

**\*Benediction**

L: Let us go now in the grace and the love of God, basking in the goodness of God and all that God has created:

**P: We go today with the blessing of the Lord in our hearts and on our pets.  
It is very good!**

L: Now our service is ended. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord:

**P: Amen! Thanks be to God.**

**All Things Bright And Beautiful**

**Refrain**

All things bright and beautiful  
All creatures great and small  
All things wise and wonderful  
'Twas God that made them all

Each little flower that opens  
Each little bird that sings  
He made their glowing colors  
And made their tiny wings

**Refrain**

The purple headed mountains  
The rivers running by  
The sunset and the morning  
That brightens up the sky

**Refrain**

The cold wind in the winter  
The pleasant summer sun  
The ripe fruits in the garden  
He made them every one

**Refrain**

The cold wind in the winter  
The pleasant summer sun  
The ripe fruits in the garden  
He made them every one

**Refrain**

The tall trees in the green wood  
The meadows where we play  
The rushes by the water  
To gather everyday

**Refrain**

He gave us eyes to see them  
And lips that we might tell  
How great is God Almighty  
Who has made all things well



**UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**Sunday, September 18, 2022**



**W e l c o m e**

in Christ's name to all who are visiting.

We are an Open and Affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ. Please let us know you were here by filling out one of the guest cards provided by the ushers. We are blessed by having you here. May you also be blessed because you worshipped God with us

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**September 18, 2022**

**10:00 AM**

\*Indicates that you are invited to stand in body or spirit

**THEME:** Connecting with God through creation

### Welcome and Announcements

\***Opening hymn:** #53, Morning has broken, *chalice hymnal*

### Call to Worship

L: Bless the Lord and all the Lord's creatures:

**P: Let us not forget the Lord's blessings.**

L: God has taken pleasure in living creatures of every kind:

**P: God sees all the animals and says, "It is good!"**

L: We, too, take pleasure in all God has created:

**P: We look at creation with love, and say, "It is so, so good!"**

L: As we gather together now, let us worship the Creator:

**P: Amen! Let us worship God together.**

### Blessing of Our gifts

**P: Since we have been raised with Christ, we seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at your right hand, O God. May we be strengthened in all goodness through the giving of our gifts, O God, for we give in worship of you, and you alone:**

L: Receive our gifts, O God, and bless them, we pray. May they speed the coming of your kingdom in our community. Amen

### \*The Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise God all creatures here below

Praise God above ye heavenly host

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost

Amen

### Jen and Pinot

### Pet Blessing

**Song:** "God Gave us our Pets"

### Responsive prayer

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God, for all the gifts of creation:

**P: We thank you, Lord.**

L: For the richness of the mountains, the rivers, and the trees:

**P: We thank you, Lord.**

L: For all the creatures that breathe, and move, and have life:

**P: We thank you, Lord.**

L: For the gift that you have given us in our pets:

**P: We thank you, Lord.**

L: For the love we share with you for the animals we have adopted into our families:

**P: We thank you, Lord.**

L: Bless us with a growing enjoyment of your abundant creation, and bless our pets according to your good pleasure:

**P: Amen.**

### BLESSING OF THE PETS

#### Unison prayer

**We thank you, O God, for our pets and the joy they give us. Help us appreciate them and your whole creation more like you do. We pray that you would move people to care for the earth and all the life upon it. We pray for animals who suffer and for those who work on their behalf: grant them peace and rest, we ask. May all creation sing your praise. Amen.**

\***Sermon hymn:** #61, All Things Bright And Beautiful, *Chalice Hymnal*

### Scripture reading: Genesis 1:1, 20-25

L: God is still speaking to us through the living word:

**P: Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon:** "God Saw That It Was Good", by Pastor Bradley Klug

### Prayers

Prayers of the people

L: Lord, in your mercy:

**P: Hear our prayer.**

*Pastoral Prayer*

*The Lord's Prayer*

\***Closing song:** "A Place in the Choir"