



**First Church of Christ in Mansfield  
(Congregational) United Church of Christ**

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Ministers: All the Members of the Church  
Erik Haeger, Organist  
Olivia Russell, Worship Circle Coordinator

**Music for a Summer Sunday ~ August 25, 2024**

Today's Worship Leader: Laurel Thurman

*Reflections in today's service are taken from "Music for Your Heart:  
Reflections from Your Favorite Songs" by Ace Collins*

**Chimes and Prelude**

*"Rock of Ages"*

Erik Haeger

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Centering in the Spirit**

**\*Opening Hymn**

*Shall We Gather at the River, verses 1 and 4*

CH701

**Responsive Reading** (e.e. cummings and Psalm 100)

*i thank You God for most this amazing day:  
for the leaping greenly spirits of trees  
and a blue true dream of sky; and for everything  
which is natural which is infinite which is yes*

**Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with  
gladness; come into God's presence with singing.**

*i who have died am alive again today,  
and this is the sun's birthday; this is the birth  
day of life and of love and wings: and of the gay  
great happening illimitably earth*

**Know that the Lord is God. It is God who made us, and to whom we  
belong; we are God's people, and the sheep of our Creator's pasture.**

*how should tasting touching hearing seeing  
breathing any -- lifted from the no  
of all nothing -- human merely being  
doubt unimaginable You?*

**Enter God's gates with thanksgiving, and the Holy One's courts with  
praise. Give thanks to the Lord, bless God's name.**

*now the ears of my ears awake and  
now the eyes of my eyes are opened*

**For the Lord is good; God's steadfast love endures forever, and  
God's faithfulness to all generations.**

**Prayer of Praise and Adoration**

**God of light, God of music, we praise you for the gift of life, you who gave your Son life to defeat death and sin. When in our music you are glorified, it is as though the whole creation cries, "Alleluia!" All praise be to you, Gracious God, through your Son, our risen Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever and to ages of ages. Amen.**

\***Musical Response**      *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee, verses 1 and 4*      CH2

**Reading and Reflection**      Matthew 10:29-31      Don Baxter

**Musical Response**      *His Eye Is On the Sparrow*      CH82

**Reading and Reflection**      Romans 8:28      Jo-Ann Waide Wunschel

**Musical Response**      *He's Got the Whole World in His Hands*  
(ASL interpretation by Jo-Ann Waide Wunschel)

He's got the whole world in his hands,  
He's got the whole world in his hands,  
He's got the whole world in his hands,  
He's got the whole world in his hands.

He's got the wind and the rain in his hands,  
He's got the wind and the rain in his hands,  
He's got the wind and the rain in his hands,  
He's got the whole world in his hands.

He's got the tiny little baby in his hands,  
He's got the tiny little baby in his hands,  
He's got the tiny little baby in his hands,  
He's got the whole world in his hands.

He's got you and me brother, in his hands,  
He's got you and me sister, in his hands,  
He's got everybody in his hands,  
He's got the whole world in his hands.

**Reading and Reflection**

Matthew 5:15-16

Julia Sherman

**Musical Response**

*This Little Light of Mine*

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine,  
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine  
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine,  
Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine,  
Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine,  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

**Reading and Reflection**

2 Corinthians 4:13

Paul Tanner

**Musical Response**

*Amazing Grace*

CH546

**\*Call to Prayer**

*Standing in the Need of Prayer*, verses 1 and 4

CH579

**Prayers of the People and the Prayer of Jesus**

*Please pray the Prayer of Jesus in whatever language is comfortable for you.  
The following are offered as examples...*

**Our Father/Mother/Creator,  
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/sins/trespases,  
as we forgive our debtors/those who sin/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. Amen.**

**Invitation to Generosity**

**Musical Offering**

*"Morning Has Broken"* Laurel Thurman and Cheryl Chase

**\*Doxology**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God all creatures here below.  
Praise God for all that love has done.  
Creator, Christ, and Spirit: One.*

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

Lord, we dedicate these offerings to the work of the church, and we ask you to use all that we have and all that we are in your service. Amen.

**\*Closing Hymn**

*"Let All Things Now Living"*

CH 717

**\*Benediction**

**\*Blessing and Sending**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

**We go into the world to live our faith.**

**\*Musical Passing the Peace**

*"Peace Be With You"*

Christopher Grundy

(First time: Cantor; Second time: Everyone)

Peace be with you, peace be with you. Peace be with you now,  
God's peace to you. Peace be-hind you, peace be-fore you.  
Peace be all a - round in Je - sus Christ.