

June 15, 2025 + 10:30 A.M.
Second Sunday of Pentecost/Father's Day

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.*

Liturgist: Renee Williams

PRELUDE *His Eye Is on the Sparrow*

Charles H. Gabriel, arr. Jack Schrader

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (Adapted from Psalm 68)

Leader: Let us be joyful! Let us exult before God! Let us be jubilant with joy!

ALL: **Let us sing to God! Let us sing praises to his name! Let us lift up a song to him who rides
upon the clouds—his name is the LORD—let us be exultant before him!**

Leader: Father of orphans and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation. God gives the desolate a
home to live in; he leads out the prisoners to prosperity.

ALL: **O God, when you went out before your people, when you marched through the
wilderness, the earth quaked, the heavens poured down rain at the presence of God, the
God of Sinai.**

Leader: Rain in abundance, O God, you showered abroad, you restored your heritage when it languished;
your flock found a dwelling in it; in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy.

ALL: **Awesome is God in his sanctuary! Blessed be God!**

***OPENING HYMN:** “Morning Has Broken” (469)

INVITATION TO CONFESSION:

Leader: The author of *Ephesians* writes, “I, therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to walk in a
manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called.” Together let us confess how we
have walked in a manner unworthy of our calling.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**God our Father, we confess our sins unto you, trusting in your call upon our lives. We confess that we
take you for granted rather than offer you gratitude. You created everything in existence, and we behave
as though we are somehow entitled to it. We consume without care. We produce without protecting the
environment. We destroy with abandon. We act as though everything is ours rather than yours. Forgive
us for taking you and your world for granted. Inspire us to offer our gratitude to you as our Father by
being better stewards. In the name of your Son Jesus Christ our liberator 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! God is Father to us all. He is above all, through all, and in all. We are forgiven by our loving father!

ALL: **Hallelujah! Thanks be to God!**

GLORIA PATRI (unison, 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*)

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

We Hear God's Word

EMBODIED WORD FOR DISCIPLES OF ALL AGES

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of power and grace, fill us with the wisdom of your word and the understanding of your Spirit so that we may be your church: a people with dreams and visions at work in all the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HEBREW BIBLE LESSON: *Isaiah 63:11-16*

EPISTLE LESSON: *Ephesians 4:1-6*

GOSPEL LESSON: *Luke 11:1-13*

SERMON: Our Father Who Art in Heaven

MUSICAL MEDITATION: *In the Garden*

C. Austin Miles

We Respond in Faith

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

God is a good, good Father to all of us. Let us give our tithes and offerings so that we can do our part to share our Father's love with the world. If you have not already done so, please place your offering in the plate as it is passed. If you are worshiping from home, please mail in your checks or use our online giving option on the website. Let us reflect on stewardship as we listen to today's offertory.

OFFERTORY *Into My Heart*

Harry D. Clarke, arr. Jack Schrader

* 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)

God our Father, you created everything and entrusted us with the care of your Creation. We dedicate these gifts to you as we commit ourselves again to that care. It is in the name of your Son Jesus Christ our liberator that we pray. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN "This Is My Father's World" (293)

We Go Into the World

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Faith of our Fathers*

Henri F. Hemy, arr. Cindy Berry

Permission to reprint/podcast/stream music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-739456. All rights reserved. Permission to reprint/podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from CCLI with print license #11390760 and streaming plus license #21397339. All rights reserved.

* 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 6/15:	FATHER'S DAY Outdoor Worship in the Garden – 10:30 AM Fellowship Hosts: Hospitality
MONDAY 6/16:	GA – 6:30 PM Al-Anon – 7:00 PM
TUESDAY 6/17:	Private Flute Lessons 2-8 PM (FH) AA – 7:30 PM
WEDNESDAY 6/18:	Trustees – 10:00 AM Private Flute Lessons 2-8 PM (FH) GA – 7:00 PM
SATURDAY 6/21:	Gladys' Table Prep
SUNDAY 6/22:	Salad Sale

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **MINISTRY OF MISSION'S FLOWER VOUCHER SALE** Support FPCH's vital mission work and gain some beautiful new life for your home and garden in the process! Please see a member of the Ministry of Mission to purchase your voucher for Zandstra's!
- **PARKING LOT FUNDRAISER** Mission's annual 4th of July Parking Lot Fundraiser begins on Wednesday, July 2nd, and runs through Sunday, July 6th. This is a major fundraiser for Mission, and without the support of the congregation this event would not be possible. Sign up early and often!
- **SALAD SALE JUNE 22ND** Get a refreshing lunch and support the church's general fund in the process!
- **4th ANNUAL CRAFT SHOW FUNDRAISER** The FPCH Crafters will be holding a kickoff meeting for this year's Craft Show Fundraiser on June 22 after worship in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome! Please bring your ideas for craft projects.
- **SIGN UP TO HOST FELLOWSHIP WITH LIGHT REFRESHMENTS IN JULY AND AUGUST:** Our ministries and committees have been doing a fantastic job of hosting fellowship over the past many months. Let's give them a break in July and August! The sign up board is in the Fellowship Hall. Snacks do not have to be elaborate!
- **"BYOB" (BRING YOUR OWN BIBLE)** Our Wednesday evening online Bible study and discussion is on hiatus until the fall. Join us then!
- **THE BIBLE IN TODAY'S WORLD** Our Sunday morning class is on hiatus until the fall. Join us then!
- **BUILDING USE FORMS** Just a quick reminder that for the safety and security of everyone using our building, we need to have building use request forms filled out by both members and non-members whenever they use any area of the building outside of regular church activity functions.
- **FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!** If you don't already follow us on Facebook and Instagram, please start doing so @firstpchighland on both Facebook and Instagram.
- **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** 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 and fill it to help the church's food pantry.

- **GOT SNEAKERS?** We are still participating in the Got Sneakers Fundraiser where there is nothing to buy or sell; all we need is your support and your gently worn, used, or new sneakers! Blue bins are located in the narthex, and inside and outside DOOR D by the office. Every pair counts!

Prayer List

Anthony
 Brady Vanes
 George Griner
 Guy Hendricks
 Bill and Anettia Holmes
 David Markley
 Pat and David Kingen
 Diana and Ray Mendoza
 Janet Orem
 Cindy Waltz and Sister
 Yvonne Suroviak
 Georgette Sknerski
 Jakob Holden
 Denise Matthys
 Jan Oprea
 Florance Cody
 Kathy & Chuck Pumnea
 Laura Buono Domsic
 The Windstrups
 Rick Parker
 Gary Everhart
 Caroline Studer
 Darlene O'Brien
 Doug & Sue Matthews
 Janet Terpstra
 Glen Nahler
 Tom
 David Hamblin
 Jana Tolley
 Larry & Bonnie Perryman

Delta Rose
 Winnie Owen
 Breeanne
 Mom Bechtler
 Victor
 Marian Clayton
 Ella P
 Edie Delgano
 Melissa J.
 Rita Stronczek
 Keren, Zuriel, and Gedeon
 OGB
 Edna Cruz
 Katie
 Charlie
 Jerry & Rena Martinez
 George
 Dustin
 Noreen
 Kim
 Jessica
 Nicole
 Greg
 Pastor Jane
 Mary Ellen Edeus
 Jane and David
 Lodean
 Suzanne
 Jalen
 Flora R.
 Tyler Gall
 Dustin

Isaiah 63:11-16

¹¹ Then they remembered the days of old,
of Moses his servant.
Where is the one who brought them up out of the sea
with the shepherds of his flock?
Where is the one who put within them
his holy spirit,
¹² who caused his glorious arm
to march at the right hand of Moses,
who divided the waters before them
to make for himself an everlasting name,
¹³ who led them through the depths?
Like a horse in the desert,
they did not stumble.
¹⁴ Like cattle that go down into the valley,
the spirit of the Lord gave them rest.
Thus you led your people,
to make for yourself a glorious name.
¹⁵ Look down from heaven and see,
from your holy and glorious habitation.
Where are your zeal and your might?
Your great pity and your compassion are withheld from me.
¹⁶ For you are our father,
though Abraham does not know us
and Israel does not acknowledge us;
you, O Lord, are our father;
our Redeemer from of old is your name.

Ephesians 4:1-6

⁴ I, therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³ making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace: ⁴ there is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

Luke 11:1-13

11 He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.” ² So he said to them, “When you pray, say: Our Father in heaven, may your name be revered as holy.

May your kingdom come.

³ Give us each day our daily bread.

⁴ And forgive us our sins,
for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial.”

⁵ And he said to them, “Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, ⁶ for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.’ ⁷ And he answers from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.’ ⁸ I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything out of friendship, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

⁹ “So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. ¹¹ Is there anyone among you who, if your child asked for a fish, would give a snake instead of a fish? ¹² Or if the child asked for an egg, would give a scorpion? ¹³ If you, then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

Our Father Who Art in Heaven

Isaiah 63:11-16; Ephesians 4:1-6; Luke 11:1-13

As I was preparing this sermon, I was blessed by stunning views of the strawberry moon. It took my breath away. I could not help but think how sacred Creation is and how awesome the Creator. I think that thought often when I behold the wonders of nature, including in our garden here. The overwhelming beauty of it all. The intricate mechanics of it all. From infinitesimal atoms to celestial bodies, it is all simply amazing. God loved Creation into existence in such a way that it is beautiful and it works. God loves Creation into new existence over and over with the processes that regenerate matter and life and the natural necessities that make life possible. And we not only get to behold this Creation, but we get to be part of it! Along with the atoms and the celestial bodies, God made us and remakes us! God loves us into being! What an incredible Creator! What a fantastic Father!

Happy Father’s Day! To all you dads, stepdads, foster dads, granddads, uncles, older brothers, church dads, mentors, and everyone else who has embodied good fatherhood for us—thank you! Thank you for your labors! Thank you for your energy! Thank you for your patience! Thank you for your understanding! Thank you for your kindness and compassion and care! Most of all, thank you for your love! I see you. I respect you. I honor you.

Just as we recently celebrated the truth that God is the ultimate mama, God is also the ultimate papa. As we said earlier when we recited part of *A Brief Statement of Faith*, Jesus called God “Abba,” meaning “Father.” I know that we are all used to calling God, “Father,” because of the Lord’s prayer and because it is one of the most common titles used in churches. I wonder, though, how often we stop to reflect on what it truly means for God to be *our* Father. For, in that blessed prayer Jesus did not refer to God as, “*My* Father;” it was, “*Our* Father.” Jesus had the miraculous and singular distinction of God having contributed half of his genetic material, but he does not refer to that singularity. He refers to the universality of God’s fatherhood. *Our* Father. In this sense, Jesus lifts up fatherhood as something that transcends biology. As the writer of *Ephesians* so eloquently and elegantly puts it, there is “one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.” Hallelujah!

Yes, we are all God's children! As we will sing in our closing hymn, this is our Father's world! Let me pluralize the pronoun like Jesus did.

This is our Father's world,

And to our listening ears

All nature sings, and round us rings

The music of the spheres.

This is our Father's world:

We rest us in the thought

Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas--

His hand the wonders wrought.

Yes, the songs of nature and the music of the spheres are celebrations of God as the Creator of everything. Let us pause for a moment and take in some of those songs of nature.....my goodness, what a good, good Father we have indeed!

In the same passage in which Jesus gifted us with the Lord's prayer, in which he declared that his Father is truly *our* father, he went on to explain just how loving this Father is. He invites us to imagine ourselves knocking at the door of God's house—yes, that house with so many rooms that we will all fit in it and be at home one day! Jesus says, "Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you." I, of course, am reminded of another song. *Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you, hallelu, hallelujah! Ask and it shall be given unto you; seek and you shall find! Knock and the door shall be opened unto you, hallelu, hallelujah!*

Jesus continues, "For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asked for a fish, would give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asked for an egg, would give a scorpion? If you, then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

And there we have the most wonderful thing of all. Our Father who art in heaven not only listens to our needs and responds to our expression of those needs, he meets our needs in the most extravagant way possible. He gives us the Holy Spirit. Last week we learned about how this giving of the Holy Spirit took place on the Day of Pentecost with that brilliant outpouring of tongues of language and tongues of fire. What a joyous celebration it was in the time of the disciples, and what a joyous celebration it was last week! Today we get to keep celebrating Pentecost by remembering the one who gave us that gift of Spirit. Jesus, of course, was crucial to the process. Jesus foretold it, and Jesus prepared the way. And in the mysterious ways of our Triune God, the Holy Spirit is at once the Spirit of God our Father and the Spirit of God the Son all while also having her own identity.

In preparing the way, though, Jesus was taking up the mantle of a tradition that long predated him. God's identity as our Father was tied to the gifting of the Holy Spirit way back in the ancient times of the major prophets, and they spoke in reference to an even more ancient time, that of Moses. *Isaiah* twas who told it:

"Then they remembered the days of old,
of Moses his servant.

Where is the one who brought them up out of the sea
with the shepherds of his flock?

Where is the one who put within them
his holy spirit,

who caused his glorious arm

to march at the right hand of Moses,

who divided the waters before them

to make for himself an everlasting name,

who led them through the depths?

Like a horse in the desert,
they did not stumble.
Like cattle that go down into the valley,
the spirit of the Lord gave them rest.”
And then closes it out:
“For you are our father,
though Abraham does not know us
and Israel does not acknowledge us;
you, O Lord, are our father;
our Redeemer from of old is your name.”

Yes, from ancient of days to this very day, our Father has responded to our needs by meeting them with the extravagant gift of the Holy Spirit. This means that even though our Father is in Heaven, he is also always right here in our midst—not just above all but through all and in all. And so God is not an absent father. We can speak to him and hear his voice upon the Spirit wind. We can reach out to him and feel his embrace in the arms of his Spirit-filled children. We can long for him to be even closer and find him within our very souls.

I have encountered so many amazing fathers in my short...well getting longer lifetime...fathers who truly reflect God's fatherhood. I have been most blessed, of course, by my own dad. He is the paragon of a papa who practices presence and peacefulness for his children. As we spend time out here in this garden, I am reminded of our garden at home on the Orem farm. It has always been a family affair, and my parents are truly gifted when it comes to working the garden and getting us kids to join in on working the garden...hey, even Abdul has planted sweet potatoes there before! Going back to that strawberry moon, my mom taught me that it is called that not because of it's brilliant pink and red coloring but because it arrives at the time of the strawberry harvest. And over the past few weeks Vima and I have received tantalizing picture after tantalizing picture of beautiful strawberries being harvested from the garden by dad and my sisters and then being made into the most delicious of jams by mom. Everyone working together with love for each other and for the land and the plants and the water and the sun. The overwhelming beauty of it all. The intricate mechanics of it all. Thanks be to God our Father. Thanks be to God our Mother. Thanks be to God our Creator. Thanks be to God our Redeemer. Thanks be to God our Sustainer! 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!

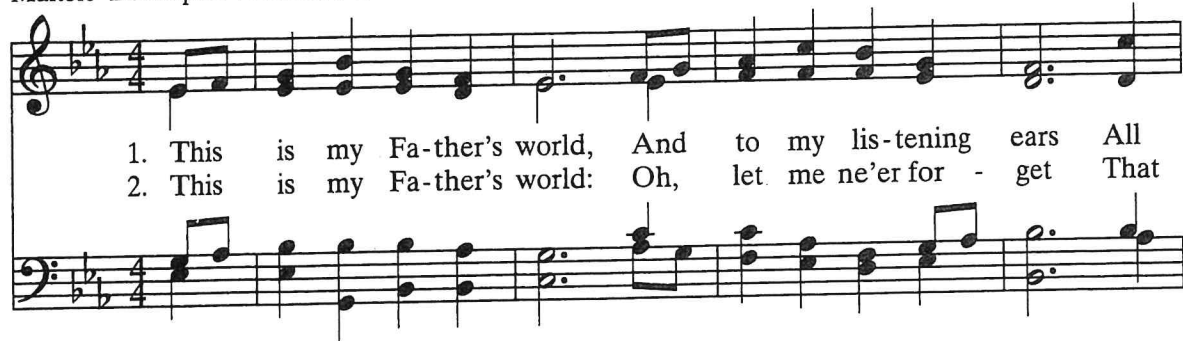
This Is My Father's World

293

TERRA BEATA SMD

Maltbie Davenport Babcock, 1901

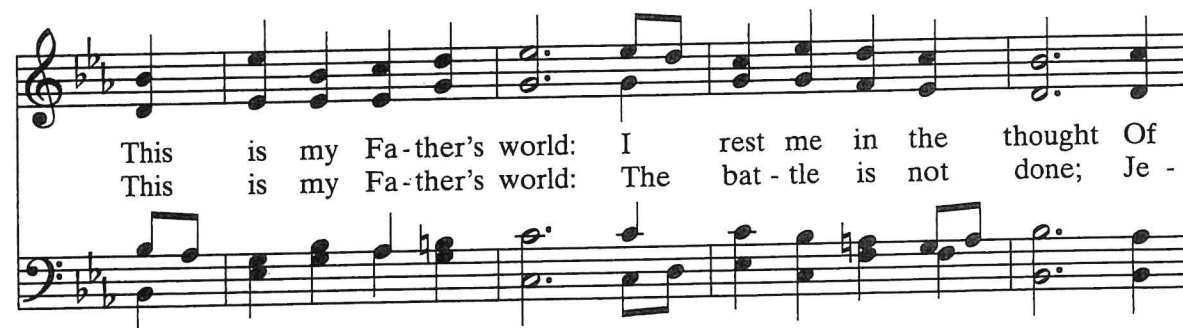
Franklin L. Sheppard, 1915
Harm. 1953 for *The Hymnbook*; alt. 1988



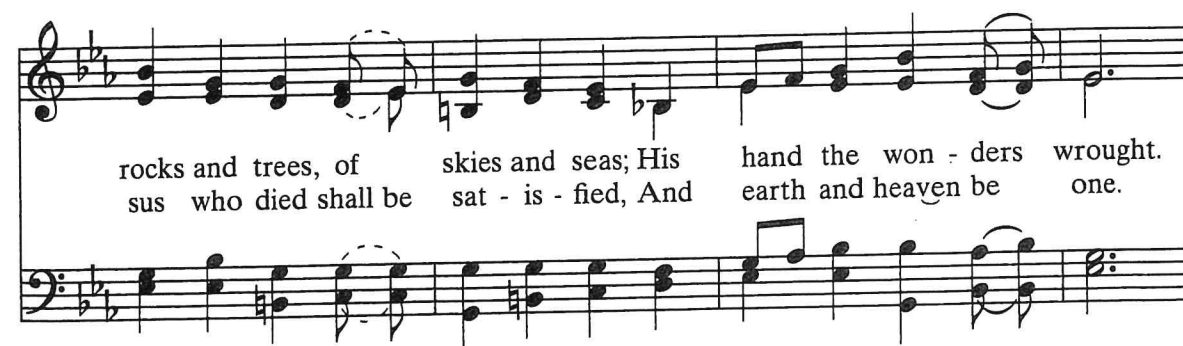
1. This is my Fa-ther's world, And to my lis-tening ears All
2. This is my Fa-ther's world: Oh, let me ne'er for - get That



na - ture sings, and round me rings The mu - sic of the spheres.
though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Rul - er yet.



This is my Fa-ther's world: I rest me in the thought Of
This is my Fa-ther's world: The bat - tle is not done; Je -



rocks and trees, of skies and seas; His hand the won - ders wrought.
sus who died shall be sat - is - fied, And earth and heaven be one.