

**Starview United Church of Christ
Annual Outdoor Worship Service & Picnic
September 17, 2023, at 10 AM
John Rudy Park – Wren Pavilion**

**GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS
JOYS AND CONCERNS**

PRELUDE

Dillsburg Brass Band

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: God, as we gather together to worship you, we stand in awe of your creation.

*All: We see you in the rising and setting of the sun.
We see you in the moon and the stars of the night sky.
Your creative presence is all around us.*

Pastor: We see you in the beasts of the field,
the birds of the air and the creatures of the sea.

All: From the flowers of the valley to the mountaintops in the sky,

Pastor: We see your beauty all over the earth.

All: Let us worship you for who you are our Creator and Sustainer.

HYMN

My Lord, What a Morning

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CALL TO CONFESSION

Pastor: Though God's creation dazzles us with all of its wonder, we have not always done our part to be good stewards of it. Let us confess before God the times we have missed the mark when it comes to our own lives as well as caring for creation.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

All: God, we come to you today acknowledging that things are broken. Creation is broken. Relationships are broken. We are broken. But in the same breath we know that you make all things new. Today we pray that your presence would be felt in our brokenness. We ask that through your grace all of creation would once again be made whole. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: Hear the Good News today: The life, death, and resurrection of Christ covers all our iniquities. Just as quickly as our sins were offered up, they have been forgiven. Thanks be to God!

All: Alleluia! Amen.

RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Halle, Halle, Halle

Hal-le-Hal-le-Hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le-Hal-le-Hal - le - lu - ja.

Hal-le-Hal-le-Hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le-lu-ja. Hal-le-lu-ja.

SPECIAL YOUTH TIME

“Something Smells!”
2 Corinthians 2:14-17 (NLT)

Pastor Laura

HYMN

Jesus Shall Reign

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RESPONSIVE PSALTAR READINGS

PSALM 115:14-18

Liturgist: May the LORD richly bless both you and your children.

All: *May you be blessed by the LORD, who made heaven and earth.*

Blue Table: The heavens belong to the LORD, but he has given the earth to all humanity.

Red Table: The dead cannot sing praises to the LORD,
for they have gone into the silence of the grave.

All: *But we can praise the LORD both now and forever!*
PRAISE THE LORD!

PSALM 19:1-4

Liturgist: The heavens declare the glory of God;
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

Yellow/Green: Day after day they pour forth speech;
night after night they reveal knowledge.

Blue/Red: They have no speech.
They use no words.
No sound is heard from them.

All: *And yet - their voice goes out into all the earth,
their words to the ends of the world.*

Psalm 8

Liturgist: O LORD, our Lord, your majestic name fills the earth!
Your glory is higher than the heavens.

All: *You have taught children and infants
to tell of your strength,
silencing your enemies
and all who oppose you.*

Yellow: When I look at the night sky and see the work of your fingers—
the moon and the stars you set in place—
what are mere mortals that you should think about them,
human beings that you should care for them?

Green: Yet you made them only a little lower than God
and crowned them^l with glory and honor.
You gave them responsibility for everything you made,
putting all things under their authority—
the flocks and the herds
and all the wild animals,
the birds in the sky, the fish in the sea,
and everything that swims the ocean currents.

All: *O LORD, our Lord, your majestic name fills the earth!*

RESPONSIVE EPISTLE READING

Romans 1:20 (adapted)

Liturgist: For ever since the world was created,
people have seen the earth and sky.
Through everything God made,
they can clearly see God's invisible qualities—
the Creator's eternal power and divine nature.

All: *So, we have no excuse for not knowing God.*

Liturgist: For ever since the world was created,
People have seen the earth and sky.
Through everything God made,
we can clearly see God's invisible qualities –
the Creator's eternal power and divine nature.

All: *So, we have no excuse for not knowing God.*

Blue: No excuse for not knowing God.

Red: No excuse.

Yellow: We see the earth; we see the sky.

Green: We see everything God made.

All: *We KNOW God.*

Amen.

HOMILY

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (bidding prayer)

Pastor: Creator God,

Rev. Laura C. Baker

You are the one who has given all the world life and given it abundantly. No matter how much we praise your name, we can never say enough to thank you for all that you have given. We have come to you asking forgiven for our part in helping the world stay broken instead of being the initiators of healing. For that reason, we come to you now as we pray for the people of the world.

All: *For creation and the ways, we continue to harm it...*
For creation and the ways, we are learning to be better caretakers of it...
For safe travel to and from final summer vacations and events...
For the start of a new school year: students, guardians, education staff...
For the restart of church programs: Sunday School, choirs, JAM, Grief Share...
For those who are hurting and need our prayers and comfort...
For those who are hungry and need to be fed...
For those who are alone and need community...
For those who are imprisoned by dis-ease of mind, body and/or spirit...
For those who are ill or are dying...
For all caregivers...
For your church – everywhere...
For all who love you God; for those who don't know you,
and for those who have turned away from you...

Pastor: We pray for what we need God, just as Jesus taught us:

All: *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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever.
Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Liturgist: As evident through all of creation, God has given freely given to us. Let us continue to worship through the giving of our tithes and our offerings. The offering collection box is located on the table by the Worship Candle and may be used at any time during or after the service and picnic. Let us dedicate all we give with an acapella singing of the Doxology and a Prayer of Thanksgiving.

DOXOLOGY

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & BLESSING OF FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP

All: God we know that you aren't in need of anything we have to offer. However, you desire for us to serve you in every aspect of our life. We pray that this offering was not a meaningless ritual but a true act of worship. Bless these tithes and offerings and guide us as we seek to use them to serve and love you in all of creation. Amen.

HYMN

Go, My Children, With My Blessing

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BENEDICTION

Pastor: God send us into the world as people that seek to honor you in all that we do,
a people who looks for you in creation,
and the people who take care of creation.

All: Amen.

My Lord, What a Morning 708

Refrain

My Lord, what a morn-ing; my Lord, what a morn-ing; oh,

Fine

my Lord, what a morn-ing, when the stars be-gin to fall.

Verses

1. You'll hear the trum-pet sound, to wake the na-tions un-der-ground,
2. You'll hear the sin-ner moan, to wake the na-tions un-der-ground,
3. You'll hear the Chris-tian shout, to wake the na-tions un-der-ground,


Response *D.C.*

look-ing to my God's right hand,
 look-ing to my God's right hand, when the stars be-gin to fall.
 look-ing to my God's right hand,

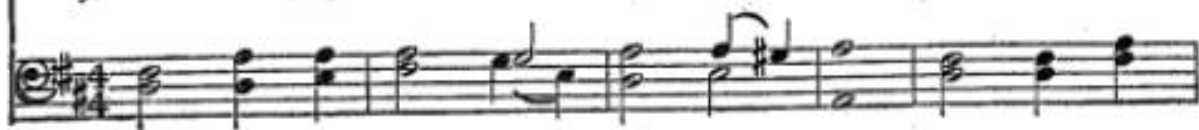

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Psalm lxxii
ISAAC WATTS, 1719

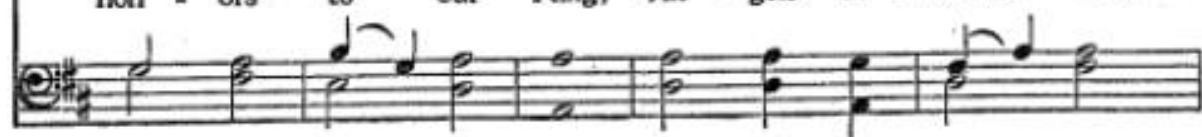

L. M.

DUKE STREET
JOHN HATTON, d. 1793*With exultation*


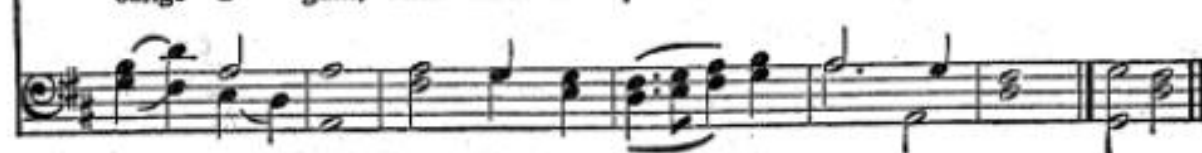
1. Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun Does his suc -
2. For Him shall end - less prayer be made, And prais - es
3. Peo - ple and realms of ev - ery tongue Dwell on His
4. Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er He reigns; The pris - oner
5. Let ev - ery crea - ture rise and bring Pe - cu - liar

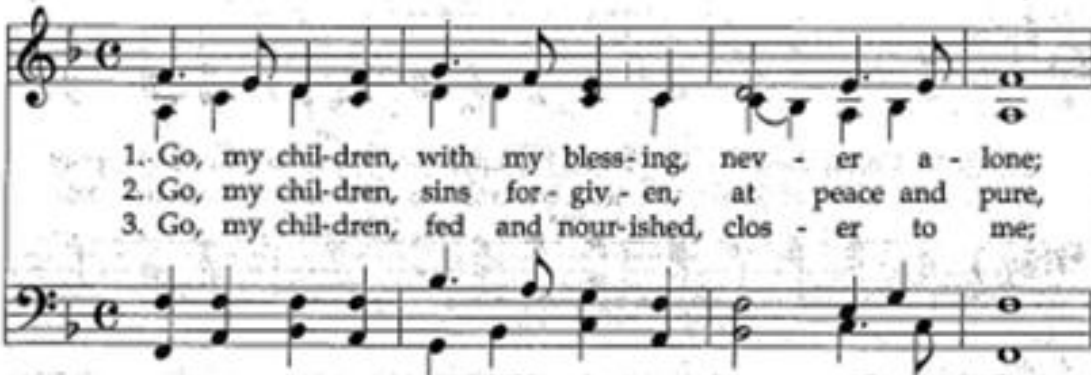
ces - sive jour - neys run; His king - dom stretch from
throng to crown His head; His Name, like sweet per -
love with sweet - est song, And in - fant voic - es
leaps to lose His chains; The wea - ry find e -
hon - ors to our King; An - gels de - scend with


shore to shore, Till moons shall wax and wane 'no more,
fume, shall rise With ev - ery morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
shall pro - claim Their ear - ly bless - ings on His Name,
ter - nal rest, And all the sons of want are blest.
songs a - gain, And earth re - peat the loud A - ment A - MEN.



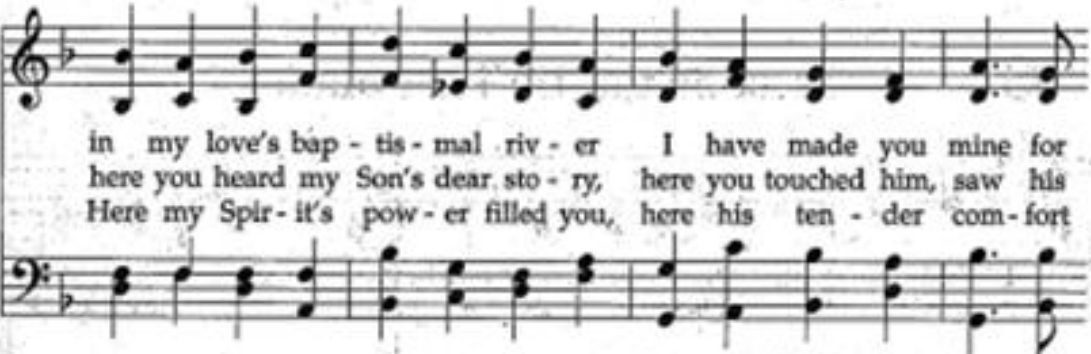
Go, My Children, with My Blessing 431



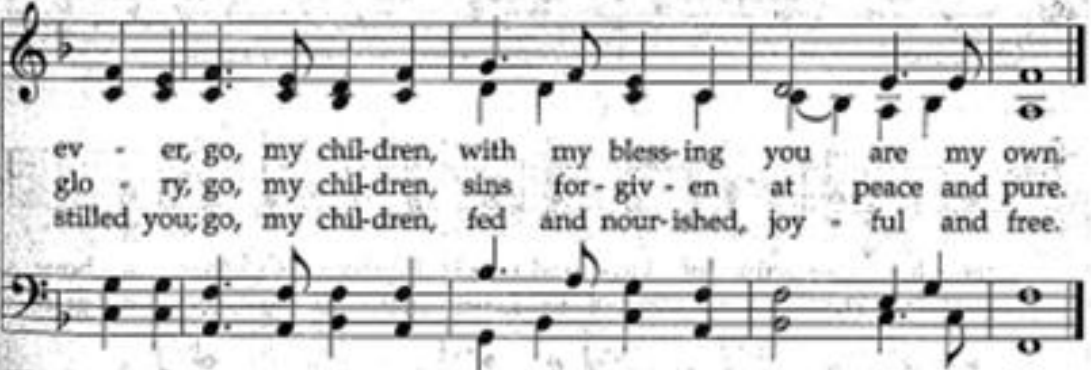
1. Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, nev - er a - lone;
 2. Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv - en, at peace and pure,
 3. Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ish-ed, clos - er to me;



wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own;
 here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure;
 grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy - ful and free.



in my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for
 here you heard my Son's dear sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his
 Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here his ten - der com - fort



ev - er, go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing you are my own,
 glo - ry, go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv - en at peace and pure.
 stilled you; go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ish-ed, joy - ful and free.

WORDS: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1983

MUSIC: Traditional Welsh melody; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams

AR HYD Y NOS

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