



**Sixteenth Sunday
after Pentecost
September 13, 2026 – 9:45 AM**

THE APPROACH TO GOD

PRELUDE

“When in Our Music God Is Glorified”
by Charles V. Stanford, arr. Anna Laura Page

CALL TO WORSHIP

“You Are Welcome”

*SONG OF WORSHIP

#40 “For the Beauty of the Earth”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of creation,

**you have created us for connection and community,
and you call us into relationship with you and with one another.
Yet, relationships can be difficult,
and being in relationship with others can be challenging.**

When we become impatient with one another,

Singing: **Have mercy on us. Have mercy on us.**

O Lord have mercy. O Lord have mercy.

When we allow differences to divide us rather than teach us,

Singing: **Have mercy on us. Have mercy on us.**

O Lord have mercy. O Lord have mercy.

When we overlook those who are lonely, hurting, or longing to belong,

Singing: **Have mercy on us. Have mercy on us.**

O Lord have mercy. O Lord have mercy.

Please use this period of silence for personal reflection.

Teach us, God of abundant mercy,

to cherish the people and communities entrusted to our care,

to make room for one another,

and to recognize our connectedness.

In Jesus' name, we pray . . . amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

By God's mercy, **we are forgiven.**

Through God's mercy, **we are made whole.**

With God's mercy, **we are equipped to love one another.**

This is our peace. **Thanks be to God.**

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

THE WORD OF GOD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Congregation, bless your children.

You are God's beloved child. With you, God is well pleased.

*SONG OF PREPARATION

"Teach Us Your Ways"

Teach us your ways, teach us your ways.

As we learn from one another, learn to love each other,

teach us your ways.

**Teach us to give, teach us to give,
give our lives for one another, learn to help each other:
teach us to give.**

**Teach us to weep, teach us to weep.
Let us weep with one another, learn to love each other:
teach us to weep.**

**Hallelujah, hallelujah!
Let us learn from one another, learn to love each other:
teach us your ways.**

SCRIPTURE & CONVERSATION

Conversation:
The Practice of Connection

THE RESPONSE TO GOD

*SONG OF THANKSGIVING #147 "Praise God from Whom..."

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God, in Jesus fully known:
Creator, Word, and Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

*Tithes/offerings placed in the baskets at the entrance of
the sanctuary are brought forward as a sign of our response
to God's call on our lives.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

*SONG OF RESPONSE

"Out of Need and Out of Custom"

TUNE: HOLY MANNA #647

**Out of need and out of custom, we have gathered here again;
to the gathering we are bringing love and laughter, grief and pain.
Some believing, some rejoicing, some afraid, and some in doubt,
come we now our questions voicing, we will search these matters out.**

**Come we now our masks displaying, fearing that we shall be known,
foolish games forever playing, feeling meanwhile so alone.
Let pretension's power be broken, to be human let us dare;
let the truth in love be spoken, let us now the questing share.**

**We have heard the glowing stories of the things that God has done,
of the power and of the glory, of God's love in Christ the Son.
God of human transformation, for your presence now we pray,
lead us ever on the journey as we leave this place today.**

*BENEDICTION

*SENDING SONG

"My Friends, May You Grow in Grace"

*The congregation is invited to stand and turn toward
the center aisle, blessing one another in song.*

**My friends, may you grow in grace,
and in the knowledge of our Lord, and Savior.**

**My friends, may you grow in grace,
and in the knowledge of Jesus Christ.**

To God be the glory, now and forever, now and forever, amen.

To God be the glory, now and forever, now and forever, amen.

***POSTLUDE**

"Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above"

arr. Anna Laura Page

CCLI #11312016; One License #742124-A

For the Beauty of the Earth

40

G $\frac{D7}{A}$ G $\frac{D}{F\#}$ G $\frac{C}{E}$ $\frac{D7}{F\#}$ G C $\frac{D}{C}$ $\frac{G}{B}$ C $\frac{G}{D}$ D G

1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the glo - ry of the skies,
 2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
 3 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
 4 For the church that ev - er - more lift - eth ho - ly hands a - bove,
 5 For thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our race so free - ly given;

G $\frac{D7}{A}$ G $\frac{D}{F\#}$ G $\frac{C}{E}$ $\frac{D7}{F\#}$ G C $\frac{D}{C}$ $\frac{G}{B}$ C $\frac{G}{D}$ D G

for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies,
 hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light,
 friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild,
 of - fering up on ev - ery shore her pure sac - ri - fice of love,
 for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven,

G $\frac{D}{F\#}$ G $\frac{D}{F\#}$ D G C $\frac{D}{C}$ $\frac{G}{B}$ $\frac{C}{E}$ $\frac{G}{D}$ D7 G

Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.

WORDS: Folliott S. Pierpoint (1835-1917), alt.
 MUSIC: Conrad Kocher (1786-1872); arr. William H. Monk (1823-1889)

DIX
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