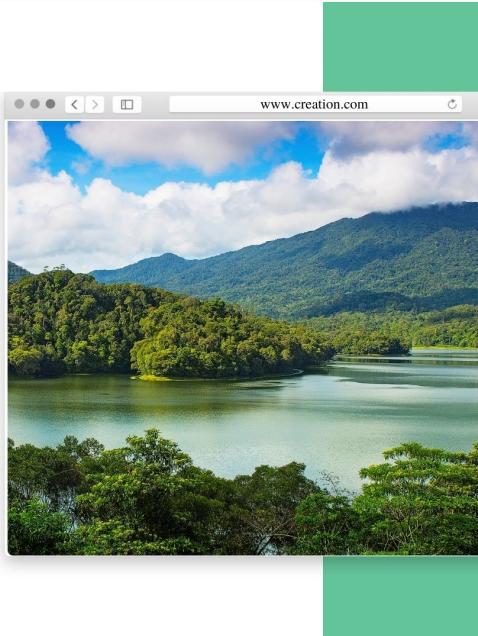


# God provides CREATION ORDER

Genesis 1 - 2:4



## Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 12, 2021, 11am

Park Hill Presbyterian Church (PCUSA)

3520 JFK Blvd. North Little Rock AR

501-753-9533; parkhillpres@gmail.com

Visit our website at [parkhillpres.org](http://parkhillpres.org)

Liturgy by Rev. Teri Peterson for BibleWorm Narrative Lectionary

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Sunday, September 12, at 4 pm—Bells Planning Meeting
2. Wednesday, September 15, at 10am, Congregational Care Meeting
3. Congregational Survey

### CALL TO WORSHIP

- 1: Listen! In the beginning of God's story wind rushed and waters roared
  - 2: In this new season of our life together, whatever is rushing and roaring,
- ALL:** may God's voice echo in this place, and may new life begin.

1: The voice of God cuts through swirling chaos,

2: rises above the mists and shadows,

**All: and calls into being something only God could see.**

1: In the beginning, God brought forth good.

2: Today, in the midst of everything, God brings forth good.

**All: We come to worship the One who created**

1: and is creating space for abundant life today.

2: Let us Worship God.

\*HYMN OF PRAISE

"How Great Is Our God" ASL

[Video](#)

### CALL TO CONFESSION and CONFESSION

Let us come together to confess the sin and brokenness of the world, and of ourselves, saying, Creator God, **Forgive us.**

Creating God, **Forgive us,** as you look at the world and see deeper truths that we ignore. You see the possibility underneath the disarray, and we confess that we see problems only force can solve.

Creator God, **Forgive us.** You see your creation's capacity for continued creativity, and we confess that we see something to exploit.

Creator God, **Forgive us** for turning aside from our role as your representatives on earth. You see how pruning and boundaries make space for flourishing, and we confess that we see the loss of our comfortable old unhealthy ways.

Creator God, **Forgive us** when we forget that our goodness is bound up with all the wonders created by your word, which you call good, together. Renew your image within us that we may reflect your will and your way. Amen.

HYMN OF FORGIVENESS

"You Alone Can Rescue" (vs. 1 and Chorus)

Who O Lord could save themselves. Their own soul could heal.

Our shame was deeper than the sea. Your grace is deeper still.

And You alone can rescue. You alone can save. You alone can lift us from the grave. You came down to find us led us out of death. To You alone belongs the highest praise.

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, hear the good news: Jesus himself says, "Come to me, all you who labor and are heavily burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." In Jesus Christ you are forgiven, **Thanks be to God!**

## TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

### READING

Acts 16:22-34

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth,<sup>2</sup> the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.<sup>3</sup> Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light.<sup>4</sup> And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness.<sup>5</sup> God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. **And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.**

<sup>6</sup> And God said, “Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.”<sup>7</sup> So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so.<sup>8</sup> God called the dome Sky. **And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.**

<sup>9</sup> And God said, “Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so.<sup>10</sup> God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.<sup>11</sup> Then God said, “Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.” And it was so.<sup>12</sup> The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good.<sup>13</sup> **And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.**

<sup>14</sup> And God said, “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years,<sup>15</sup> and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.” And it was so.<sup>16</sup> God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars.<sup>17</sup> God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth,<sup>18</sup> to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good.<sup>19</sup> **And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.**

<sup>20</sup> And God said, “Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.”<sup>21</sup> So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good.<sup>22</sup> God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.”<sup>23</sup> **And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.**

<sup>24</sup> And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.” And it was so.<sup>25</sup> God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

<sup>26</sup> Then God said, “Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth,<sup>[d]</sup> and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.”

<sup>27</sup> So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.<sup>28</sup> God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.”<sup>29</sup> God said, “See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food.<sup>30</sup> And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so.<sup>31</sup> God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. **And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.**

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude.<sup>2</sup> And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done.<sup>3</sup> **So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.**

<sup>4</sup> These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

### SERMON

Rev. Marie Mainard O'Connell

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We thank you, O God, for your light that cannot be overcome, for the forces of chaos seem to gather round. Push back the shadows — of war and famine and disease, of depression and anxiety and despair, of our over-full yet under-nourished life. Speak again this day, **and reveal the good that is deeply planted in your world.**

We thank you, O God, for this earth you have given us for a home. For the colors in the sky and the unfathomable depths of the sea, binding us together by common elements. Where pollution poisons the waters above and below, making them a trap instead of a sanctuary, we pray for your healing. Speak again this day, **and reveal the good that is deeply planted in your world.**

We thank you, O God, for the generativity of the land, for your gift of flower and fruit, for forest and flatland. Where the earth has been stripped of its capacity, worked to death, buried under waste and expectation, we pray that it may again answer your call to create. Speak again this day, **and reveal the good that is deeply planted in your world.**

We thank you, O God, for the life teeming in ocean and sky. For animals we have yet to see with human eye, and those we take for granted. Where they choke on plastic or suffocate under oil or algae, where their habitats are destroyed and fruitfulness impaired, we pray for changed hearts and changed lives. Speak again this day, **and reveal the good that is deeply planted in your world.**

We thank you, O God, for all with whom we share this earthly life, for wild animals and pets, for creeping things pollinating as they go — and for your wisdom in creating such a complex web of life. Where animals or people are abused, we pray for your compassion and justice to take root. Speak again this day, **and reveal the good that is deeply planted in your world.**

We thank you, O God, for building downtime into your creation, for the space to rest and reflect. Where there is no margin, where we struggle to make boundaries, we pray again for you to empower our creativity, to act like your image, making space for abundant life for all, not only those who can afford it.

**Speak again this day, and reveal the good that is deeply planted in your world.**

Help us to speak as your Son taught us, saying

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.**

Thy kingdom come, they 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.

## MOMENT FOR MISSION

## New Service Team: Arkansas Food Bank

## Video with Darrell Burton

## GIVING OF OUR OFFERINGS AND TITHES

In freedom and joy, let us present the offerings of our lives to the Lord. You may choose to give by dropping off your offering in the plate as you exit worship in the sanctuary, or by mailing your offerings to the church, or giving online. Your gifts maintain our ministries, and make it possible to help others in need.

If you know of someone in need—physical, financial, emotional or spiritual...especially if it is yourself, please speak with our pastor or the elder for Congregational Care, Mary Henry.

### \*Doxology

## “Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow”

## Video

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creations high and low.

Praise God above ye heavenly host,

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

## PRAYER

\*HYMN OF SENDING

\*HYMN OF SENDING "All Creatures Of Our God And King" #15  
All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing, Alleluia! Alleluia!  
O brother sun with golden beam, O sister moon with silver gleam, sing praises! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O brother wind with clouds and rain, you nurture gifts of fruit and grain.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! O sister water, flowing clear, make music for your Lord to hear.  
Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O sisters, brothers, take your part, and worship God with humble heart. Alleluia! Alleluia!

All creatures, bless the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Three in One! Sing praises! Alleluia!

#### \* PASSING THE PEACE, CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

"The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD's face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; The LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace."

## \*POSTLUDE