

Pilgrim Congregational Church, UCC
Worship - Sunday, September 17, 2023

MUSIC IN TODAY'S SERVICE LICENSED
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- ❖ GATHERING SONG: Halle Halle
- ❖ OPENING HYMN: All Things Bright and Beautiful*
- ❖ ANTHEM: All Of Us Belong—
Richard Bruxvoort-Colligan
- ❖ HYMN: De Colores*
- ❖ OFFERTORY: The Creatures We Love—
Amanda Udis-Kessler
- ❖ CLOSING HYMN: God Be With You Till
We Meet Again*

**The New Century Hymnal, Copyright 1995.
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Today's service will be recorded.



PILGRIM
Congregational Church



**Welcome to Pilgrim Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ
A Welcoming, Open and Affirming Congregation**

Statement of Welcome

We honor the Biblical call to love one another as God first loved us. We welcome into the full life and ministry of the church all people of any race, nationality, religious background, educational background, ethnicity, age, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, economic status, and physical, mental, and emotional abilities.

Children at Pilgrim

Children are an important part of our worshipping community. We try to make them feel at home!

All are welcome. Professional childcare for infants and toddlers is available in the nursery from 10:15 to the end of the service.

Please note: The video of this service is posted online. If you prefer not to be filmed, please sit near the rear of the sanctuary.

Mission Statement

*A welcoming home to all spiritual seekers
Making a difference in our world,
By fusing our Christian faith with
everyday life and Serving God by serving others.*

Visual and Hearing Aids

Hearing devices may be picked up from the table in the narthex.

Large Print bulletins and Sermons texts are available.

Pilgrim Congregational Church, UCC | Worship Sunday | September 17, 2023

GATHERING SONG

Halle, Halle—Max & Choir

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Reebee Girash and Sarah Jane Fuller

CALL TO WORSHIP - From PSALM 148

Steve Van Evera

One: All dogs and cats, large and small: — **All: Praise the Lord!**

One: All rabbits, hamsters and guinea pigs: — **All: Praise the Lord!**

One: All goldfish, guppies and swimming creatures: — **All: Praise the Lord!**

One: All parakeets and budgies and singing birds: — **All: Praise the Lord!**

One: All horses, cows and sheep: — **All: Praise the Lord!**

One: All lizards, crawling creatures: — **All: Praise the Lord!**

One: Every animal in the sky, the sea and the forest: — **All: Praise the Lord!**

OPENING PRAYER

Steve Van Evera

God, our Creator, help us to love all creatures as our kin, all animals as our partners on Earth, all birds as messengers of praise, all small beings as expressions of your mysterious design and all frogs as voices of hope.

Amen

*OPENING HYMN

All Things Bright and Beautiful—Black Hymnal 31

GOD

31

All Things Bright and Beautiful

Cecil F. Alexander, 1848; alt.

Unison Refrain

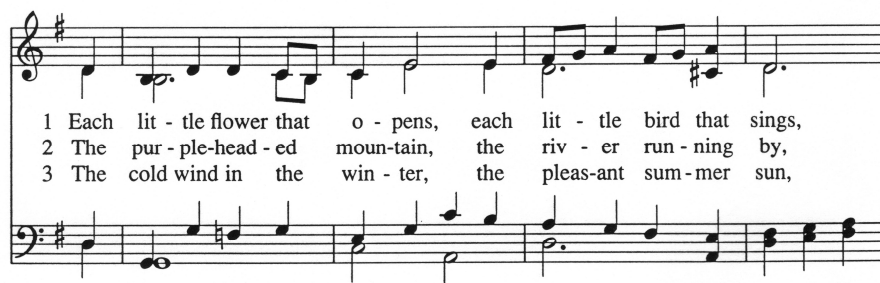


All things bright and beau-ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,

Last time, end

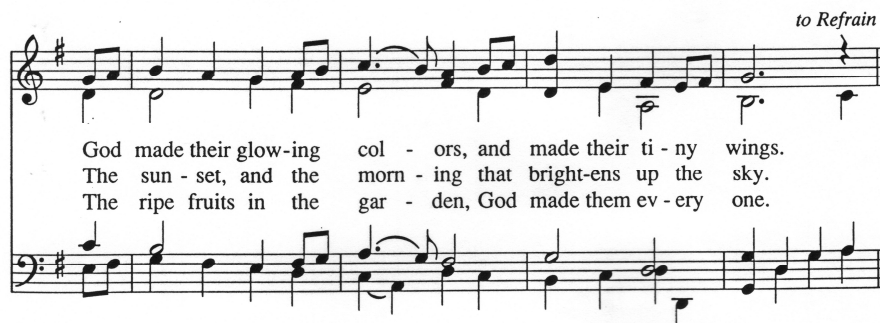


All things wise and won - der - ful, our dear God made them all.



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,

to Refrain



God made their glow-ing col - ors, and 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.

This hymn for children is based on the first article of the Apostles' Creed: "Maker of heaven and earth." The English hymnwriter Cecil Frances Alexander was married to William Alexander, who became bishop of Ireland.

Tune: ROYAL OAK 7.6.7.6. with refrain
 English melody
 Adapt. Martin Shaw, 1915

Refrain:

All things bright and beautiful,
 all creatures great and small,
 all things wise and wonderful,
 the Lord God made them all.

1 Each little flower that opens,
 each little bird that sings,
 God made their glowing colors,
 and made their tiny wings. [Refrain]

2 The purple-headed mountain,
 the river running by,
 The sunset, and the morning
 that brightens up the sky; [Refrain]

3 The cold wind in the winter,
 the pleasant summer sun,
 The ripe fruits in the garden,
 God made them every one. [Refrain]

SCRIPTURE READING - Luke 12:22-32

Steve Van Evera

22 Jesus said to his disciples, 'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. 23 For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. 24 Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! 25 And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? 26 If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? 27 Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. 28 But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! 29 And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. 30 For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them. 31 Instead, strive for God's kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well. 32 'Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

One: Here ends the reading. Hear what the Spirit of God is saying to the church.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

All Of Us Belong—Richard Bruxvoort-Colligan
Pilgrim Pick-Up Choir

WE BLESS OUR ANIMALS

ALL: Loving God, we thank you for those creatures who live alongside us as our companions and friends; for their loyalty, love, and trust which enrich our lives and give us joy; teach us the value of kindness, the power of mercy, the strength of gentleness; and create in us a new spirit of humility and joy as we see your Spirit in the face of your creatures. And now, Bless, O God, these creatures and fill our hearts with thanksgiving for their being. Amen.

PRAYER OF REMEMBRANCE FOR OUR ANIMAL COMPANIONS

We remember our animal companions who are no longer with us physically. We give thanks for the gifts they gave us and the variety of ways they enriched and blessed our lives. We are confident that our Creator continues to care for them. Amen

PASSING THE PEACE

Steve Van Evera

ONE: Peace be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

ONE: Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

*HYMN

402

De colores (Sing of Colors)

Mexican folk song
Transl. The New Century Hymnal, 1991

1 De co - lo - res, de co - lo - res se vis - ten los
1 Sing of col - ors, sing of col - ors that o - ver the
2 Sing, re - joic - ing! Ev - ery crea - ture that breathes raise a

cam - pos en la pri - ma - ve - ra. De co
hills in pro - fu - sion are spring - ing; Sing of
song to the God of cre - a - tion. Sing, re

lo - res, de co - lo - res son los pa - ja - ri - tos que vie - nen de
col - ors of the birds that fly out - side my win - dow their can - ti - cl
joic - ing! Sing to God who so ear - nest - ly cares, who has of - fer - ed us

fue - ra. De co - lo - res, de co
sing - ing; Sing of col - ors, in the
va - tion. Sing the good news! Sing the

De Colores—Black Hymnal 402

lo - res es el ar - co i - ris que ve - mos sa - lir, Y por
rain - bow's bright col - ors God's prom - ise of hope we re - call; Sing of
love of the Sav - ior re - flect - ing the col - ors of all. Man - y

e - so los gran - des a - mo - res de mu - chos co - lo - res me gus - tan a
col - ors that make up the earth and give thanks to the God who cre - at - ed us
col - ors that shine from God's face, man - y col - ors that tell us God's love to re -

mí, Y por e - so los gran - des a - mo - res de mu - chos co -
all. Sing of col - ors that make up the earth and give thanks to the
call. Man - y col - ors that shine from God's face, man - y col - ors that

lo - res me gus - tan a mí.
God who cre - at - ed us all.
tell us God's love to re - call.

1 De colores, de colores se visten los campos en la primavera

De colores, de colores son los pajaritos que vienen de afuera

De colores, de colores es el arco iris que vemos lucir

Y por eso los grandes amores de muchos colores me gustan a mí

Y por eso los grandes amores de muchos colores me gustan a mí

2 Sing of colors, sing of colors that over the hills in profusion are springing;

Sing of colors of the birds that fly outside my window their canticles singing;

Sing of colors, in the rainbow's bright colors God's promise of hope we recall;

Sing of colors that make up the earth and give thanks to the God who created us all.

Sing of colors that make up the earth and give thanks to the God who created us all.

3 Sing, rejoicing! Every creature that breathes raise a song to the God of Creation.

Sing, rejoicing! Sing to God who so earnestly cares, who has offered salvation.

Sing the good news! Sing the love of the Savior reflecting the colors of all.

Many colors that shine from God's face, many colors that tell us God's love to recall.

Many colors that shine from God's face, many colors that tell us God's love to recall.

Children and Youth are invited to participate in a Service Project at this time.

MEDITATION

Rev. Reebee Girash



MOMENT OF REMEMBRANCE - Dex Whittinghill, Jr.



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Reebee Girash

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Reebee Girash

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Rev. Reebee Girash

OFFERTORY

The Creatures We Love— Amanda Udis-Kessler

*DOXOLOGY

Red Hymnal 515

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

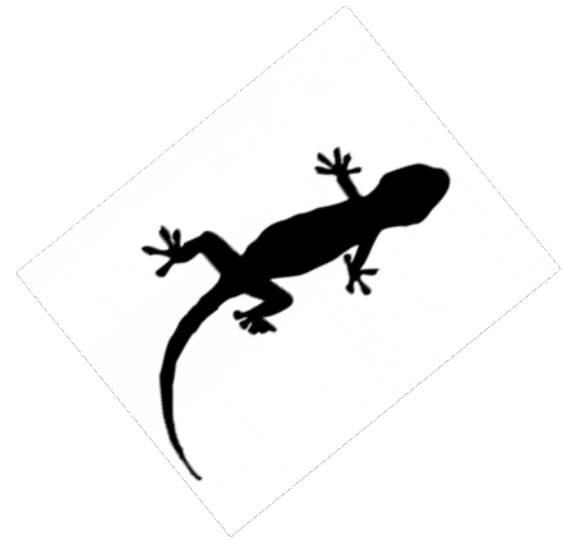
or

**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. Amen**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**God, make us instruments of your peace:
where there is hatred, let us sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.**

Bless these gifts that they may be used to do your will. Amen.



***CLOSING HYMN**

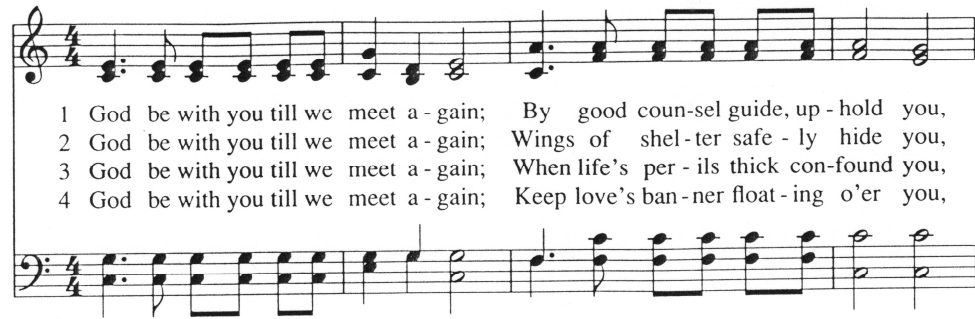
God Be With You Till We Meet Again—Black Hymnal 81
verses 1 and 2

***BENEDICTION**

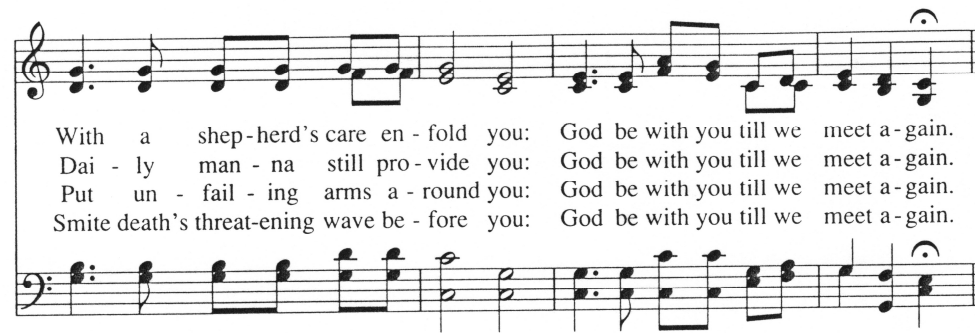


God Be with You

81

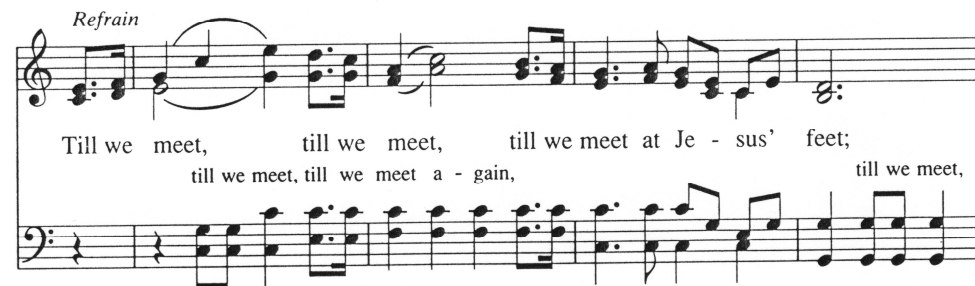
Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1880; alt.


1 God be with you till we meet a - gain; By good coun-sel guide, up - hold you,
 2 God be with you till we meet a - gain; Wings of shel-ter safe - ly hide you,
 3 God be with you till we meet a - gain; When life's per - ils thick con-found you,
 4 God be with you till we meet a - gain; Keep love's ban - ner float - ing o'er you,



With a shep-herd's care en - fold you: God be with you till we meet a - gain.
 Dai - ly man - na still pro - vide you: God be with you till we meet a - gain.
 Put un - fail - ing arms a - round you: God be with you till we meet a - gain.
 Smite death's threat-ening wave be - fore you: God be with you till we meet a - gain.

Refrain



Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Je - sus' feet;
 till we meet, till we meet a - gain, till we meet,



till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet a - gain.
 till we meet, till we meet a - gain,

1 God be with you till we meet again;
 loving counsels guide, uphold you,
 may the Shepherd's care enfold you;
 God be with you till we meet again.

Refrain:

Till we meet, till we meet,
 till we meet at Jesus' feet.

Till we meet, till we meet,
 God be with you till we meet again.

2 God be with you till we meet again;
 unseen wings, protecting, hide you,
 daily manna still provide you;
 God be with you till we meet again.
 [Refrain]

Written during his last pastorate, at First Congregational Church in Washington, D.C., Jeremiah Rankin's hymn spread quickly throughout America and England by way of Moody and Sankey's revival meetings. Rankin later served as the seventh president of Harvard University.

Tune: GOD BE WITH YOU 9.8.8.9. with refrain
 William G. Tomer, 1880

THE BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS WERE DONATED IN MEMORY OF DEX WHITTINGHILL, JR.

Please join us for social time after the service.

**Please be in a posture of praise.*

A special Thank you to our
Liturgist, Steve Van Evera, our
Zoom Hosts, Madeleine Clark
and Doug Johnston and our
Social Host, Susan Moffitt.

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 19 - Bible Study on Zoom, 10:30am

September 21 - Choir Practice, 7:30pm

September 24 - Rev. Fred Small, guest preacher and singer, 10:30am

September 24 - Mission Summit, in the Library and on Zoom 12:15am

October 1 - World Communion Sunday and Potluck after worship, 10:30am

October 14 - Apple Pie Fest, 10:00am-6:00pm

October 7 - Pumpkins arrive, 9:00am

October 14 - Apple Pie fest 10:00am-6:00pm

Please sign up for Pumpkin Patch Shifts & Apple Pie Fest.

SOURCE NOTES

Today's Liturgy is adapted from Season of Creation.

