

Mountain Shadows Presbyterian Church

Centered in Christ, Caring for Community

April 19, 2026 The Third Sunday in Eastertide/Earth Day Sunday



Threefold Chime and Prelude *What Light Is Rising*

Lighting of the Christ Candle and Opening Prayer

Welcome, Announcements, Introductions

Introit *Blessed Assurance*

Call to Worship for Earth Day Sunday (responsive)

God, the Maker of marvels,
weaves together in community all for whom this precious planet is home.

**Kinship among Earth's inhabitants
reveals God's unifying love for the world.**

Humankind is not separate and alone.

We are neighbors to all living beings.

The Earth revolves in a magnificent universe.

**Through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, by the Holy Spirit's re-creative power,
let us worship God, Maker of heaven and earth.**

***Hymn # 365** *God Reigns! Let Earth Rejoice!*

Call to Confession and Prayer of Confession (unison)

The Earth and all who dwell on it belong to God.

Joining our hearts and voices in reverent concern for our planet, let us pray.

Great Spirit, Giver of Life,

hear our prayer for your Creation and its inhabitants.

For those lacking access to clean water, hear our prayer.

Send the fresh wind of your Spirit

to regions where human industry has damaged air quality.

Help communities restore oceans overwhelmed by plastic pollution.

Make each of us mindful of how we consume Earth's resources.

Lead us to curb our overuse of water, costly fossil fuels,

and disposable products that litter landfills.

In your mercy, hear our prayer for your Creation.

(Please pause to offer a silent prayer.)

Forgive us for our carelessness, Creator God.

Teach us to plant flowers, to honor animals,

to thank the Earth for her bounty,

to clean the streams, protect the forests, respect the deserts,

and live like we're dwelling on holy ground, because we are. Amen.

(Quiet prayer and reflection)

Sung Response in Eastertide

TUNE: 835, CLOSER WALK

Just a closer walk with thee, Grant it, Jesus, is my plea,

Daily walking close to thee: Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

Words of Assurance (responsive, based on 1 Peter 1:20-21)

We have been liberated, set free by Christ,

who was chosen before the creation of the world.

God raised Jesus from the dead and gave him glory.

So now, our faith and hope rest in God.

Alleluia! In Christ, we live with meaning, reverence, and purpose.

Let us care for each other, for our neighbors,

and for our sacred homeland, Earth. Amen.

***Song of Praise in Eastertide**

TUNE: 248, HYMN TO JOY

**Christ is risen! Raise your spirits from the caverns of despair.
Walk with gladness in the morning. See what love can do and dare.
Drink the wine of resurrection with the Christ, our risen friend.
Jesus is our strong companion. Joy and peace shall never end.**

***The Passing of Christ Peace** (contactless)

May the peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

Let us turn to each other, put our hands together prayerfully,
and say, *The peace of Christ be with you.*

Scripture Reading Psalm 104

Response The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon *Hymn for Our Sacred Homeland, Earth*

***Hymn # 69** *I, the Lord of Sea and Sky*

Offering Invitation (based on Psalm 116:12, 17)

What shall we return to the Lord for all of God's bounty to us?
Let us give to God a thanksgiving offering and call on the name of the Lord.
To give thanks for God's goodness and support the church's ministries,
we may place offerings in the plate or give them online at
mountainshadowchurch.org.
Thank you and thanks be to God.

Offertory

***Doxology**

Tune: 607

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Christ, all creatures here below.
Praise Holy Spirit ever more.
One God, triune, whom we adore! Amen.**

***Prayer of Dedication** (unison)

**Generous God, you have blessed us with resources
to share the good news of your love for all creation.**

We dedicate these gifts to you.

**May they bring healing, wholeness, and hope to the world,
so that present and future generations may know your graciousness and love.
In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

Joys, Concerns, The Pastoral Prayer, and The Lord's Prayer (Hymnal, page 35)

***Hymn # 15** *All Creatures of Our God and King*

***Charge and Benediction**

***Postlude** *Ode to Joy*

***Restoring creation is not a short-term concern to be handled in a few years,
but a continuing task to which the nation and the world must give attention and
commitment, and which has profound implications for the life, work and
witness of Christian people and church agencies.*** -Presbyterian Church (USA)

Environmental Policy

#365 – “God Reigns! Let Earth Rejoice!” -- Page 1 of 2



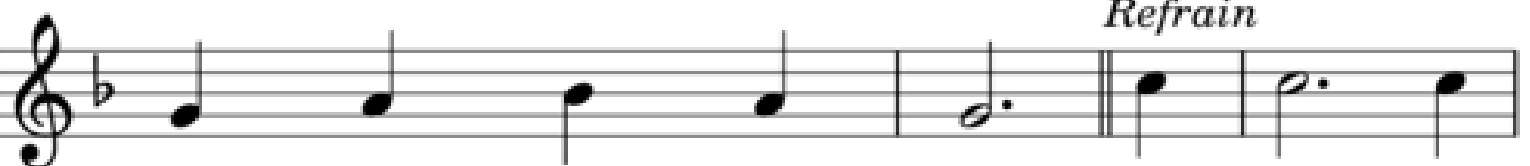
1 God reigns! Let earth re - joice! Let
2 God's fire ig - nites the clouds with
3 False i - dols rise to claim the
4 The ra - diance of God's light beams



o - ceans shout God's might! Borne
judg - ment swift and just; the
weak - ness of our pride, but
joy in - to our days; now



up by truth and righ - teousness, God's
e - vil find their deeds in vain; God's
can - not touch the faith - ful ones, for
filled with God's own peace and love, our



throne is our de - light. Re-joice! Re-
foes are brought to dust.
God stands at our side.
hearts re - sound with praise.

#365 (continued) -- Page 2 of 2



joice! God reigns! Let earth re-joice!

#69 -- "I, the Lord of Sea and Sky" ("Here I Am, Lord") -- Page 1 of 2



Leader or All

1 I, the Lord of sea and sky,
2 I, the Lord of snow and rain,
3 I, the Lord of wind and flame,



I have heard my peo - ple cry.
I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin
I have wept for love of them.
I will set a feast for them.

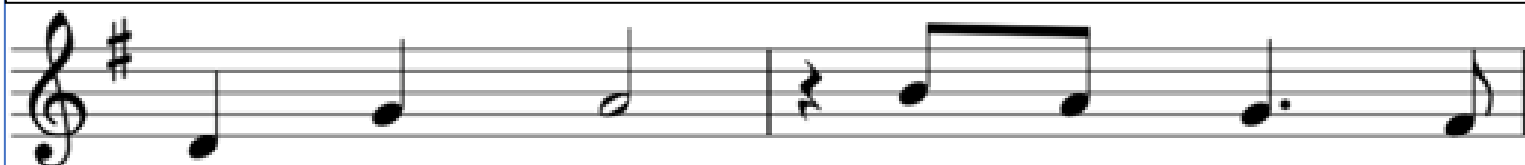


my hand will save. I, who made the
They turn a - way. I will break their
My hand will save. Finest bread I



stars of night, I will make their
hearts of stone, give them hearts for
will pro - vide till their hearts be

#69 (continued) -- Page 2 of 2

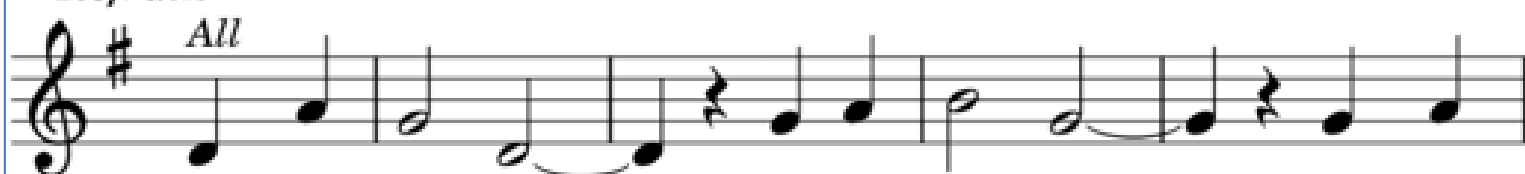


dark - ness bright. Who will bear my
love a - lone. I will speak my
sat - is - fied. I will give my

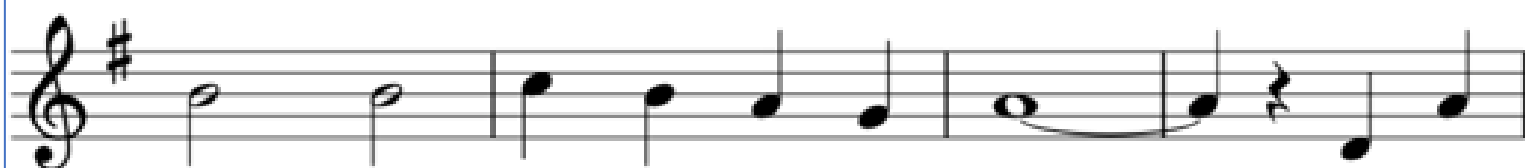


light to them? Whom shall I send?
word to them. Whom shall I send?
life to them. Whom shall I send?

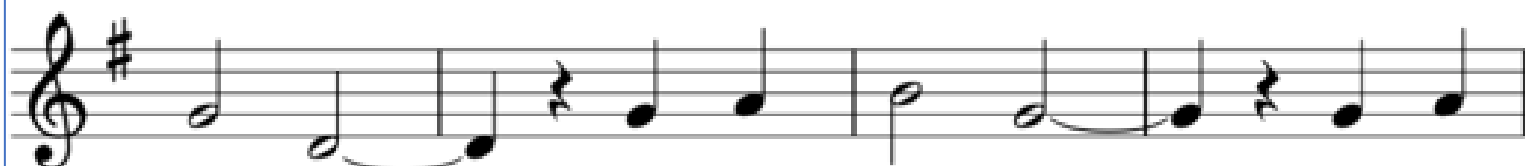
Refrain



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have



heard you call - ing in the night. I will



go, Lord, if you lead me. I will



hold your peo - ple in my heart.

#15 -- "All Creatures of Our God and King" -- Page 1 of 2



1 All creatures of our God and King,
2 O brother wind with clouds and rain,
3 O brother fire, so warm and bright,
4 All who for love of God forgive,



lift up your voice and with us sing,
you nurture gifts of fruit and grain.
chase off the shadows of the night.
all who in pain or sorrow grieve,

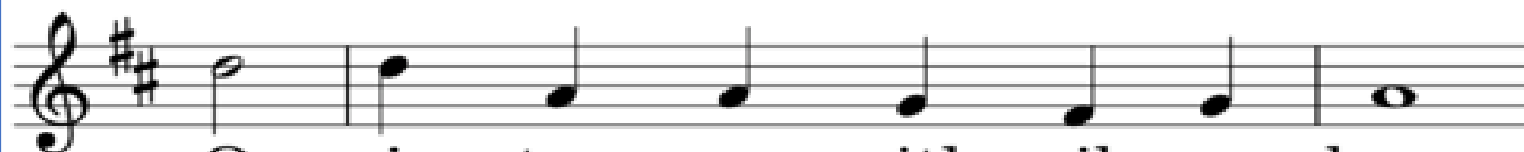


Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! O
Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! O
Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Dear
Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Christ



broth - er sun with gold - en beam,
sis - ter wa - ter, flow - ing clear,
moth - er earth, who day by day
bears your bur - dens and your fears;

#15 (continued) -- Page 2 of 2



O sis - ter moon with sil - ver gleam,
make mu - sic for your Lord to hear.
un - folds such bless - ings on our way,
so, e - ven in the midst of tears,



sing prais - es! Alle - lu - ia! Alle - lu - ia!
Sing prais - es! Alle - lu - ia! Alle - lu - ia!
sing prais - es! Alle - lu - ia! Alle - lu - ia!
sing prais - es! Alle - lu - ia! Alle - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

5 And you, most gentle sister death,
waiting to hush our final breath:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,
fair is the night that leads us home.

Sing praises! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!