks have painted, used ink, drawn with colored pencils, taken photographs, written haikus, and much more. Choose what stirs delight in you! There is a Psalmtember Wall inside Door D to post anything you'd like to share. Looking forward to a lovely month of creativity and reflection on the Psalms!

- **THE BIBLE IN TODAY'S WORLD CLASS** meets on Sunday mornings at 9 am in the upstairs meeting room. We are using "The Difficult Words of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to His Most Perplexing Teachings" by Dr. Amy-Jill Levine. This book and video study will guide us through some of the most difficult teachings of Jesus - how they have been understood over time, and how we might interpret them in the context of the Gospel of love and reconciliation. Come explore and learn with us! Contact John Toren or Heather Casiano with any questions.
- **BYOB (BRING YOUR OWN BIBLE)** will be meeting on Wednesday evenings from 7-8 pm, beginning Sept. 20, online on ZOOM. Our first series will be "Scripture Stories in Stained Glass." Join us online from wherever you are each Wednesday evening to learn about the Scriptures depicted in the various stained glass windows in our sanctuary. Each week's discussion will be independent of each other, so come as often as you are able. Zoom meeting links will be emailed out the morning of the study. Contact Heather Casiano or Pastor Tyler with any questions.
- **ARE YOU RECEIVING EMAILS FROM THE CHURCH?** If you have provided an email address to us, you should be receiving weekly emails with service information from [pastorem@fpchighland.org](mailto:pastorem@fpchighland.org) and monthly emails with the Larger View from [fpch@fpchighland.org](mailto:fpch@fpchighland.org). If you have not been receiving these emails, please add these email addresses to your contact list. Let Kristen in the office know if you need help.
- **FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!** If you don't already follow First Presbyterian Church of Highland on Facebook and Instagram, please start doing so and sharing our posts with your friends!
- **FELLOWSHIP HOSTS** Our Ministry of Hospitality is seeking hosts for fellowship! There is a sign up board downstairs. Hosting can be as simple as bringing store-bought snacks or as fun as making something if you have the skills!
- **INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEMBER OF FPCH?** You are always welcome here, whether a member or not! If you are interested in joining as a member, though, we would love to have you! Please talk to Pastor Tyler if you would like to learn more.

**Opportunities to serve as the HEART, HANDS, and FEET of Jesus Christ:**

- **BLESSING BOX** OUR BLESSING BOX IS LOW ON FUNDS AND SUPPLIES. DONATIONS ARE WELCOME! Please continue to place items in the Blessing Box and take items if you are a person in need! Items most commonly donated: Canned goods with pull tabs, socks, toilet paper, non-perishable foods, small snacks, toiletries, baby wipes and diapers. Please check expiration dates!
- **HELP STOCK OUR PANTRY!** Please pick up a beautifully decorated grocery bag in the narthex to help the church's food pantry. We'd love to have you take a bag home, place some non-perishable food items in the bag, and bring it back to the church to help keep our pantry stocked!
- **GOT SNEAKERS??** The sneakers that we all collect will help raise money to support our church's general fund AND will help our environment by keeping sneakers out of landfills. Bring the sneakers (athletic shoes only) to the church and put them in one of the blue bins...either by Door D (inside and outside) or in the narthex.

## Prayer List

Anthony  
George Nelson  
Brady Vanes  
George Griner  
Guy Hendricks  
Bill and Anettia Holmes  
Daniel Litwicki  
David Markley  
David Kingen  
Carmelo  
Diana and Ray Mendoza  
Janet Orem  
Jeanne Nestor  
Cindy Waltz and Sister  
Andrew Bobalik  
Gale Snyder  
Yvonne Suroviak  
U. Chong  
Wendy  
Georgette Sknerski  
Jakob Holden  
Denise Matthys  
Steve & Melinda  
Gary Studer  
Jan Oprea  
Janet Vargo  
Piper  
Laura Wisner  
Delta Rose  
Lena  
Caroline Studer  
Laura Buono Domsic  
The Windstrups  
Ruth Dekker  
Rick Parker

Barbara Morton  
Cary and Jennifer Pearson  
Carol Finley  
Winnie Owen  
Holly Letnich  
Lily Renfro  
Marla and Jerry Renfro  
Jaden Mendez  
Frank Falzone  
Doug and Sue Matthews  
Janet Terpstra  
Robert Urich  
Richard Simmons  
Glen Nahler  
Virginia Marshall  
Tammy  
Tom  
Jana Tolley  
Larry Perryman  
Ric Jaeggi  
Florance Cody  
Josephine Kim  
Mark  
Paulina Martinez  
Ron Meinhardt  
Charity Lynn  
Sharon LaFlech  
Shannon  
Kathy and Chuck Pumnea  
Carol Figley  
Chestine  
David Hamblin  
Robin C.  
Nick  
Judy  
Breeanne

## **Exodus 4:1-9**

<sup>4</sup> Then Moses answered, “But look, they may not believe me or listen to me but say, ‘The Lord did not appear to you.’” <sup>2</sup> The Lord said to him, “What is that in your hand?” He said, “A staff.” <sup>3</sup> And he said, “Throw it on the ground.” So he threw the staff on the ground, and it became a snake, and Moses drew back from it. <sup>4</sup> Then the Lord said to Moses, “Reach out your hand and seize it by the tail”—so he reached out his hand and grasped it, and it became a staff in his hand— <sup>5</sup> “so that they may believe that the Lord, the God of their ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has appeared to you.”

<sup>6</sup> Again, the Lord said to him, “Put your hand inside your cloak.” He put his hand into his cloak, and when he took it out, his hand was diseased, as white as snow. <sup>7</sup> Then God said, “Put your hand back into your cloak”—so he put his hand back into his cloak, and when he took it out, it was restored like the rest of his body— <sup>8</sup> “If they will not believe you or heed the first sign, they may believe the second sign. <sup>9</sup> If they will not believe even these two signs or listen to you, you shall take some water from the Nile and pour it on the dry ground, and the water that you shall take from the Nile will become blood on the dry ground.”

## **Romans 14:7-12**

<sup>7</sup> For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. <sup>8</sup> If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord’s. <sup>9</sup> For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

<sup>10</sup> Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. <sup>11</sup> For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,  
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

<sup>12</sup> So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

## **Matthew 18:15-20**

<sup>15</sup> “If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. <sup>16</sup> But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. <sup>17</sup> If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. <sup>18</sup> Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. <sup>19</sup> Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup> For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”



## Sibling Power

*Exodus 4:1-9; Romans 14:7-12; Matthew 18:15-20*

I hope you have been taking your shoes off some and digging your toes into the soil, trusting that the ground upon which you sit or stand is holy ground, consecrated by God's love and welcome. I hope that you have been taking intentional time to breathe, to encounter the source of all being within your being, to simply pray the essential name of our God who gives us breath. And I hope you are ready to join our God, YHWH, and Moses again upon the mountain, beside the burning bush, that eternal bonfire that transcends time and beckons us to come and take our shoes off and sit a spell in the presence of the holy. I forgot to bring marshmallows today, but mark your calendars for October 15, when we will enjoy a bonfire and hayride at Oak Ridge Prairie County Park!

Last week when we gathered around the burning bush bonfire we heard God responding to the cries and groans of the Israelites in Egypt. We heard God committing to their liberation, ensuring that they would indeed be saved from their suffering. There was a very important catch, though. Remember, the covenant is a two-way street. God does not work alone. The people also have to participate in their own healing, liberation, and salvation. And so we heard God say to Moses, "I am sending *you* to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." If you recall, Moses tried to get out of it right then and there, questioning his own abilities and adequacy for this massive task. But God, of course, did not say, "Oh, you're right, I've got the wrong person!" Fully aware that Moses was the person for the job, God empowered him in the most powerful way—by speaking that blessed name YHWH and thus reminding Moses that the source of all being would be with him every step of the way. This name would also remind the people *whose* they were and *who* they were, and it would make them aware that they should follow Moses.

One would think that was enough for Moses, right? WRONG! In good human fashion, Moses kept right on doubting himself. In his own self-doubt he assumed that the people would doubt him. He asked, "But what if they don't believe me when I tell them that it was you who sent me?" The embodiment of patience and understanding, YHWH empowered him with miraculous signs—a staff that could turn into a snake and then back into a staff again upon Moses's touch, a cloak that could heal leprosy, and water that could turn into blood. Wow! Surely Moses would be confident in his ability to lead the Israelites now, equipped and empowered as he was with the holy name of YHWH and those miraculous powers. But still he persisted in his doubt and hesitancy. Still he persisted in his resistance to what he was being called to do.

In the verses just after today's reading, we get to the heart of it. *Moses said to YHWH, "O my Lord, I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor even now that you have spoken to your servant, but I am slow of speech and slow of tongue."* Aha! So it is not just that Moses was being stubborn and fearful. He had a very particular reason for believing that he was not cut out for the job. YHWH was calling him to the specific task of speaking and persuading. He was to speak to the Israelites and persuade them to follow his lead when the time came. Remember, this was a group of people made up of twelve different tribes, known across Egypt for their large numbers. So, it would be public speaking in front of a huge group of people who surely had their own quarrels and quibbles with each other. And THEN he was to speak to the pharaoh and persuade him to let his people go. In other words, he was to convince the most powerful human being on the planet to emancipate the enslaved people who were building the Egyptian infrastructure.

And here, clearly, Moses's deepest insecurity and biggest fear was speaking. Many have speculated that Moses may have had a speech disorder, and this very well may have been the case. Whether it was a phobia, anxiety, a speech disorder, or all of the above, I am sure that we can all now understand why Moses was particularly hesitant about what YHWH was asking him to do. I certainly have plenty of sympathy for him! His fear must have run deep within him for him to persist so strongly in his resistance to God's plan! Here's the thing, though. YHWH knew all of this. After all, YHWH is the source of all being. In the words of *Psalms* 139, YHWH had created his inmost being, had knit him together in his mother's womb. And as we learned last week, YHWH had been there with the midwives, Miriam, and the mothers when Moses was born, saved, and



raised. Moses may not have been aware of it, but YHWH had already been with him every step of the way. And so, of course, YHWH knew about Moses's challenges with speaking. And still YHWH called him to this task.

YHWH tried once more to remind Moses of just who it was that would be accompanying him and helping him, saying: "Who gives speech to mortals? Who makes them mute or deaf, seeing or blind? Is it not I, the Lord? Now go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you are to speak." The great I Am, the very source of speech itself, would be there telling Moses what to say and even helping his mouth to articulate the words. Wow! I wish God would intervene in this way with me sometimes! And still Moses persisted in his resistance. He begged, "O my Lord, please send someone else!" I picture him completely broken down at this point, desperate in his fear. I see all the fight, flight, and freeze responses coming to the surface, giving him the survival strength to wrestle with the great God of all the cosmos like his forefather Jacob, father to all the tribes of Israel. YHWH was exasperated, but YHWH's fight was with the pharaoh, not Moses.

And in that moment YHWH realized that Moses did not need more divine intervention, more supernatural persuasion. Moses had reached the point of fear and self-doubt where there would be no convincing no matter what. I am sure that we have all been there at some time or other—that point where reason becomes meaningless and we cannot feel strong no matter how empowered we might truly be. YHWH had an idea. Moses was certainly the right person for the job. Remember all those identity factors? Hebrew survivor of genocide, privileged prince of Egypt, and displaced refugee. He was certainly the one best suited to convince the pharaoh to let them go and then lead the Israelites to freedom. But there was no reason he had to do it alone! Yes, of course YHWH was going to be with him all along, but Moses needed another person with him whom he could trust and depend upon. He needed another person with him who could do that one part that was beyond his capability.

YHWH said, "What of your brother Aaron, the Levite? I know that he can speak well; even now he is coming out to meet you, and when he sees you his heart will be glad. You shall speak to him and put the words in his mouth, and I will be with your mouth and with his mouth and will teach you what you shall do. He indeed shall speak for you to the people; he shall serve as a mouth for you, and you shall serve as God for him." And that did it. With that solution, Moses immediately went to his father-in-law to let him know that he would be leaving Midian and going back to Egypt. Then he met Aaron in the wilderness and told him everything, feeling the burden lighten as he shared it with his sibling. And together they got to work immediately. As the text says, "Then Moses and Aaron went and assembled all the elders of the Israelites. Aaron spoke all the words that YHWH had spoken to Moses and performed the signs in the sight of the people. The people believed, and when they heard that YHWH had given heed to the Israelites and had seen their misery, they bowed down and worshiped."

Sure the snake staff, leprosy cloak, and blood water were pretty darn nifty and would end up being necessary, but the empowerment that Moses needed all along was the empowerment of a sibling. Of course he needed God, but he also needed a fellow human to accompany him. He needed someone to share his burden. He needed someone whose gifts could meet his gifts and fill in the holes. He needed someone he could trust enough to be fully vulnerable with. He even needed someone who could call him on his crap and still love him. He needed someone who could struggle alongside him and understand that the struggle is real. Oh yes, he needed a sibling! And as we read through *Exodus*, we will find that Aaron was not the only sibling who empowered him. Miriam was there at the beginning, and Miriam would be with him for the journey as the prophetess of the exodus. These three would certainly mess up plenty. They would have their quarrels and quibbles as siblings do. But they would be there for each other in the most meaningful ways when it mattered the most.

Sibling power! I have been blessed with, in my humble opinion, the best siblings on the planet. Joshua, Betzaira, Isabelle, and Serenity—better known as Josh, Betsy, Belle, and Wren. I cannot imagine going through this life without them. We have distinct differences from each other—different personalities, different gifts, different interests. And yet we share an essential sameness. We get each other on a level that is beyond rational comprehension. When I find myself in that state of fear and self-doubt that paralyzed Moses, it is most definitely my siblings who are best at making me feel safe and confident again. And we are stronger together. Our different personalities and gifts and interests supplement each other, filling in the gaps.

I know that this is not true for everybody. I know that not everybody has siblings in their families. I know that not everybody has had good experiences with their siblings. Well, I have good news for you! Centuries upon centuries after Moses and Aaron and Miriam lived, the Great I Am became flesh and asked, *"Who is my mother? Who are my siblings?" He stretched out his hand toward his disciples and said, "Look, here are my mother and my siblings. Whoever does the will of my Father who is in heaven is my sibling and mother."* Jesus recognized that through him we all have the possibility of sharing that essential sameness of siblings. I have experienced it many times in my life with people outside of my given family. I have found siblings all across this blessed planet. I have found siblings in all of you. And I know you have found siblings in each other. We may not always agree. We may make a mess of things sometimes. But our love and support for each other never falters. And this bond of siblinghood that we share is absolutely necessary for us to be able to respond to the call of Kingdom work—the call of healing and liberation and salvation. As Jesus said in today's reading: "Truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." Now *that* is sibling power! I love you, my siblings! Amen!

# Morning Has Broken

469

BUNESSAN. 5.5.5.4 D

Eleanor Farjeon, 1931

Gaelic melody  
Arr. Dale Grotenhuis, 1985

C Am Dm G Dm G C

1. Morn-ing has bro - ken Like the first morn - ing, Black-bird has  
2. Sweet the rain's new fall Sun - lit from heav - en, Like the first  
3. Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing Born of the

Em Am Em F G C Am F C

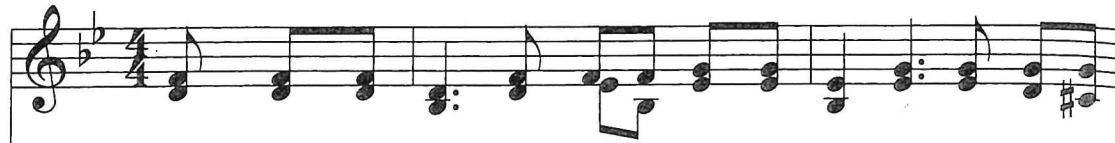
spo - ken Like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the  
dew - fall On the first grass. Praise for the sweet - ness Of the wet  
one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion, Praise ev - ery

Am G C G Am Dm G7 C

morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing Fresh from the Word!  
gar - den, Sprung in com - plete - ness Where God's feet pass.  
morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion Of the new day!

## O Lord My God

How Great Thou Art



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won-der con-sid-er  
 2 When through the woods and for-est glades I wan-der and hear the  
 3 And when I think that God, his Son not spar-ing, sent him to  
 4 When Christ shall come with shout of ac-cla-ma-tion and take me



all the \*worlds thy hands have made, I see the stars, I  
 birds sing sweet-ly in the trees, when I look down from  
 die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross, my  
 home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then \*I shall bow in



hear the \*roll-ing thun-der, thy power through-out the  
 loft-y moun-tain gran-deur and hear the brook and  
 bur-den glad-ly bear-ing, he bled and died to  
 hum-ble ad-o-ra-tion, and there pro-claim, "My



\*Author's original words are "works," "mighty," and "shall I bow."

Refrain

u - ni - verse dis - played:  
 feel the gen - tle breeze: Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to  
 take a - way my sin: God, how great thou art!"

thee: How great thou art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my

Sav - ior God, to thee: How great thou art! How great thou art!

KOREAN

- 1 주 하나님 지으신 모든 세계  
 내 마음 속에 그리어 볼 때  
 하늘의 별 울려 퍼지는 뇌성  
 주님의 권능 우주에 찬네
- 후렴 주님의 높고 위대하심을  
 내 영혼이 찬양하네  
 주님의 높고 위대하심을  
 내 영혼이 찬양하네
- 2 숲속이나 험한산 골짜에서  
 지저귀는 저 새소리들과  
 고요하게 흐르는 시냇물은  
 주님의 숨씨 노래 하도다 후렴
- 3 주 하나님 독생자 아낌없이  
 우리를 위해 보내 주셨네  
 십자가에 피 흘려 죽으신 주  
 내 모든 죄를 대속하셨네 후렴
- 4 내 주 예수 세상에 다시 올 때  
 저 천국으로 날 인도하리  
 나 겸손히 엎드려 경배하며  
 영원히 주를 찬양하리라 후렴

SPANISH

- 1 Señor, mi Dios, al contemplar los cielos,  
 el firmamento y las estrellas mil,  
 al oír tu voz en los potentes truenos  
 y ver brillar al sol en su cenit,
- Estrillo Mi corazón se llena de emoción.  
 ¡Cuán grande es Él! ¡Cuán grande es Él!  
 Mi corazón se llena de emoción.  
 ¡Cuán grande es Él! ¡Cuán grande es Él!
- 2 Al recorrer los montes y los valles  
 y ver las bellas flores al pasar,  
 al escuchar el canto de las aves  
 y el murmurar del claro manantial, Estrillo
- 3 Cuando recuerdo de tu amor divino  
 que desde el cielo al Salvador envió,  
 al buen Jesús, que por salvarme vino  
 y en una cruz por mí sufrió y murió, Estrillo
- 4 al dulce hogar, al cielo de esplendor;  
 te adoraré, cantando la grandeza  
 de tu poder y tu infinito amor. Estrillo