

April 28, 2024 + 10:30 A.M.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

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 *God, That Madest Earth and Heaven*

S. Rogers

WELCOME

CHORAL INTROIT

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (Adapted from *Song of Songs 2*)

Leader: Here, the winter is past; the rains have come and gone.

ALL: Blossoms have appeared in the land; the season of singing has arrived, and the sound of the birds is heard in our land.

Leader: The green fruit is on the fig tree, and the grapevines in bloom are fragrant.

ALL: Let us rise up! Let us spend time with our Beloved, with our God who is Love!

***OPENING HYMN:** “Let the Whole Creation Cry” (256)

INVITATION TO CONFESSION:

Leader: The first letter of John says, “There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love.”
Let us boldly confess our sins without fear, full of the assurance of God’s love.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God of abundance, God who is love, we confess to you with the assurance of your abundant love. We confess that we have not been good stewards of your Creation. We have poisoned the soil, water, and air. We have filled ecosystems and your creatures’ bellies with plastics and petroleum. We have made it so that each new year is the hottest year on record. We have made it so that it is hard for your vines to grow. We have made it so that it is hard for our children to grow. Forgive us for our failure to embody love for all Creation. Help us to do better. In the name of Jesus Christ, the true vine, we pray. Amen.

KYRIE: No. 572 (unison)

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, hear the good news. God’s love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.

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

GLORIA PATRI: No. 579 (unison)

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

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

STATEMENT OF FAITH: (Adapted 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, of every gender, 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.

We Hear God's Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Almighty God, through your only Son you overcame death and opened to us the light of eternity. Enlighten our minds and kindle our hearts with the presence of your Spirit, that we may hear your words of comfort and challenge in the reading of the scriptures. In the name of Jesus Christ, the gardener of new life, we pray. Amen.

HEBREW BIBLE LESSON *Joel 2:21-26*

EPISTLE LESSON *1 John 4:7-21*

GOSPEL LESSON *John 15:1-8*

SERMON I Heard It through the Grapevine

MUSICAL MEDITATION *With Songs of Rejoicing*

We Respond in Faith

PRAYER SHAWL BLESSING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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.

CHORAL RESPONSE

OFFERING INVITATION:

Leader: Jesus is the true vine, and we are the branches. As the branches, we are called to reach out with God's love. We are called to make sure that all are invited, all are made to feel welcome, and all are given a seat at the table. Let us give our pledges, tithes, and offerings so that we can fulfill this holiest of callings. If you did not do so as you entered, please place your offering in the plate as you leave. 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 hear today's offertory.

OFFERTORY *All Creatures of Our God and King*

Arr. Beryl Red

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God, above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen!

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION:** (Unison)

God of abundance, God who *is* love, we dedicate these gifts to you and to the mission of your table. As we do so, we commit to inviting all, welcoming all, sharing with all, and loving all. In the name of Jesus Christ, the true vine, we pray. Amen.

We Go into the World

* **CLOSING HYMN:** “For the Fruit of All Creation” (553)

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *The Spacious Firmament on High*

Haydn/Addison

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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 4/28: Adult Study – 9:00 AM
 Worship In Person & Online – 10:30 AM
 Fellowship Hosts: Session
- MONDAY 4/29: GA – 6:30 PM
 Al-Anon – 7:00 PM
- WEDNESDAY 5/1: “Bring Your Own Bible” Bible Study 7-8 PM (Zoom)
 GA – 7:00 PM
- THURSDAY 5/2: Choir – 7:00 PM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **MINISTRY OF MISSION’S 2024 FLOWER VOUCHER SALE HAS BEGUN!** The Ministry of Mission is once again selling vouchers for Zandstra’s Greenhouse located at 10202 Kennedy Avenue, Highland, Indiana. The vouchers are \$17.00 and are worth \$17.00 at Zandstra’s, just like cash. You can purchase anything from flowers, to veggie plants, to potting soil, to flower pots, etc. If you are interested in purchasing vouchers, please see any Mission Member or contact Tracy Oprea @ (219) 616-7181.
- **CALLING ALL CRAFTERS!** Discussions have begun about participating in a Craft Show Fundraiser again this year. The sales will be used for the church’s general fund. We will be meeting on Sunday, May 19th, after worship to continue the discussion. All are welcome! Please bring your ideas. We will determine if there is enough interest to proceed.
- **SANCTUARY LABYRINTH** Take some time before or after worship or during office hours on weekdays to prayerfully walk the labyrinth lovingly created for our sanctuary!

- **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. Come explore and learn with us! Contact John Toren or Heather Casiano with any questions.
- **BYOB** The Wednesday evening "BYOB" (Bring Your Own Bible) discussion group will meet weekly through May 15. BYOB meets online on Zoom from 7-8 pm. We are currently focusing on the churchwide theme "New Life in God's Garden" and exploring scripture passages related to gardens and gardening. Each week is independent of the other weeks, so you can join in whenever you're available without missing a lesson. The link to join the Zoom meetings is emailed out weekly. If you are not on the email list and would like to be, contact Kristen in the church office or Heather Casiano.
- **SPRING READ-A-LONG AND BOOK DISCUSSION** Faith Development is sponsoring a spring read-a-long on a timely subject for this year. The book is "Thou Shalt Not Be Jerk: A Christian's Guide to Engaging Politics" by Eugene Cho. You're encouraged to start reading the book this month. This book, originally published in 2020, and our discussions, will not endorse any candidates or political parties, so no matter where you may find yourself on the vast spectrum of thought, there is room for all voices. There will be several ways to engage in discussion:
 - * A private Facebook group for this read-a-long available starting on April 16
 - * A Zoom discussion on the first half of the book on May 22 at 6:30 pm
 - * An in-person discussion of last half of the book on June 12 at 6:30 pm
 We have 5 copies of this book at the church that can be checked out to read. Please sign the check-out sheet when you take a book, and sign it back in when you are finished so more people may enjoy the book. "Thou Shalt Not Be A Jerk" is also available in paperback and as an e-book (Kindle).
- **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! Find us @firstpchighland on both Facebook and Instagram.
- **JOIN US FOR FELLOWSHIP AFTER WORSHIP** Every Sunday after worship we have delicious snacks, coffee, lemonade, and conversation. Join us for this vital part of our life together!
- **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 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!
- **BIN OF HUGS** Bring in clean, gently used stuffed animals for distribution to migrant families with young children who need the joy of loving welcome!
- **GOT SNEAKERS?** We are still participating in a fundraiser where there is nothing to buy or sell; All we need is your support and your gently worn, used, or new sneakers! As you do spring cleaning, gather your old pairs of sneakers (athletic shoes only, please) Ask your neighbors, kids, grandkids, friends or co-workers to help out too! The sneakers that we all collect will help raise money to support our programs and projects here at FPCH AND will help our environment by keeping sneakers out of landfills. Blue bins are located in the narthex, and inside and outside DOOR D by the office. Every pair counts!

Prayer List

Anthony
George Nelson
Brady Vanes
George Griner
Guy Hendricks
Bill and Anettia Holmes
Daniel Litwicki
David Markley
Pat and David Kingen
Diana and Ray Mendoza
Janet Orem
Jeanne Nestor
Cindy Waltz and Sister
Yvonne Suroviak
Wendy
Georgette Sknerski
Jakob Holden
Denise Matthys
Steve & Melinda
Gary Studer
Jan Oprea
Janet Vargo
Ric Jaeggi
Florance Cody
Josephine Kim
Carol Figley
Kathy & Chuck Pumnea
Nick
Laura Buono Domsic
The Windstrups
Ruth Dekker
Rick Parker
Gary Everhart
Gale Osterby
Bonnie Kern
Collin & Kathy Stein
Peter
Tim

Barbara Morton
Caroline Studer
Cary & Jennifer Pearson
Holly Letnich
Jaden Mendez
Frank Falzone
Doug & Sue Matthews
Robert Urich
Richard Simmons
Janet Terpstra
Glen Nahler
Tammy
Tom
Jana Tolley
Larry & Bonnie Perryman
Virginia Marshall
Delta Rose
Paulina Martinez
Winnie Owen
Charity Lynn
Chestine
Shannon
David Hamblin
Judy
Breeanne
Joe Petersen
Susan Agbor
Mom Bechtler
A Close Friend
Gloria
John Shields
John Miramontes
Colton Bobonick
Cletus
Mary
Victor
Mary Ellen Edeus

Joel 2:21-26

²¹ Do not fear, O soil;
be glad and rejoice,

for the Lord has done great things!

²² Do not fear, you animals of the field,
for the pastures of the wilderness are green;
the tree bears its fruit,
the fig tree and vine give their full yield.

²³ O children of Zion, be glad
and rejoice in the Lord your God;
for he has given the early rain for your vindication,
he has poured down for you abundant rain,
the early and the later rain, as before.

²⁴ The threshing floors shall be full of grain,
the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.

²⁵ I will repay you for the years
that the swarming locust has eaten,
the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter,
my great army, which I sent against you.

²⁶ You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied,
and praise the name of the Lord your God,
who has dealt wondrously with you.
And my people shall never again be put to shame.

1 John 4:7-21

⁷ Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹ God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹ Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

¹³ By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴ And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵ God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶ So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. ¹⁷ Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸ There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. ¹⁹ We love because he first loved us. ²⁰ Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. ²¹ The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

John 15:1-8

15 “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ² He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³ You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴ Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵ I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷ If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

I Heard It through the Grapevine

Joel 2:21-26; Psalm 22; 1 John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8

Hey! Did you hear the news? *It took me by surprise, I must say when I found out yesterday. Ooo-ooo, I heard it through the grapevine! Not much longer would we be cryin'. Ooh-ooh, I heard it through the grapevine And I'm just about to lose my mind. Honey, honey, yeah!* I yes, I heard that Jesus of Nazareth is not in the tomb where he was buried! I heard it through the grapevine that he has been showing up in different places and making appearances to the disciples!

Jesus Christ is risen! **He is risen indeed!** Hallelujah! **Hallelujah!**

When Jesus makes those appearances to his beloved ones after the Resurrection, there is a dynamic, living theme that starts to grow. You guessed it! The theme of the grapevine. He appears to Mary Magdalene in the garden, where the vines would have been planted and cultivated, where the grapes would have been harvested. He appears to the two on the road to Emmaus on their journey through the countryside, planting the seeds of scripture in them, and ends up being welcomed into their home, where Cleopas and his friend share their food and wine with him. He appears to the disciples in the upper room, the very room where he had shared a life-transforming meal with them right before his Passion, where he had made the profound claim that the bread was his body and the wine his blood. There he breathed new life into the fertile soil of the movement. And he appears with the fisher-followers on the beach by the Sea of Galilee, bringing them back to the water of new life and preparing breakfast and sharing the bread and fish and wine that he has prepared for them.

And so, that which was planted in the garden outside of the tomb grew and grew. Branches branched out from the vine and bore sweet fruits. The sweet fruits were harvested and taken on the journey of transformation into rich wine. The rich wine was poured and shared in fellowship, in family, in community, in communion. The blood which was poured out was now living again, coursing through the veins...or may I say vines?...branching out through the capillaries of the risen Lord! Just as he had joined them throughout his life and ministry, Jesus joined them in the resurrected flesh—from a garden of vines and fruits outside an empty tomb to a personal home as a stranger turned invited guest, to an upper room that held so much memory, to a seaside picnic table, he was there! And he is here with *us* now! Can you feel him? In your homes, in this sanctuary, he is with us!

Let's trace our way back to the roots of Jesus' community through communion. Back before those miraculous communions of food and wine after the resurrection, back before his blood would be poured out by the imperial executioners, Jesus was with his beloved disciples in that same upper room that would come to be a headquarters of memories and a movement. He was there for the Passover Feast. By the way, Happy Passover to our Jewish siblings! He sat with his beloved disciples at the table, he washed their feet, he broke bread with them, and he poured wine for them—all as we observed with such somber remembrance back on Maundy Thursday. That night of fellowship and family, that night of community and communion was also the night of Jesus' farewell address, his magnum opus of Wisdom teachings for those who would carry the Kingdom

forward. He foretold for them what was about to happen to him. He taught them how to be servant leaders. He promised to them the coming of the Holy Spirit. He spoke to them the world-changing words: "I am the way, and the truth, and the life." He passed them the peace that surpasses all understanding. He revealed to them the reality of the coming Resurrection.

And he defined for them the true nature of their relationship, the truth of who they really were to him and to each other and to God. And of all the images he could have painted in their imaginations for that relationship which they shared together, he chose the image of the true vine—the core of the plant that bore the fruit that formed the drink that forged the communion that they shared at the table. "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower... Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit." In this image, God the Creator is the vinegrower, the gardener, the cultivator. Jesus the Son is the vine, the heart of the plant that grows from the root in the fertile soil and climbs and winds its way ever upward. Nourished by the Holy Spirit, we are the branches, rooted in the vine and reaching outward toward the light of the sun to produce the fruit. Together we are a single ecosystem. Together we are a single organism.

Wow! The nutrients of the soil and water course through the core of the vine, spreading out to the branches. The vine forms the foundation, the solid structure on which the branches can thrive. The vine is strong. The vine is flexible. The vine is dynamic. The branches bear the blooms, the flowers, and the leaves. The branches soak in the sun and catalyze the miracle of photosynthesis that in turn strengthens the vine.

The branches produce the fruit. We are the branches! We are entrusted with such great responsibility! We are empowered as co-creators, as producers of fruit! And thank goodness we have a good, good gardener who attends to us, who uses the best tools to prune us when we get out of control and to thus help us be even more fruitful. If we become totally disconnected from the vine, though, we no longer have our life source. Disconnected from the vine we wither and can no longer create.

The image of the vine, branches, and fruit is the image of living, thriving oneness in multiple-ness. It is the image of interdependence, of different parts working together, contributing their role to the whole. It is the image of a shared core, a shared root, a shared heart. In short, in so many ways it is the quintessential image of *communion*. "Com" is the prefix meaning "with." It implies the togetherness of more than one. "Union" is the root word, meaning "one" or "becoming one." *Communion* is thus the action, the coming together to become one. *Community* is the result. "I am the vine, you are the branches." In speaking those words during the Holy Supper when he was at his most vulnerable with the weight of the world upon his shoulders, Jesus created community at the table. In having communion with his beloved followers after his death and resurrection when his joy was complete and he shone with the light of new life, he made it clear that they would still be a community no matter what—through life, through death, and through new life.

The wine would be the manifestation of the vine—the fruit of the fruit—the evidence of the creative power of the gardener and the vine and the branches working together as one. But the communion would be more than just the food and the drink. The communion would be the sharing, the warmth, the pleasure, the joy, the connection—humanity with humanity, humanity with divinity, humanity *in* divinity, divinity *in* humanity.

If we go back to the beginning of the gospel of *John*, we witness Jesus' very first miracle at a wedding celebration in the village of Cana. At the brilliant urging of his blessed mother, he turned water into wine—and not just any wine, but the very best wine! His first miracle was thus the miracle of communion, the catalyst of community. He brought people together and celebrated with them. He went on to share wine and food and fellowship, the experience of family, throughout his life and ministry—in the intimate settings of people's homes and in crowds of thousands. This is how he created community. This is how he created the Kingdom. With communion. As the true vine he spread out across the countryside and stretched across the plains, with branches growing, with branches being grafted on. As the true vine he climbed mountains, with his branches joining him in reaching toward the sun. As the true vine, he was raised upon an accursed piece of dead wood as his branches splintered and broke away and watched in fear and horror. But while the wood of the cross would be dead forever, the true vine would live again. The blood that flowed out would flow through living veins once

more, would flow through living vines once more. The true vine would gather his branches together again and breathe life and nourishment back into them. He would graft them back on, and they would be one, we would be one again.

Jesus sat at the table in the upper room before his death and resurrection, and after presenting the image of the true vine, he told his beloved ones exactly how they could enact communion, how they could catalyze community, how they could create the Kingdom: "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear *fruit*, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another." No hierarchies of power. No masters and servants. No classification of strangers. Only welcome. Only blessed friendship. Only love. From our God who *is* Love.

Loved ones, the happenings in the world today are nothing short of catastrophic. Each new year is the hottest on record, species are going extinct, and food, water, and shelter are becoming scarce because we insist on consuming rather than communing with Creation. Genocides are being perpetrated in Palestine and Sudan and wars are being waged across the planet because we choose myths of chosenness over the lives of children. People are dying because we build walls instead of welcoming strangers. People are dying because we want weapons more than we want wisdom and wonder. People are dying because we fund fighting instead of funding food. In all of this it seems like death is having the final say, like the world is withering and burning.

But wow do I have good news for you! You see, I heard it through the grapevine that not much longer would we be cryin'! I heard that life had the final say! I heard that the author of life came back to life and cultivated a garden of new life! I heard that we have the power of new life within us because we are connected to the vine from which that power flows! I heard that we are empowered to bear fruit that can transform the world. Fruit like love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self control. I heard that we can commune with each other across difference and learn of our essential sameness as children of God. I heard that we abide in God and that God abides in us, and so we have nothing to fear. Indeed, I heard that there is no fear in love! So let us raise our glasses and toast to life and love. May this vine keep climbing and these branches keep branching until all the world can taste the sweetness of our God who *is* Love! Amen.

Let the Whole Creation Cry

SALZBURG 7.7.7 D

Jacob Hintze, 1678

Harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

As in *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861

Stopford A. Brooke, 1881

1. Let the whole cre - a - tion cry, "Glo-ry to the Lord on high."
 2. Men and wom - en, young and old, Raise the an - them man - i - fold;

Heaven and earth, a - wake and sing, "God is our e - ter - nal King."
 Join with chil-dren's songs of praise, Wor - ship God through length of days.

Praise God, all ye hosts a - bove, Ev - er shin - ing forth in love;
 From the north to south-ern pole Let the might - y cho - rus roll:

Sun and moon, up - lift your voice; Night and stars, in God re - joice!
 "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly One, Glo - ry be to God a - lone!"

For the Fruit of All Creation

EAST ACKLAM 8.4.8.4.8.8.8.4

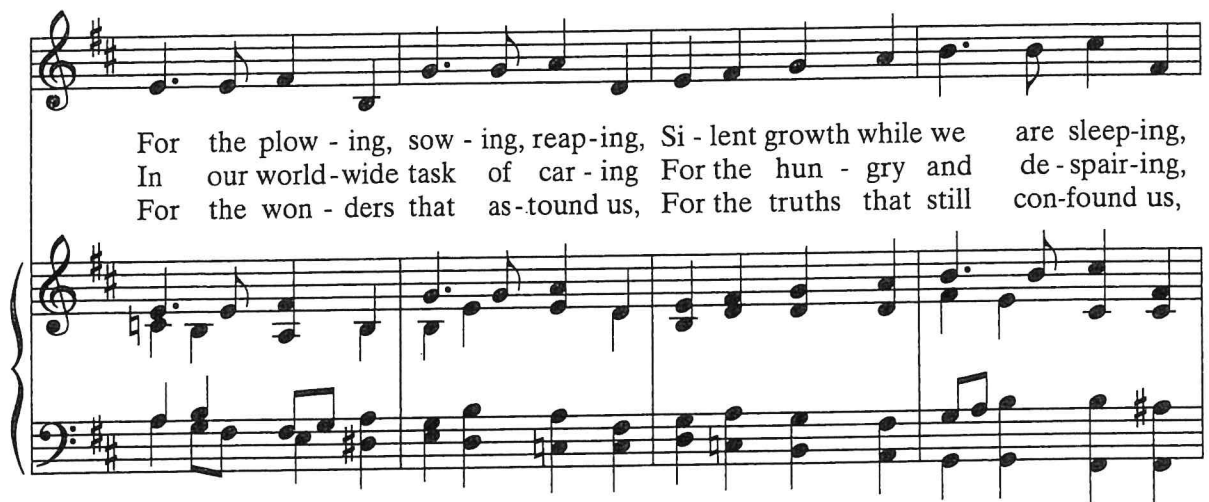
Fred Pratt Green, 1970

Francis Jackson, 1957


1. For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, Thanks be to God.
 2. In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will be done.
 3. For the har-vests of the Spir - it, Thanks be to God.

For the gifts to ev - ery na - tion, Thanks be to God.
 In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will be done.
 For the good we all in - her - it, Thanks be to God.

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Music: Copyright 1960 Francis Jackson. All rights reserved. Used by permission.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap-ing, Si - lent growth while we are sleep-ing,
In our world-wide task of car - ing For the hun - gry and de - spair-ing,
For the won - ders that as-tound us, For the truths that still con-found us,



Fu - ture needs in earth's safe-keep-ing, Thanks be to God.
In the har-vests we are shar-ing, God's will be done.
Most of all that love has found us, Thanks be to God.