



Sarah, Art

**Pleasant Hill Presbyterian Church
Online Worship Service
Sunday, May 9, 2021
Sixth Sunday of Eastertide
Gathering Around the Word**

Welcome and Announcements

The Rev. Katie Day

Introit

"How Great Thou Art"
arr. Jason Tonioli

Hyoun Joo Song

Call to Worship

The Rev. Jennie Sankey

One: We gather in the presence of God:

All: who knows us when we wake up

One: and when we go to sleep,

All: and in all the moments in between.

One: We gather in the house of God:

All: who has created a family for us,

One: here in Duluth as well as in Guatemala, in Honduras,

All: in Blue Ridge, and in Atlanta.

One: We gather to be the people of God:

All: who appeals to us to follow as family in love, in faith, in service.

One: Let us worship God.

Hymn 761

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

Called as Partners in Christ's Service 761



1 Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min-is-tries of grace,
 2 Christ's ex-am-ple, Christ's in-spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
 3 Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,
 4 So God grant us for to - mor-row ways to or - der hu - man life



we re-pond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
 let us fol-low, nev - er fal-tering, rec - on - cil - ing folk on earth.
 help us bear each oth - er's bur-dens, break-ing down each wall or fence.
 that sur-round each per - son's sor-row with a calm that con-quests strife.



May we learn the art of shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,
 Men and wom-en, rich - er, poor - er, all God's peo-ple, young and old,
 Words of com - fort, words of vi - sion, words of chal-lenge, said with care,
 Make us part-ners in our liv - ing, our com-pas-sion to in - crease,



e - qual part-ners in our car - ing to ful - fill God's cho - sen end.
 blend - ing hu - man skills to - geth - er gra - cious gifts from God un - fold.
 bring new power and strength for ac - tion, make us col - leagues, free and fair.
 mes - sen - gers of faith, thus giv - ing hope and con - fi - dence and peace.



This hymn is a celebration of mutuality and diversity as well as a challenge to the Christian community to live out a ministry of reconciliation and inclusion. This 20th-century text is set to a 19th-century tune named for the noted pastor and preacher Henry Ward Beecher.

Call to Confession

Jennie

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we confess that we fail to put our trust in you completely. Instead, we calculate our gains and losses, hoarding the things that do not lead to abundant life. Forgive us, and help us to treasure only you, that we may follow you faithfully and discover the blessings only you can give. Amen.

Assurance of Grace**Passing of the Peace**

Jennie

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

The Word Read and Proclaimed**Children's Sermon**

Jennie

Anthem

For the Beauty of the Earth
John Rutter

Chancel Choir

Prayer for Illumination

d

First Scripture Reading

Deuteronomy 30: 15-20

Nancy

See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God [b] that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

Second Scripture Reading

Philemon 1

Katie

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father

I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say. One thing more—prepare a guest room for me, for I am hoping through your prayers to be restored to you.

Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, sends greetings to you, and so do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, and Luke, my fellow workers. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

Sermon

“Faces of Our Faith: Philemon”

Katie

Responding to the Word

Affirmation of Faith

Adapted from *The Confession of 1967*, 9.32-33

Katie

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church’s mission, involves the church in the common life of all people, and commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. So to live and serve is to confess Christ as Lord.

Faces of Our Faith at PHPC

Nancy Blazewick

Hymn 767

Together We Serve

Together We Serve

767

Capo 3: (G) (D) (Em) (Bm7)
 B^b F Gm Dm7

1 To - geth - er we serve, u - nit - ed by love,
 2 We seek to be - come a bea - con of hope,
 3 We wel - come the scarred, the wealth - y, the poor,
 4 To - geth - er, by grace, we wit - ness and work,

(C) (G) (Am7) (Dsus) (D)
 E^b B^b Cm7 Fsus F

in - vit - ing God's world to the glo - ri - ous feast.
 a lamp for the heart and a light for the feet.
 the bus - y, the lone - ly, and all who need care.
 re - mem - ber - ing Je - sus, in whom we grow strong.

(G) (D) (C) (Bm)
 B^b F E^b Dm

We work and we pray through sor - row and joy,
 We learn, year by year, to let love shine through
 We of - fer a home to those who will come,
 To - geth - er we serve in Spir - it and truth,

(G) (C) (G) (Am) (D7) (G)
 B^b E^b B^b Cm F7 B^b

ex - tend - ing God's love to the last and the least.
 un - til we see Christ in each per - son we meet.
 our hands quick to help, our hearts read - y to dare.
 re - mem - ber - ing love is the strength of our song.

The first three words of this text appear in the website address for First Presbyterian Church of San Anselmo, California, for whose centennial the hymn was commissioned. The text draws on Ephesians 4:11-16, a passage describing the many gifts and ministries within the body of Christ.

Invitation to Offering

Jennie

To give: ● return to www.pleasanthillpc.org and click on the Giving tab or

- text givePHPC to 73256 or
- mail your offering to the church – 3700 Pleasant Hill Road Duluth, GA 30096

Prayer of Dedication

Jennie

Following the Word into the World

Charge and Benediction

Katie

Postlude

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee
arr. Paul Manz

Hyoun Joo

This morning's liturgy is adapted from *Feasting on the Word* and *Call to Worship*.

Copyright License: 176415 and Stream License: CSPL 129485

Cover art copyright *A Sanctified Art LLC* | sanctifiedart.org