



*But, in accordance with God's promise,
we wait for new heavens and a new
earth, where righteousness is at home.
2 Peter 2:13*

APRIL 25, 2021
WATTS STREET BAPTIST CHURCH
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

THE WORSHIP OF GOD
APRIL 25, 2021
THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

GATHERING

Chimes

Welcome – Dorisanne Cooper

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Light

Prelude: “Many and Great, O God”Carlton R. Young

Introduction and Stanza 1

Many and great, O God, are your works, maker of earth and sky.
Your hands have set the heavens with stars;
your fingers spread the mountains and plains.
Lo, at your word the waters were formed; deep seas obey your voice.

PRAISING GOD

Call to Worship

Minister: Morning has broken!

People: We gather to greet the new day by praising God.

Minister: God created us for relationship with God, one another, and the earth.

People: Let us honor these relationships today and every day.

Minister: May we commit to new ways of honoring God’s creation as a means of sharing Jesus’ transforming love.

People: And let us seek God’s grace, justice, and mercy for all.

Hymn 61: “All Things Bright and Beautiful”ROYAL OAK

Time with Children – Esther Soud Parker

PRAYING TOGETHER

Minister: What does our relationship with the natural world tell others about our relationship with the Creator? For those who are suffering from environmental injustice or racism, those who do not have access to clean water, those who suffer health impacts from air pollution and oceans overwhelmed with plastic, for the

next generation facing the fear of climate catastrophe, Lord, hear our prayer. We offer now our prayers of petition and confession, first in silence.

Silent Prayer

Prayer for Faithful Leadership on Climate – Kelly Sasser

Minister: Creator God, we declare with joy and trust that our world belongs to you. For the fierce love with which you hold us and the rest of your creation, we declare:

People: Our world belongs to God.

Minister: For creation's awesome beauty and its bountiful provision, we declare:

People: Our world belongs to God.

Minister: For the manifold ways that it reveals your glory and draws us closer to you, we declare:

People: Our world belongs to God.

Minister: Amidst its present groaning, we declare:

People: Our world, broken and scarred, still belongs to God.

Minister: To our leaders, gathering together to seek answers to the climate crisis, we declare:

People: Our world belongs to God.

Minister: May our leaders be motivated by compassion, and not by fear. May their goal be justice and equity, not political posturing. For the sake of the people and the ministries of your Church across the globe already being affected by climate disruption, may we seek consensus over controversy, action over apathy.

For the sake of our children and grandchildren, we confess our complicity in creation's degradation, recommit ourselves to our earth-keeping task, and gratefully declare:

People: Our world belongs to God.

Minister: As your people, participating now in your ongoing work of renewal and longing for the day when you will bring that work to completion, we declare:

People: Our world belongs to God.

Minister: Our world belongs to you.

People: Hallelujah! Come, Lord Jesus.

TENDING TO THE WORD

Readings: Job 12:7-10; Psalm 96:11-13a; 2 Peter 3:13

Minister: The Word of God for the People of Christ.

People: May the Spirit grant us understanding.

Meditation – Dorisanne Cooper

Silence

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Minister: We enjoy the beauty, diversity, and power of God’s creation. We are also called to be its faithful stewards and caretakers so that future generations might rejoice in it, too.

People: Let us offer back our gifts of money, skills, service, and commitment to our ongoing shared work with our Creator.

Receiving Our Gifts

Offertory: “Ride On, King Jesus”arr. Hall Johnson

Doxology.....LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing, Let Christendom with praises ring. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Christ is alive! This be our song! To God all praises now belong. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Prayer of Dedication

COMMITTING OUR LIVES IN FAITH

“Building the Beloved Community”

Invitation

Hymn 62: “Creator God, Creating Still” ST. ANNE

Benediction

Carrying the Light into the World

Postlude: “Many and Great, O God” (Stanza 2) Mark Sedio

Grant unto us communion with you, O star-abiding One.

Come unto us and dwell with us;

with you are found the gifts of life.

Bless us with life that has no end, eternal life with you.

Worship Leaders: Tom Bloom, Dorisanne Cooper, Esther Soud Parker, Kelly Sasser, Melody Zentner

Music Credits: Prelude: Carlton R. Young (© 2009 Augsburg Fortress) Postlude: Mark Sedio (© 2007 Augsburg Fortress)

Hymn Credits: © 1995, Chalice Press, All rights reserved. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-700000. All rights reserved.

It is the practice and policy of Watts Street Baptist Church
to welcome and affirm all persons, regardless of race, class, origin,
sexual orientation, or any other distinction.

We welcome as Members those who profess “Jesus is Lord.”

We receive members through baptism or by transfer of letter from another congregation.

We also welcome Friends who maintain membership elsewhere.

Watts Street Baptist Church (919) 688-1366 www.wattsstreet.org

61 All Things Bright and Beautiful

All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea - tures great and small,

all things wise and won - der - ful, in love God made them all.

Fine

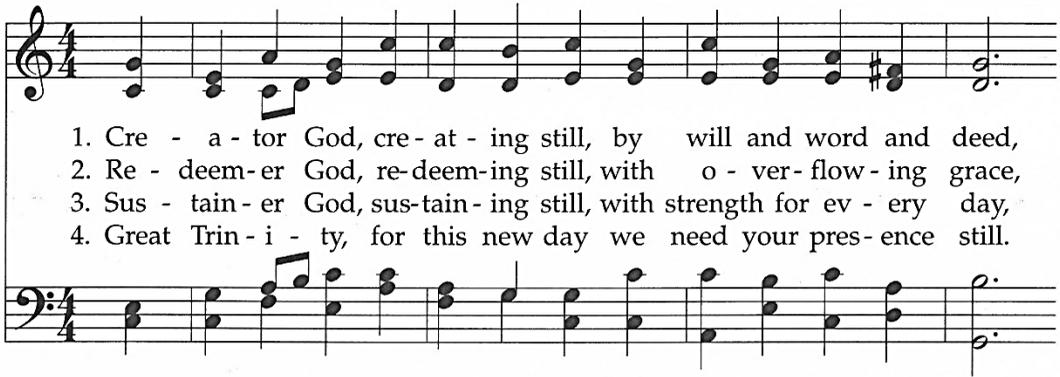
1. Each lit - tle flower that op - ens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
2. The pur - ple - head - ed moun - tain, the riv - er run - ning by,
3. The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun,

God made their glow - ing col - ors, and made their tin - y wings.
 the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright - ens up the sky.
 the ripe fruits in the gar - den, God made them ev - ery one.

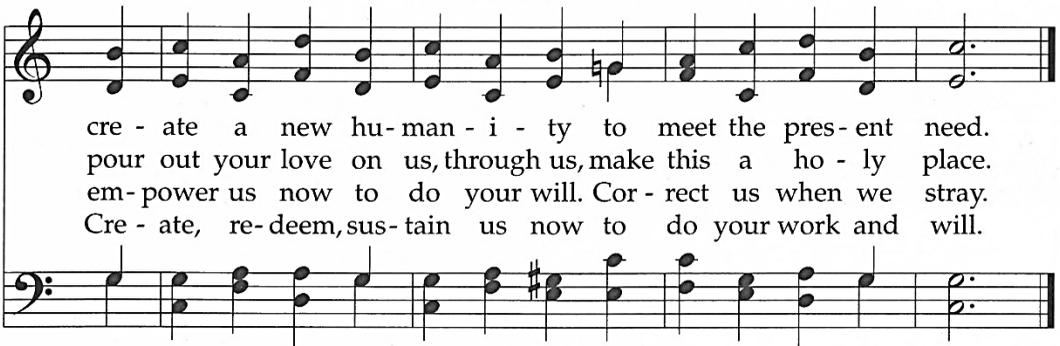
D.C.

Creator God, Creating Still

62



1. Cre - a - tor God, cre - at - ing still, by will and word and deed,
2. Re - deem-er God, re-deem-ing still, with o - ver-flow - ing grace,
3. Sus - tain-er God, sus-tain - ing still, with strength for ev - ery day,
4. Great Trin - i - ty, for this new day we need your pres - ence still.



cre - ate a new hu - man - i - ty to meet the pres - ent need.
pour out your love on us, through us, make this a ho - ly place.
em - power us now to do your will. Cor - rect us when we stray.
Cre - ate, re - deem, sus - tain us now to do your work and will.

WORDS: Jane Parker Huber, 1977
MUSIC: Attr. William Croft, 1708

ST. ANNE
CM

Words © 1980 Jane Parker Huber