

AbbeyChurch Songs & Readings

Blessing of the Bikes and Backpacks

September 11, 2022 + 4pm

Opening Song: God's Wondrous World

This is God's wondrous world,
and to my listening ears,
All nature sings, and round me rings
the music of the spheres.
This is God's wondrous world,
I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas,
God's hand the wonders wrought.

This is God's wondrous world,
the birds their carols raise
The morning light, the lily white,
declare their maker's praise.
This is God's wondrous world.
God shines in all that's just
In the rustling grass
or mountain pass,
God's voice it speaks to us.

This is God's wondrous world.
O let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong
'seems oft so strong God is the ruler yet.
This is God's wondrous world:
why should my heart be sad?
Let voices sing, let heaven ring:
God reigns, let earth be glad!

[Maltbie Davenport Babcock](#) (1901, alt.) Voices United 296

The Poem Flickering Light by Denise Levertov

The Psalm: Psalm 19

The heavens declare the glory of God;
the skies proclaim the work of God's hands.
Day after day they pour forth speech;
night after night they reveal knowledge.

**Listen to creation tell of God,
listen to God's Word in scripture**

They have no speech, they use no words;
no sound is heard from them.

Yet their voice goes out into all the earth,
their words to the ends of the world.

**Listen to creation tell of God,
listen to God's Word in scripture**

The law of the LORD is perfect,
refreshing the soul.

The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy,
making wise the simple.

The precepts of the LORD are right,
giving joy to the heart.

Listen to creation tell of God,

listen to God's Word in scripture

The commands of the LORD are radiant, giving
light to the eyes.

The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever.

The decrees of the LORD are firm, and all of
them are righteous.

**Listen to creation tell of God,
listen to God's Word in scripture.**

Hebrew Scripture

A reading from the Prophet Jeremiah

Your ways and your doings have brought this upon
you. This is your doom; how bitter it is! It has reached
your very heart. "My anguish, my anguish! I writhe in
pain! Oh, the walls of my heart! My heart is beating
wildly; I cannot keep silent, for I hear the sound of the
trumpet, the alarm of war. Disaster overtakes disaster
the whole land is laid waste. Suddenly my tents are
destroyed, my curtains in a moment. How long must I
see the standard and hear the sound of the trumpet?
"For my people are foolish; they do not know me;
they are stupid children; they have no understanding.
They are skilled in doing evil but do not know how to
do good." I looked on the earth, and it was complete
chaos and to the heavens, and they had no light.

I looked on the mountains, and they were quaking,
and all the hills moved to and fro. I looked, and there
was no one at all, and all the birds of the air had fled.
I looked, and the fruitful land was a desert, and all its
cities were laid in ruin, before the Lord, before his
fierce anger. For thus says the Lord: The whole land
shall be a desolation, yet I will not make a full end.
Because of this the earth shall mourn and the
heavens above grow black for I have spoken; I have
purposed; I have not relented, nor will I turn back.
... The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel

Let us proclaim the gospel from the rooftops

With our words and with our lives!

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming
near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the
scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow
welcomes sinners and eats with them." So he told
them this parable: "Which one of you, having a
hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not
leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after
the one that is lost until he finds it? And when he
has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices.
And when he comes home, he calls together his
friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with
me, for I have found my lost sheep.' Just so, I tell
you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner
who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons
who need no repentance. "Or what woman having ten
silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a
lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until
she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls
together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice
with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.'

Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

...Let us proclaim the gospel from the rooftops

With our words and with our lives!

Offertory: Amazing Grace

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come.
This grace hath brought
me safe thus far
And grace will lead me home

The cosmos hails the Christ, the One
Who reconciles all things,
'Til all creation rises new
With healing in her wings.

As Christ unites the universe,
Restores this Earth once more,
A cosmic song reverberates,
A rich symphonic score.

When we've been here ten thousand years
Bright, shining as the sun
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first began

John Newton + Words v 4,5 © Norman Habel 2004
(Season of Creation 2010) / Tune: NEW BRITAIN

Communion: Lord of the Starfields

Lord of the starfields - Ancient of days
Universe Maker - Here's a song in your praise
Wings of the storm cloud
Beginning and end
You make my heart leap
Like a banner in the wind

Refrain: Oh, love that fires the sun
Keep me burning

Lord of the starfields - Sower of life
Heaven and earth are - Full of your light
Voice of the nova - Smile of the dew
All of our yearning
Only comes home to you *Refrain*
Bruce Cockburn / © 1976

Burn This As A Light

When journeying through your dark night
Burn this as a light
Until the dawn horizon
Burn this as a light

What God has voiced inside you...
Creation all about you...
The song of children laughing...
The sound of people singing...
The morning star arises...
Raising our joys from sorrows...
The tree of life bearing fruit...
The healing of the nations...

Tom Wuest / © 2017 / Used with permission

Closing: How Great Thou Art

O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder
consider all the works thy hands hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;

Refrain

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

When thru the woods & forest glades I wander,
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze

Refrain

And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
that on the cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin; *Refrain*

When Christ shall come
with shout of acclamation
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
& there proclaim "My God, how great thou art! r
Carl Gustav Boberg, trans. Stuart K. Hine / OneLicense / Tune:
HOW GREAT THOU ART, Swedish folk melody / Public domain

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We would love to connect!

Call, text or email to set up a time to connect with one
of our team.