

Shepherd of the Hill Presbyterian Church USA

~ Service for the Lord's Day ~

July 17, 2022 – 10:00 a.m.

(*) Please stand in body or in spirit.

Bold type indicates congregational response.

We acknowledge that our church is on the traditional homelands of the Puyallup Tribe. The Puyallup people have lived on and stewarded these lands since the beginning of time, and continue to do so today. We recognize that this land acknowledgment is one small step toward true allyship and we commit to uplifting the voices, experiences, and histories of the Indigenous people of this land and beyond.

The Prelude to Worship

Sheri Martin

Welcome

Rev. John Asher

* Call to Worship (please stand)

Dona Johnson

Called to be branches in Christ's body,
we yearn to be connected to the vine.

Called to be mustard bushes offering shade to God's creatures,
we search for places to plant the seeds of faith.

Called to be growing with God in the midst of this world's painful questions,
we seek God's nurturing presence.

* Song

“God of Wonders”
Lord of all creation
Of water earth and sky
The heavens are Your tabernacle
Glory to the Lord on high

(Continued)

**God of wonders beyond our galaxy
You are holy, holy
The universe declares Your majesty
You are holy, holy
Lord of heaven and earth, Lord of heaven and earth**

**Early in the morning, I will celebrate the light
When I stumble in the darkness, I will call Your name by night**

**God of wonders beyond our galaxy
You are holy, holy
The universe declares Your majesty
You are holy, holy
Lord of heaven and earth, Lord of heaven and earth**

Hallelujah (to the Lord of heaven and earth)

**God of wonders beyond our galaxy
You are holy, holy
Precious Lord, reveal Your heart to me
Father hold me, hold me
The universe declares Your majesty
You are holy, holy, holy, holy**

Hallelujah (to the Lord of heaven and earth)

Sharing Our Burdens Prayer

Dona Johnson

Hymn # 275

"God of Our Life"

Children's Message

Rev. John Asher

Children return to their family following the message.

Scripture

Matthew 13:31-35

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"The Surprising Humor of Christ"

Rev. John Asher

Songs

"The Steadfast Love of the Lord"

**The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,
His mercies never come to an end.
They are new every morning,
New every morning,
Great is Thy faithfulness, O Lord,
Great is Thy faithfulness, O Lord,
Great is Thy faithfulness.**

"Forever"

**Give thanks to the Lord, Our God and King
His love endures forever
For He is good He is above all things
His love endures forever
Sing praise, sing praise**

**With a mighty hand and an outstretched arm
His love endures forever
For the life that's been reborn
His love endures forever
Sing praise, sing praise**

Sing praise, sing praise

Chorus: **Forever God is faithful
Forever God is strong
Forever God is with us, Forever**

**From the rising to the setting sun
His love endures forever
And by the grace of God, we will carry on
His love endures forever
Sing praise, sing praise, sing praise, sing praise**

Chorus

Offering

You can find opportunities to respond to God with your time, talent, and treasure in the included announcements.

Doxology

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

Prayer of Dedication

Hymn # 210

“Our God, Our Help in Ages Past”

Community Life

* Song (please stand)

“All the People Said, Amen!”

(see insert)

* Benediction

Postlude

Sheri Martin

Greet someone you don't know following worship this morning!

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We livestream each service. By your presence, you agree the church may publish, transmit, or telecast images that may be taken of you for use in communications related to the church. If you prefer to not sit in a visible area, we recommend the section on the right side of the sanctuary when entering. Please reach out to the office with any questions.

Call to Worship: written by Katherine Hawker for the Union Church UCC of Tekonsha. Posted on Liturgy Outside. <http://liturgyoutside.net/>

Letting Burdens Go: written by Moira Laidlaw, and posted on Liturgies Online. Visit that site for many other lectionary-based worship resources. <http://www.liturgiesonline.com.au/>

Sermon Series Resource: The sermon contains work from Douglas Adam's book "The Prostitute in the Family Tree: Discovering Humor and Irony in the Bible". This is a reference to Rahab being in Jesus' genealogy. Other works which inspired the sermon series are by Earl Palmer and Elton Trueblood.

ALL THE PEOPLE SAID "AMEN"

**You are not alone if you are lonely,
When you feel afraid, you're not the only,
We are all the same, in need of mercy,
To be forgiven and be free.
It's all you got to lean on,
But thank God, it's all you need.**

CHORUS: **And all the people said, "Amen." Whoa.
And all the people said, "Amen."
Give thanks to the Lord, for His love never ends.
And all the people said, "Amen."**

**If you're rich or poor, well it don't matter.
Weak or strong, you know love is what we're after.
We're all broken, but we're all in this together.
God knows we stumble and fall,
And He so loved the world,
He sent His son to save us all.**

CHORUS

**Blessed are the poor in spirit, who are torn apart.
Blessed are the persecuted, and the pure in heart.
Blessed are the people hungry, for another start.
For theirs is the kingdom, the kingdom of God.**

CHORUS

God of Our Life

275

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Hugh Thomson Kerr, 1916; alt. 1928

Charles Henry Purday, 1860
Harm. John Weaver, 1986

1. God of our life, through all the cir - cling years, We trust in Thee;
2. God of the past, our times are in Thy hand; With us a - bide.
3. God of the com - ing years, through paths un - known We fol - low Thee;

In all the past, through all our hopes and fears, Thy hand we see.
Lead us by faith to hope's true prom-ised land; Be Thou our guide.
When we are strong, Lord, leave us not a - lone; Our ref - uge be.

With each new day, when morn - ing lifts the veil,
With Thee to bless, the dark - ness shines as light,
Be Thou for us in life our dai - ly bread,

We own Thy mer - cies, Lord, which nev - er fail.
And faith's fair vi - sion chan - ges in - to sight.
Our heart's true home when all our years have sped.

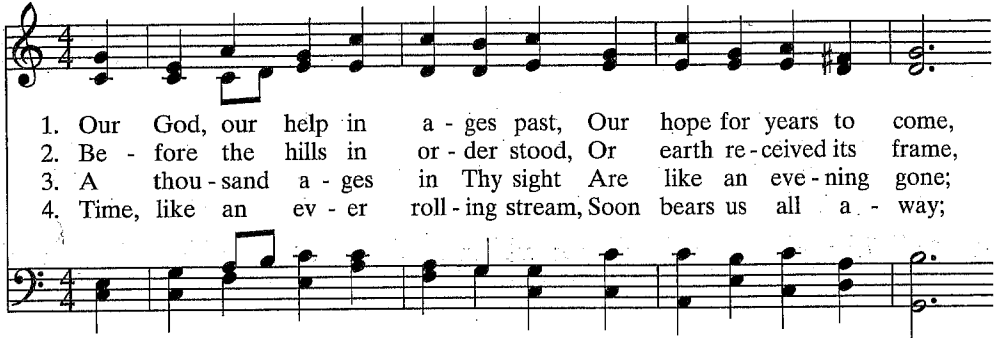
Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

210

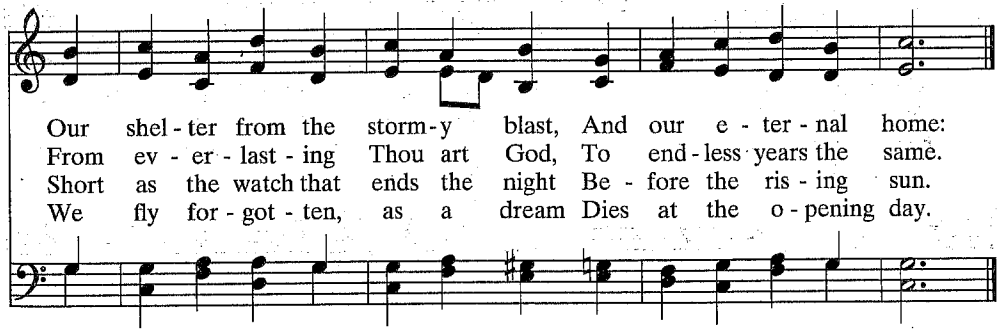
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Isaac Watts, 1719; alt.

Attr. William Croft, 1708



1. Our God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,
 2. Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, Or earth re - ceived its frame,
 3. A thou - sand a - ges in Thy sight Are like an eve - ning gone;
 4. Time, like an ev - er roll - ing stream, Soon bears us all a - way;



Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home:
 From ev - er - last - ing Thou art God, To end - less years the same.
 Short as the watch that ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun.
 We fly for - got - ten, as a dream Dies at the o - pening day.

5. Our God, our help in ages past,
 Our hope for years to come,
 Be Thou our guard while life shall last,
 And our eternal home.