

# Big Grove Crow River Grace Parish

P.O. Box 10, Belgrade, MN 56312

320-254-3249

[bgcrgparishmn@gmail.com](mailto:bgcrgparishmn@gmail.com)

**June 16 and 19, 2024**

**Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**

*Welcome in Jesus' name.*

*We extend a special welcome to guests and visitors.*



Lead Pastor Lisa Meshke, [pastorlisaanne@gmail.com](mailto:pastorlisaanne@gmail.com)

Deacon Brenda Handel-Johnson, [bhandeljohnson@gmail.com](mailto:bhandeljohnson@gmail.com)

Secretary, Sue Wiener

# WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Prelude/Gathering Music:

“Creating God, Your Fingers Trace”

ELW #684

1 Creating God, your fingers trace  
the bold designs of farthest space;  
let sun and moon and stars and light  
and what lies hidden praise your might.

2 Sustaining God, your hands uphold  
earth's myst'ries known or yet untold;  
let water's fragile blend with air,  
enabling life, proclaim your care.

3 Redeeming God, your arms embrace  
all now despised for creed or race;  
let peace, descending like a dove,  
make known on earth your healing love.

4 Indwelling God, your gospel claims  
one fam'ly with a billion names;  
let ev'ry life be touched by grace  
until we praise you face to face.

Text: Jeffery Rowthorn, b. 1934 One Licence #A-736797  
Text © 1979 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved.

“This Is My Father’s World”

ELW #824

1 This is my Father's world,  
and to my list'ning ears  
all nature sings, and round me rings  
the music of the spheres.  
This is my Father's world;  
I rest me in the thought  
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;  
his hand the wonders wrought.

2 This is my Father's world;  
the birds their carols raise;  
the morning light, the lily white,  
declare their maker's praise.  
This is my Father's world;  
he shines in all that's fair.  
In the rustling grass I hear him pass;  
he speaks to me ev'rywhere.

3 This is my Father's world;  
oh, let me not forget  
that, though the wrong seems oft so strong,  
God is the ruler yet.  
This is my Father's world;  
why should my heart be sad?  
The Lord is king, let heaven ring;  
God reigns, let earth be glad!

Text: Maltbie D. Babcock, 1858-1901 CCLI #2275507 Public Domain  
Music: Franklin L. Sheppard, 1852-1930, adapt.

## Welcome and Announcements

### **\*Confession and Forgiveness**

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

**C: Amen.**

L: Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

L: God, our provider,

**C: help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.**

L: Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, † the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

**C: Amen.**

**\*Gathering Hymn: "God of the Fertile Fields"**

CCLI #2275507

**God of the Fertile Fields**



1 God of the fer - tile fields, sha - per of  
2 We would be stew - ards true, hold - ing in  
3 As grows the hid - den seed to fruit that  
4 God of the coun - try - side, dear to the



earth that yields our dai - ly bread: forth from your  
trust from you all that you give; help us in  
serves our need, so your reign grows. Let all our  
Christ who died to make us one: we pledge our



boun - teous hand come gifts your love has planned,  
love to share, teach us like you to care  
toil be used, no gift of yours a - bused,  
lives a - new in faith - ful love to you.



that all in ev - 'ry land be clothed and fed.  
for peo - ple ev - 'ry - where, that all may live.  
no hum - ble task re - fused your love be - stows.  
Guide all we say and do. Your will be done.

Text: Georgia Harkness, 1891–1974, alt.

Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796

Text © 1955, ren. 1983 The Hymn Society, admin Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.

**\*Apostolic Greeting:**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

**\*Hymn of Praise: "Mighty to Save"**

see insert

1 Ev'ryone needs compassion,  
Love that's never failing. Let mercy fall on me.  
Ev'ryone needs forgiveness,  
The kindness of a Saviour. The hope of nations.

Chorus:

Saviour, he can move the mountains.  
My God is mighty to save.  
He is mighty to save.  
Forever Author of salvation.  
He rose and conquered the grave.  
Jesus conquered the grave.

2 So take me as You find me.  
All my fears and failures.  
Fill my life again.  
I give my life to follow, ev'rything I believe in.  
Now I surrender.

### Bridge

Shine your light, and let the whole world see.  
We're singing for the glory of the risen King.  
Jesus. Shine your light, and let the whole world see.  
We're singing for the glory of the risen King.

CCLI Song # 4591782 Ben Fielding | Reuben Morgan CCLI License # 2275507  
© 2006 Hillsong Music Publishing Australia

### Prayer of the Day:

**O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### Scripture Reading:

Ezekiel 17:22-24

Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. <sup>23</sup>On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. <sup>24</sup>All the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the LORD have spoken; I will accomplish it.

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### Responsive Psalm Reading:

Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15

L: It is a good thing to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praise to your name, O Most High;

**C: to herald your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night;**

L: on the psaltery, and on the lyre, and to the melody of the harp.

**C: For you have made me glad by your acts, O LORD; and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.**

L: The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.

**C: Those who are planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the courts of our God;**

L: they shall still bear fruit in old age; they shall be green and succulent;

**C: that they may show how upright the LORD is, my rock, in whom there is no injustice.**

**Scripture Reading:**

2 Corinthians 5:6-17

So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—<sup>7</sup>for we walk by faith, not by sight. <sup>8</sup>Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. <sup>9</sup>So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. <sup>10</sup>For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil. <sup>11</sup>Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. <sup>12</sup>We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. <sup>13</sup>For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. <sup>14</sup>For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. <sup>15</sup>And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. <sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup>So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

**C: Thanks be to God.****Children's Sermon****\*Gospel Acclamation:** "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah"

ELW #172

Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

Music: Caribbean traditional; arr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954  
 Arr. © 1995 Augsburg Fortress #SB109327

**\*Holy Gospel:**

Mark 4:26-34

L: The Holy Gospel according to the Book of Mark.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,<sup>27</sup>and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. <sup>28</sup>The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. <sup>29</sup>But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come." <sup>30</sup>He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? <sup>31</sup>It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; <sup>32</sup>yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade." <sup>33</sup>With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; <sup>34</sup>he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon

### **\*Hymn:** "Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil"

ELW # 512

Lord, let my heart be good soil,  
open to the seed of your word.  
Lord, let my heart be good soil,  
where love can grow and peace is understood.  
When my heart is hard, break the stone away.  
When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.  
When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.  
Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

"Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil" Music by: Handt Hanson Copyright 1995 Prince of Peace Publishing  
Reprint by permission of One License #A-736797

### **\*Apostles' Creed:**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### **\*Prayers of the People**

**L:** Merciful God,           **C:** receive our prayer.

### **\*Peace:**

**L:** The peace of Christ be with you always. **C:** **And also with you.**

### **Offering:** "For the Fruit of All Creation

ELW #679 (vs. 1,2)

1 For the fruit of all creation,  
thanks be to God.  
For these gifts to ev'ry nation,  
thanks be to God.  
For the plowing, sowing, reaping,  
silent growth while we are sleeping,  
future needs in earth's safekeeping,  
thanks be to God.

2 In the just reward of labor,  
God's will is done.  
In the help we give our neighbor,  
God's will is done.  
In our worldwide task of caring  
for the hungry and despairing,  
in the harvests we are sharing,  
God's will is done.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000 CCLI #2275507 Public Domain  
Text © 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

**\*Offertory Prayer:**

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**\*The Lord's Prayer:**

**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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass 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 and ever. Amen.**

**\*Benediction:**

L: The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, † be upon you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**\*Sending Hymn** "On Our Way Rejoicing"

ELW #537

1 On our way rejoicing  
gladly let us go.  
Christ our Lord has conquered;  
vanquished is the foe.  
Christ without, our safety;  
Christ within, our joy;  
who, if we be faithful,  
can our hope destroy?

*Refrain*

On our way rejoicing;  
as we forward move,  
hearken to our praises,  
O blest God of love!



2 Unto God the Father  
joyful songs we sing;  
unto God the Savior  
thankful hearts we bring;  
unto God the Spirit  
bow we and adore,  
on our way rejoicing  
now and evermore. *Refrain*

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811-1875, alt.

Music: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879 Augsburg Fortress #SB109327

**\*Dismissal:**

**L:** Go in peace. You are the body of Christ. **C: Thanks be to God.**