



The Fifth Sunday After the Epiphany

Prelude

Beyond the Hills

Gathering—Day and night, from the heavens above to the earth below, creation itself proclaims the glory of God. We come fully as who we are, before our wondrous Creator, to witness, too, to the glory of God. No matter who you are, or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome to this worship.

****Gathering Song**

This Is My Father’s World, 21

Prayer—God, even creation itself proclaims the wonder of your handiwork. The moon and the sun, the summer rains and the winter snows, from the largest of creatures to the smallest microorganisms—all witness to the artistry of your hand. Thank you, God, for the gift of creation, for the changing of seasons, and for your faithfulness through it all.

The Lord’s Prayer (unison)—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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Choir Anthem

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

Exploring Together—“I know. It’s all wrong. By rights we shouldn’t even be here. But we are. It’s like in the great stories, Mr. Frodo. The ones that really mattered. Full of darkness and danger, they were. And sometimes you didn’t want to know the end. Because how could the end be happy? How could the world go back to the way it was when so much bad had happened? But in the end, it’s only a passing thing, this shadow. Even darkness must pass. A new day will come. And when the sun shines it will shine out the clearer.”—Samwise Gamgee, *The Two Towers*, film

We Hear God’s Word—Psalm 19:1-6 (NRSVUE)

Collin Bennington

¹ The heavens are telling the glory of God,
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

² Day to day pours forth speech,
and night to night declares knowledge.

³ There is no speech, nor are there words;

their voice is not heard;
⁴ yet their voice goes out through all the earth
 and their words to the end of the world.
 In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,
⁵ which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy,
 and like a strong man runs its course with joy.
⁶ Its rising is from the end of the heavens
 and its circuit to the end of them,
 and nothing is hid from its heat.

Meditation

Contrasts or Complimentary

Hymn

This is the Day, 652 (2x)

We Respond to God’s Word with Our Giving

Invitation—God calls us to be generous with our lives and our resources, sharing what we have, so that others, too, might know the abundance of God’s blessing. Let us bring our gifts with generous hearts, in gratitude, for what God has done.

February Benevolence—Indiana-Kentucky Conference Disaster Preparedness and Response Ministry

****Doxology**

We Give Thanks—Generous and gracious God, may these gifts we bring before you witness to the glory of your handiwork. May they provide warmth, light, and comfort to those in need of your care. May they strengthen our ministry that through them we might serve your children. Amen.

Hymn

God, You Spin the Whirling Planets, 24

Benediction—The dark and cold of winter may be long and hard at times, but even in the darkest of nights, the light of God shines. God’s faithfulness abounds.

****A Choral Benediction**

May the love of God live in us today.
 May the light of God shine on us today.
 May the light of God shine on us today.
 May it show us where to travel,
 Lead us back if we should stray.
 May the light of God shine on us today.
 May the love of God live in us today.

May the love of God live in us today.
 May the warmth we feel within us
 Show in all we do and say.
 May the love of God live in us today.
 May the peace of God be with us today.
 May the peace of God be with us today.
 May it guide us and protect us

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As we go our separate ways,
May the peace of God be with us,

May the love of God live in us,
May the light of God shine on us today.

Postlude

Reverie Religieuse

+UCC Worship Ways