

“So Will I”

God of creation
There at the start
Before the beginning of time
With no point of reference
You spoke to the dark
And fleshed out the wonder of light

(CHORUS)

God of Your promise
You don't speak in vain
No syllable empty or void
For once You have spoken
All nature and science
Follow the sound of Your voice
(CHORUS x2)

CHORUS

And as You speak
A hundred billion galaxies are born
In the vapor of Your breath the planets form
If the stars were made to worship so will I
I can see Your heart in everything You've made
Every burning star
A signal fire of grace
If creation sings Your praises so will I

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“Season of Creation”

**TO HOPE AND ACT
WITH CREATION**



Pastor Steven Clark
Sunday, September 29, 2024
10:30 AM Divine Worship

**ORDER OF WORSHIP
SEPTEMBER 29, 2024
NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

*is the invitation for worshipers to rise in body or in spirit.

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

Gathering for Worship

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements and Stilling Silence

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

***Call to Worship**

Come, let us worship God, who gifted us with life and Creation to sustain life.

We praise God for the wondrous Creation.

Come, let us follow the Lord Jesus Christ, who inspires us to hope and act for justice and righteousness.

We give glory to God, who restores the groaning Creation and the vulnerable.

Come let us move with the Holy Spirit, striving to establish justice and produce the firstfruits of hope.

We praise God for the abundant life that is assured to all Creation. Hallelujah!

***Opening Hymn:** *“Give Glory to God, All You Heavenly Creatures”* RED #114

**Romans 8:18-25
(NRSVUE)**

18 I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us.

19 For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God,

20 for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope

21 that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

22 We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor,

23 and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for the adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

24 For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees?

25 But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 29, 2024

COFFEE WITH PASTOR

Please sign up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board outside the Sanctuary.

DEACONS FUND

Our monthly Deacon's Fund offering will be October 20, 2024. This offering helps our church serve the needs of our community in times of crisis. Please consider giving to this important fund.

JOURNEY THROUGH THE PAST

Six Mile Run is again participating in the Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Commission's *Journey Through the Past*. We will welcome visitors interested in exploring historic sites throughout the county, of which we are obviously one! If you are available to help staff the facility during any of the following hours of operation, please let Robin Suydam, Jim Patko, or Pastor Steven know: Saturday, Oct 12 from 10:00 to 5:00, and Sunday, Oct 13 from 12:00 to 4:00. Thank you!

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

Sunday, Oct 6 is World Communion Sunday. It is a day set aside on our liturgical calendar to partake of the Lord's Supper while discerning, in that meal, the Lord's body—that is, the worldwide communion of the Lord's body of believers across all boundaries: national, ethnic, racial, sexual, denominational, etc. Please save the date to help SMR celebrate, rejoicing in the knowledge that the same sacrament is being celebrated across the globe that very morning!

GREEN TEAM MEETING OCT 20TH

Stick around after service on Oct 20th for a Green Team Meeting led by Robin Suydam to discuss practical ways we can make our individual lives and our church itself more environmentally friendly.

Call to Remember and Confess

Unison Prayer of Confession:

Eternal God, the whole world is full of Your glory. And yet we bear forth to You the anguish of creation in this time of climate crisis. Indeed, we bear forth to You our complicity in all the many forces which reject the gift of all You have made in favor of the tunnel vision of profit and convenience. Lord, have mercy. In Your grace, grant us the opportunity to do better. Make us more sensitive to the suffering of humankind and the entire planet. Strengthen us in our endeavors to create a life of dignity, in justice and solidarity with those who live and will live. For we ask in the name of the Creator who took on creation, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Personal Silent Confession

Words of Assurance:

Gloria: “*Sing Praises to Your Creator*” RED #550

Praise the LORD, all mountains and oceans, rolling thunder and wind
and storm clouds on high.

Praise the LORD your Maker, all living creatures, all the beasts in the fields
and birds in the sky.

***Passing of The Peace** L: The peace of Christ be with you!
 P: And also with you!
 L: Share the peace of Christ with your neighbor!

***Hymn of Peace:** “*Alleluia, Alleluia*” RED #958

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

THE WORD OF GOD

Let us prepare for the Word of God as it comes to us in the reading of the Holy Scriptures. **Speak Lord, for Your servants are listening.**

Scriptures: Romans 8:18-25 (Page 7)

Sermon: *“Season of Creation”*

Meditation Hymn: *“Let All Creation’s Wonders”* RED #555

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

The Affirmation of Faith

We have faith in one God,
one Source of all life,
one Ground of the whole Earth,
who created all things good.
And we have faith in Christ,
in whom we have been shown the special role of humanity to bear God’s likeness
in working and caring for Creation,
in seeking to understand her mysteries and powers,
and in working with these powers
for the wellbeing of life on Earth.
And we have faith in God’s Spirit,
who leads us to a meek, unselfish, and compassionate lifestyle,
so that the Earth is inherited in peace,
her life is transformed for all creatures,
and her bounty shared justly.
This we believe, as disciples of Christ. Amen.

Call to Self– Offering

Presentation of God’s Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory:

***Doxology:** *“All Glory, Laud and Honor”*

All glory, laud, and honor to you, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

***Prayer of Dedication**

Gathering of Joys & Concerns

Prayers of the People & The Lord’s Prayer

Responsive Refrain: Creator God, may we hope and act with Creation.

**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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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.**

***Special Music:** *“So Will I (100 Billion X)”* (Page 8)

Words and Music by Joel Houston Benjamin Hastings and Michael Fatkin

***Benediction**

Postlude

Today’s liturgical color is **Green** for the Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost.