



**Pleasant Hill Presbyterian Church  
Online Worship Service  
Sunday, September 19, 2021  
Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Gathering Around the Word**

**Welcome and Announcements**

The Rev. Jody Andrade

**Introit**

**Call to Worship:**

The Rev. Katie Day

One: May the words of God bring to each of us conviction, challenge, and comfort, as our lives and choices this day require.

**All: Shape us even now, O Lord.**

One: Prepare our bodies for the labors of this day.

**All: Give us strength and health to complete them.**

One: Prepare our minds for the demands of this day.

**All: Grant us clarity, creativity, and discernment.**

One: Prepare our souls for those sorrows and joys and celebrations and disappointments we will encounter, that every circumstance would serve only to draw us nearer to you.

**All: May our words, our choices, and our actions today be offered as true expressions of worship. Come, let us worship God!**

**Hymn 20**

*All Things Bright and Beautiful*

CREATION AND PROVIDENCE

# 20 All Things Bright and Beautiful

*Refrain*

All things bright and beau-ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,

all things wise and won-der - ful, the Lord God made them all. *Fine*

1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,  
 2 The pur - ple-head-ed moun-tain, the riv - er run-ning by,  
 3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas-ant sum-mer sun,  
 4 God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell

*to Refrain*  
 God made their glow-ing col - ors; God made their ti - ny wings.  
 the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright-ens up the sky:  
 the ripe fruits in the gar - den, God made them ev - ery one.  
 how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

One of a series of hymns the author wrote for children on the Apostles' Creed, this text (originally in seven stanzas) expands "Maker of heaven and earth." The first stanza became the refrain when the text was later set to a popular tune from the age of King Charles II.

## Call to Confession

The Rev. Jennie Sankey

### Prayer of Confession

It is our desire to serve you well, O God, but we have again fallen short of your righteousness in our thoughts, our intentions, our actions, and our utterances. We have responded at times without grace. We have chosen sometimes that which is unprofitable and which leads neither to our own flourishing nor to the proclamation of your glory. Forgive us, O King, for treasons both known and unknown. Forgive us for the harms we have done this day, and for the goods we might have done but failed to do; forgive us also for the self-serving impulses, inclinations, and desires which stand us every moment in need of a savior. Let our inability to ever perfectly love you drive us daily to the arms of Christ and the enormity of your mercy and grace.

### Assurance of Grace

### Passing of the Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

## The Word Read and Proclaimed

### Children's Sermon

#### Anthem

*Bygone Days*

Brian Ireland and Jennifer Falk

#### Scripture Reading

Proverbs 31:10-31

Michael Armstrong

10

A capable wife who can find?

She is far more precious than jewels.

11

The heart of her husband trusts in her,  
and he will have no lack of gain.

12

She does him good, and not harm,  
all the days of her life.

13

She seeks wool and flax,  
and works with willing hands.

14

She is like the ships of the merchant,  
she brings her food from far away.

15

She rises while it is still night  
and provides food for her household  
and tasks for her servant-girls.

16

She considers a field and buys it;  
with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard.

17

She girds herself with strength,  
and makes her arms strong.

18

She perceives that her merchandise is profitable.  
Her lamp does not go out at night.

19

She puts her hands to the distaff,  
and her hands hold the spindle.

20

She opens her hand to the poor,  
and reaches out her hands to the needy.

21

She is not afraid for her household when it snows,  
for all her household are clothed in crimson.

22

She makes herself coverings;  
her clothing is fine linen and purple.

23

Her husband is known in the city gates,  
taking his seat among the elders of the land.

24

She makes linen garments and sells them;  
she supplies the merchant with sashes.

25

Strength and dignity are her clothing,  
and she laughs at the time to come.

26

She opens her mouth with wisdom,  
and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.

27

She looks well to the ways of her household,  
and does not eat the bread of idleness.

28

Her children rise up and call her happy;  
her husband too, and he praises her:

29

“Many women have done excellently,  
but you surpass them all.”

30

Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain,  
but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.

31

Give her a share in the fruit of her hands,  
and let her works praise her in the city gates.

### Scripture Reading

James 3: 13-4:3, 7-8a

**13** Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. **14** But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. **15** Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. **16** For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. **17** But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. **18** And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for[a] those who make peace.

**4** Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? **2** You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet[b] something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. **3** You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.

**7** Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. **8** Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

### Sermon

“Living Well, Dying Well: Overview”

### Responding to the Word

#### Affirmation of Faith

*Adapted from The Heidelberg Catechism*

What is your only comfort, in life and in death?

**That I belong—body and soul, in life and in death—not to myself but to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ, who at the cost of his own blood has fully paid for all my sins and has completely freed me from the dominion of the devil; that he protects me so well that without the will of my Father in heaven not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, that everything must fit his purpose for my salvation. Therefore, by his Holy Spirit, he also assures me of eternal life, and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.**

#### Prayer for the People

**Silent Prayer, Pastoral Prayer**

**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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

**Hymn 700**

*I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*

# 700 I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

1 I'm gon-na live so (live so)  
 2 I'm gon-na work so (work so) God can use me an - y -  
 3 I'm gon-na pray so (pray so)  
 4 I'm gon-na sing so (sing so)

where, Lord, an - y - time!  
 (an - y - time!)  
 I'm gon-na  
 I'm gon-na  
 I'm gon-na  
 I'm gon-na

live so (live so)  
 work so (work so) God can use me an - y -  
 pray so (pray so)  
 sing so (sing so)

where, Lord, an - y - time!  
 (my Lord,) (an - y - time!)

This African American spiritual has more depth than may at first appear: for people who are bound in slavery to sing about dedicating themselves to God's use shows a profound awareness of God-given self-worth despite circumstances that would deny their human or spiritual value.

## Invitation to Offering

- To give: • return to [www.pleasanthillpc.org](http://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

### Following the Word into the World

## Charge and Benediction

## Postlude

Parts of this morning's liturgy are adapted from  
*A Liturgy of the Hours: Daybreak* and *A Liturgy of the Hours: Nightfall*  
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The flyer features a blue and orange color scheme. At the top, the text 'stephen MINISTRY' is displayed in a white, sans-serif font against a blue background. Below this, the phrase 'Get in on the ACTION' is written in a large, bold, white font, with a small icon of a person with arms raised. The main body of the flyer contains several paragraphs of text and a bulleted list of topics. At the bottom, a quote from Galatians 6:2 is presented in a smaller font.

**stephen  
MINISTRY**

**Get in on the ACTION**

Would you like to be part of a ministry that makes a real difference in others' lives when they need it most—and in your own? Consider becoming a Stephen Minister!

Stephen Ministers are members of our congregation who provide one-to-one caring ministry to people experiencing grief, divorce, loneliness, job loss, hospitalization, and many other life difficulties.

Stephen Minister training equips you to do an excellent job as a Stephen Minister as well as to improve the quality of all your relationships. Topics include—

- listening
- providing Christian care
- ministering to people experiencing grief, divorce, hospitalization, illness, and more
- feelings
- maintaining boundaries
- confidentiality
- crisis theory and practice

Once equipped, Stephen Ministers are prayerfully matched with people who are going through a stressful time or life difficulty. A Stephen Minister meets with this person once a week for about an hour to listen, care, encourage, and pray. The Stephen Minister brings Christ's presence into the person's life and also experiences Christ in the other person. It's really a life-changing ministry for both the care receiver and the Stephen Minister.

If you'd like to learn more about how to become a Stephen Minister—talk with one of our pastors or Stephen Leaders.

*"Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."*  
—Galatians 6:2