

June 4, 2023



Plural Imperative

*Sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
Sing to the Lord, praise his name;
proclaim his salvation day after day.
Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous deeds among all peoples.*

Notice the verbs. They're all plural, in the imperative mood.

God has *commanded all of us* to worship.

And there can be nothing stale about worship.

We're to sing something "new," meaning that we're to sing in a way that reflects our deep conviction that God's mercies are new every day.

We're to do this "among the nations," meaning that people everywhere will notice the vibrancy of our worship and want to know more about God.

And again, since it's all plural, it means that God intends for us to do this *together*.

Why?

It can't be that God *needs* our praise. God has been a community of mutual adoration of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit for all eternity.

No, God *created us* for worship. God created us in his own image, and he is, in divine essence, a worshipping community. It's in worshipping together that we become our best and truest selves.

This Sunday, we welcome our new Minister of Music, Sean Baran, with joyful music and by reflecting on some of the reasons why we worship.

Come to worship. Resolve to not miss worship again.

God uses each of our voices and all of our prayers to make each and every one of us into the persons he created us to be.

Jon

Tom's Blog



WORSHIP SERVICE – 10:45 am

We Gather Around the Word

Prelude: “*Oh Lord! What a Morning*”
Emma Lou Diemer

Sean Baran, *organ*

“*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*”
Emma Lou Diemer

Time of Welcome

Rev. Tom Hall, *Senior Pastor*

***Responsive Call to Worship**

Kathy Davis, *Elder*

Leader: Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord.

People: Let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

Leader: Let us come before him with thanksgiving.

People: Let us extol him with music and song.

Leader: For the Lord is the great God.

People: He is the great King above all gods.

Leader: In his hand are the depths of the earth.

People: The mountain peaks belong to him.

Leader: The sea is his, for he made it.

People: His hands formed the dry land.

All: Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker.

***Hymn:** “*Sing Praise to The Lord*” (*located in this bulletin*)

Unison Prayer of Confession

Heavenly Father, you made us in your image, to reflect back to you a bit of your own goodness, joy, grace, and love. But we confess that we have worshipped false gods: busy-ness, popularity, money, and success. Gracious and Loving God, forgive us. Fill us with awe and wonder, so that we may sing your praise in all the earth. *Amen.*

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Children’s Message

Rev. Tom Hall

We Listen for the Word

Scripture Reading: Psalm 96:1-13

Sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all the earth.

² Sing to the LORD, praise his name;
proclaim his salvation day after day.

³ Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous deeds among all peoples.
⁴ For great is the LORD and most worthy of praise;
he is to be feared above all gods.
⁵ For all the gods of the nations are idols,
but the LORD made the heavens.
⁶ Splendor and majesty are before him;
strength and glory are in his sanctuary.
⁷ Ascribe to the LORD, all you families of nations,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
⁸ Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
bring an offering and come into his courts.
⁹ Worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness;
tremble before him, all the earth.
¹⁰ Say among the nations, "The LORD reigns."
The world is firmly established, it cannot be moved;
he will judge the peoples with equity.
¹¹ Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad;
let the sea resound, and all that is in it.
¹² Let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them;
let all the trees of the forest sing for joy.
¹³ Let all creation rejoice before the LORD, for he comes,
he comes to judge the earth.
He will judge the world in righteousness
and the peoples in his faithfulness.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon - "Earth and All Stars"

Rev. Tom Hall

Hymn: "Behold the Lamb" (*located in this bulletin*)

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

We Respond to the Word

Pastoral Prayer and 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 debts, as we
forgive our debtors; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever. *Amen.*

Call for the Offering (*Online giving available, scan code on back*)

Anthem: "Psalm 34"

Shane Bernard and Joe Rigney

Torey Gricks and Anna Bencivenga, *soloists*

Dwayne Dolphin, *bass*

Drew Fennell, *trumpet*

Verse 1:

*I sought the Lord
And He answered me,
And delivered me
From every fear.*

*Those who look on Him
Are radiant.
They'll never be ashamed;
They'll never be ashamed.*

*This poor man cried
And the Lord heard me
And saved me from
My enemies.*

*The Son of God
Surrounds His saints.
He will deliver them;
He will deliver them.*

Chorus:

*Magnify the Lord with me!
Come exalt His name together.
Glorify the Lord with me.
Come exalt His name forever!*

Verse 2:

*O taste and see
That the Lord is good.
O blessed is he
Who hides in Him.*

*O, fear the Lord
O, all you saints.*

*He'll give you everything;
He'll give you everything.*

Chorus:

Magnify the Lord with me!

Bridge:

*Let us bless the Lord
Every day and night
Never ending praise
May our incense rise (x4)*

Chorus:

Magnify the Lord with me ...

Ending:

*O taste and see
That the Lord is good.
He'll give you everything,
He'll give you everything.*

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; alleluia, alleluia!
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost: alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, alleluia.

***Prayer of Dedication**

We Follow the Word into the World

Commissioning of Music Minister Sean Baran

Rev. Tom Hall

Commissioning of Cellar Director Joann Galinowski

Recognition of Service of Clerk of Session Kathie Haffly

***Hymn: "Earth and All Stars"** (*located in this bulletin*)

***Invitation and Charge**

***Benediction**

Postlude: "Toccata for a Joyful Day"

Emma Lou Diemer

Sean Baran, *organ*

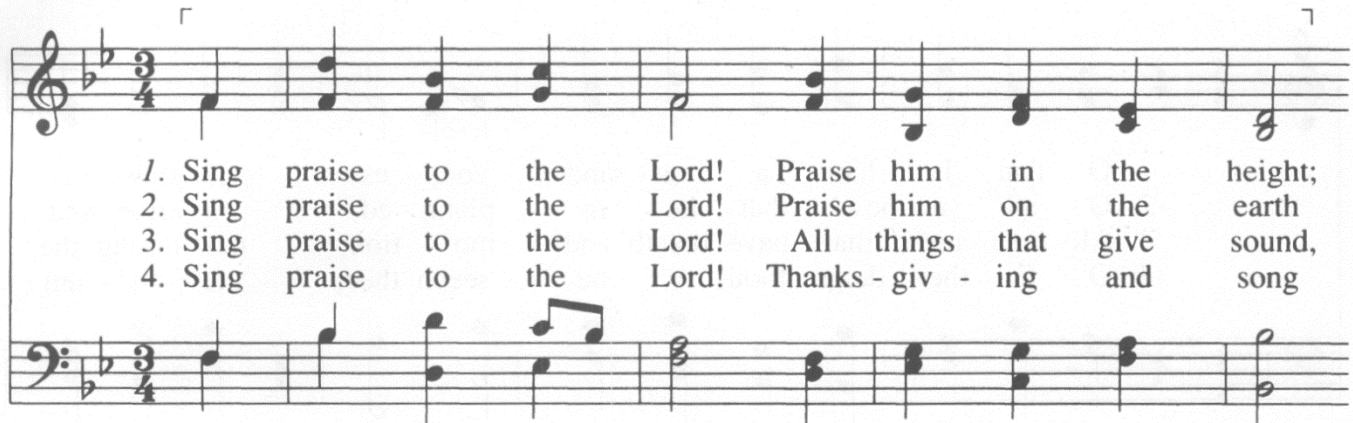
**Please stand as you are able*

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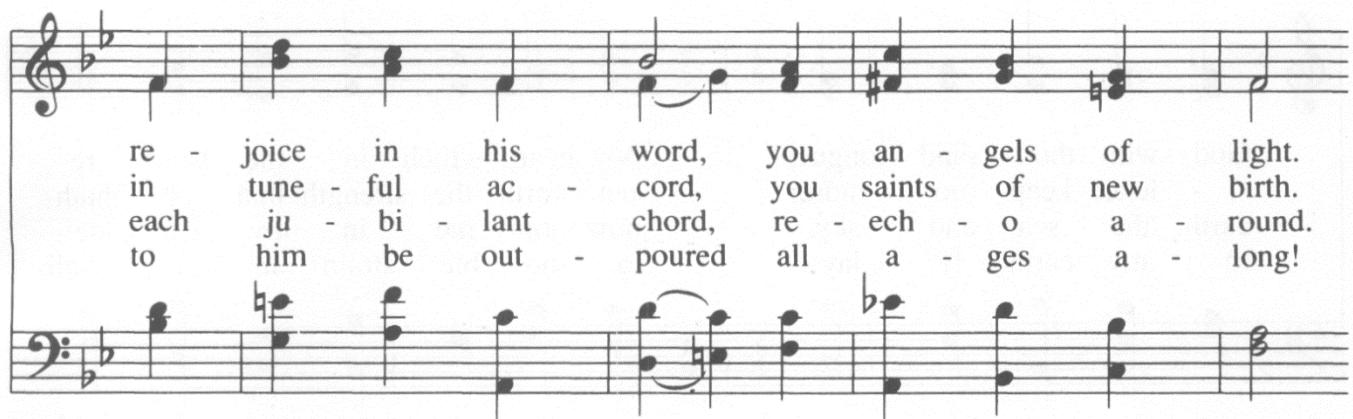
Sing Praise to the Lord!

21

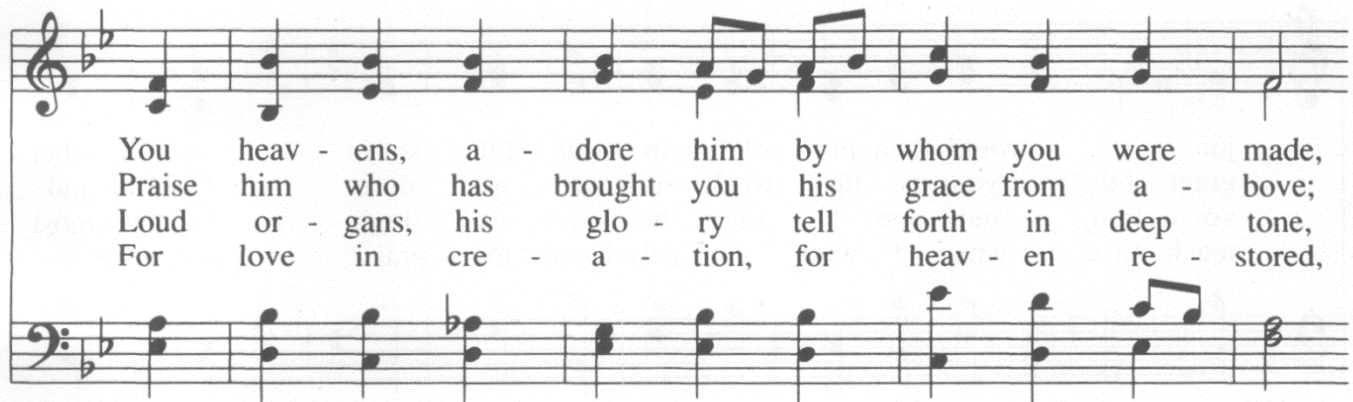
Praise the LORD. Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens.
Ps. 150:1



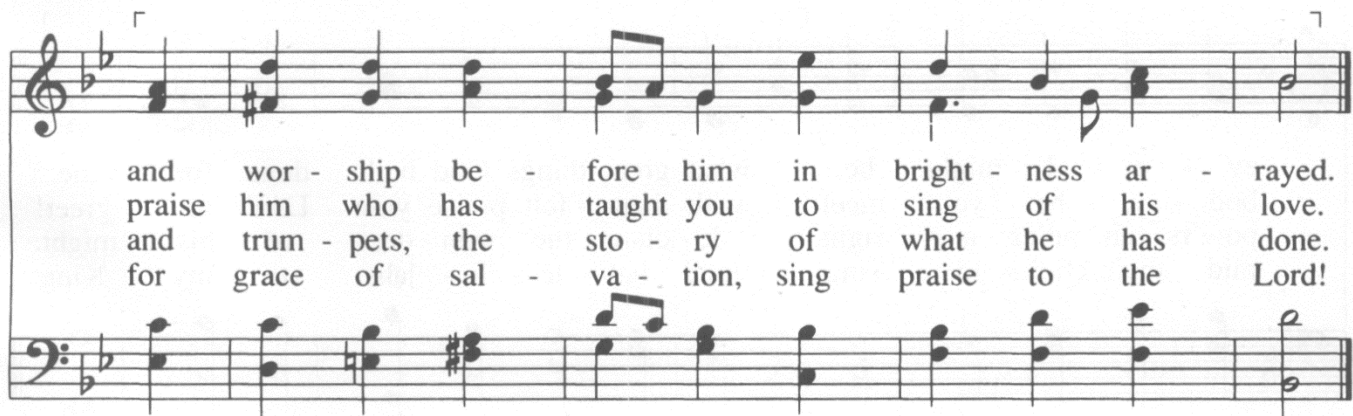
1. Sing praise to the Lord! Praise him in the height;
2. Sing praise to the Lord! Praise him on the earth
3. Sing praise to the Lord! All things that give sound,
4. Sing praise to the Lord! Thanks - giv - ing and song



re - joice in his word, you an - gels of light.
in tune - ful ac - cord, you saints of new birth.
each ju - bi - lant chord, re - ech - o a - round.
to him be out - poured all a - ges a - long!



You heav - ens, a - dore him by whom you were made,
Praise him who has brought you his grace from a - bove;
Loud or - gans, his glo - ry tell forth in deep tone,
For love in cre - a - tion, for heav - en re - stored,



and wor - ship be - fore him in bright - ness ar - rayed.
praise him who has taught you to sing of his love.
and trum - pets, the sto - ry of what he has done.
for grace of sal - va - tion, sing praise to the Lord!

Behold the Lamb



1 Be - hold the Lamb, who bears our sins a - way, slain for us - and we re-mem-ber
 2 The bo - dy of our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ, torn for you - eat and re-mem-ber
 3 The blood that clean - ses ev - ery stain of sin, shed for you - drink and re-mem-ber
 4 And so with thank - ful - ness and faith we rise to respond - and to re-mem-ber



the pro - mise made, that all who come in faith find for-give-ness at the cross. So we
 the wounds that heal; the death that brings us life paid the price to make us one. So we
 he drained death's cup, that all may en - ter in to re-ceive the life of God. So we
 our call to fol - low in the steps of Christ as his bod - y here on earth. As we



share in this bread of life, and we drink of his sac - ri - fice as a sign of our
 share in this bread of life, and we drink of his sac - ri - fice as a sign of our
 share in this bread of life, and we drink of his sac - ri - fice as a sign of our
 14 share in his suf - fer - ing, we pro claim Christ will come a - gain! And we'll join in the



bonds of peace a-round the ta-ble of the King.
 bonds of love a-round the ta-ble of the King.
 bonds of grace a-round the ta-ble of the King.
 feast of heaven a-round the ta-ble of the King.

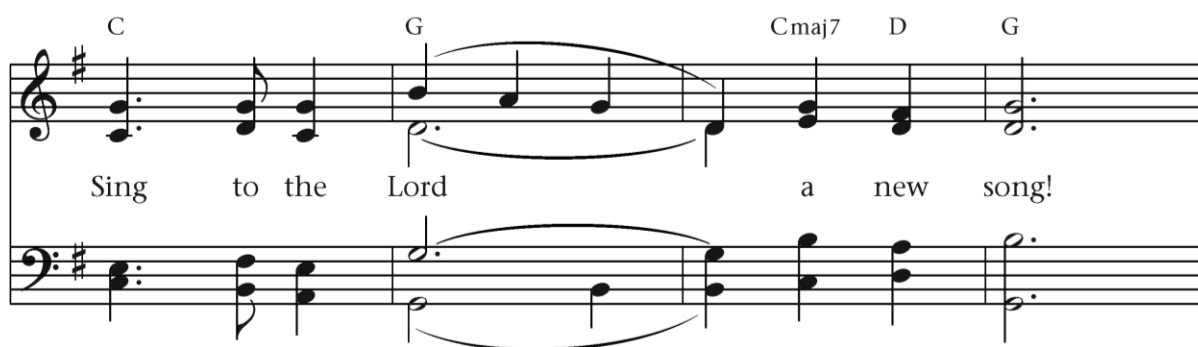
Earth and All Stars

G D Em Bm



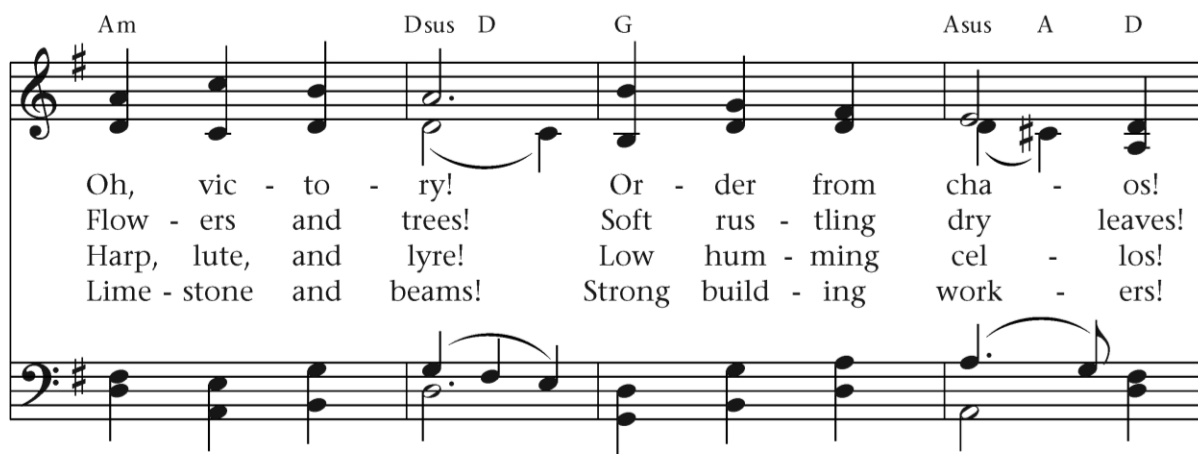
1 Earth and all stars! Come, rush - ing plan - ets!
 2 Hail, wind, and rain! Come, blow - ing snow - storms!
 3 Trum - pet and pipes! Come, clash - ing cym - bals!
 4 En - gines and steel! Come, pound - ing ham - mers!

C G Cmaj7 D G



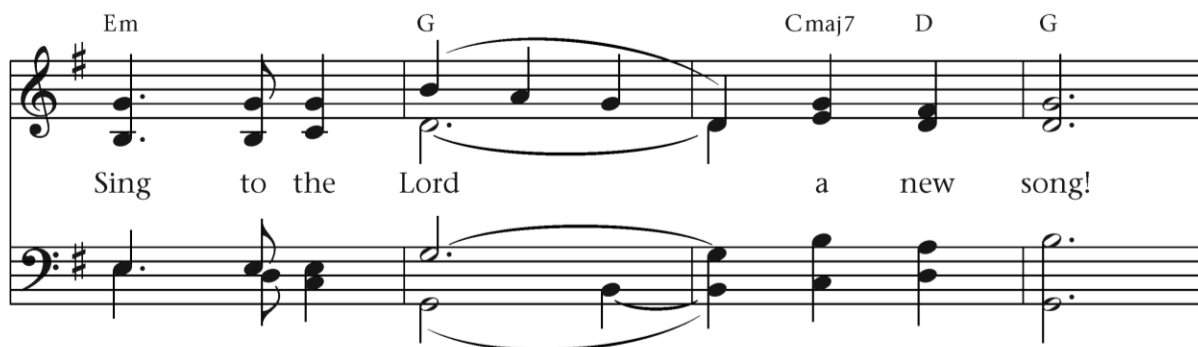
Sing to the Lord a new song!

Am Dsus D G Asus A D



Oh, vic - to - ry! Or - der from cha - os!
 Flow - ers and trees! Soft rus - tling dry leaves!
 Harp, lute, and lyre! Low hum - ming cel - los!
 Lime - stone and beams! Strong build - ing work - ers!

Em G Cmaj7 D G



Sing to the Lord a new song!

Refrain D

He has done mar - vel - ous things.

I too will praise him with a new song!

Em G Am D G

5 Classrooms and labs! Come, boiling test tubes!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Athlete and band! Loud cheering people!
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

6. Knowledge and truth! Come, piercing wisdom!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Children of God, dying and rising,
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

Ongoing/Upcoming Opportunities . . .

There will be No Nursery Next Sunday, June 11

Hospitality Hour

Join us after worship this morning for a time of refreshments and fellowship in the chapel. If you're visiting with us, we would especially like to get to know you!

Birthday Blessings to:

Gretchen Stryker, Lena Coleman, Cecelia Muraco, Kevin Coleman, and Ryan Croyle!

Welcome our new Music Minister, Sean Baran!

Sean earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in music performance at Youngstown State University where he also taught piano and music theory for many years. He currently teaches piano and accompanies choirs at Lincoln Park Performing Arts Charter School in Midland, PA. His students perform and compete regularly, having presented music in venues such as Heinz Hall and even Carnegie Hall. For nine years, he was the organist at Boardman United Methodist Church in Youngstown, OH which is where a love for using the pipe organ to lead a congregation in song was ignited within him. Sean finds great joy in helping people grow closer to the mission of Jesus Christ by creating inspiring and rousing sounds that encourage all people to raise their voices in praise. He is thrilled to have this opportunity to utilize his gifts in the vibrant city of Pittsburgh. Outside of his musical endeavors, Sean often enjoys quiet hiking excursions, photographing the world to showcase the beauty surrounding us and relaxing with a video game.



Welcome our Cellar Director, Joanne Galinowski!

Joanne comes to FPCP from Family Guidance, where she served as Director of Mentoring for 16 years. As a result, she brings to her position as Director of The Cellar a wealth of experience in ministry to urban and often disadvantaged youth and their families. Over the years, she has worked with numerous churches in establishing youth mentoring programs. Joanne has also served with local Boys and Girls Clubs throughout the region. A lifelong Pittsburgher, Joanne lives in McKees Rocks with enjoys spending time with her cats.

Camp Sunday Picnic June 11th

Next Sunday June 11th is Camp Sunday! We will commission the summer staff of Ligonier Camp and Conference Center for ministry this summer. Join us for a picnic luncheon immediately following worship in the cafeteria. This is a great event to invite family and friends to! Cost is **\$10 for adults; \$5 for children** under 12, and **\$25 for a family** of four or more. Contact Hannah at 412-471-3436 or hdurant@fpcp.org to pre-register. You can also register after worship in the chapel. Volunteers are also needed for this event. Please let us know if you can help us in any way!

Final Arrangements Form

No one knows when God may call us home. Most of us have not made known our final wishes to our loved ones. In order that the church may best be prepared to serve you and your family during that most difficult of times, we ask that you take a few moments to consider your final arrangements. We created a form that we are asking you to fill out and send back to us that we will keep on file at the church. You can also keep a copy and share copies with your loved ones. Please pick up the form in the Trinity Hallway to fill out and send back to the church.

The Cellar Needs Your Help!

FPCP's high school afterschool program is the place to be for downtown teens! We've been averaging 10-12 kids each day from ten different schools. The kids are enjoying karaoke, games, and hanging out in our cozy Cellar room. We plan to keep the program going throughout the summer, as many have indicated that they would come downtown to join us, even if school's not in session. To keep costs down, we are asking First Church family and friends to consider donating our most needed items: **chips (all varieties); sodas (small cans); sweet snacks (Little Debbie is much loved); drink mixes (lemonade, flavored iced teas, etc).** As the program builds, we would also welcome volunteers who have a heart for urban teens. For more information, contact program director **Joanne Galinowski** at jgalinowski@fpcp.org or **Cheryl Swartz** at cswartz@fpcp.org.

A Note about This Morning's Music - - by Sean Baran

This morning's prelude and postlude selections are by Emma Lou Diemer. She has composed music for mediums such as orchestra, chamber music, piano, organ, and choir, and has performed her organ works in venues such as Washington's National Cathedral. Emma Lou Diemer is currently 95 years old and lives in Santa Barbara, California after a long career of university teaching, composing and performing.

I am thrilled to be at the helm of FPCP's glorious Casavant pipe organ, and I selected these pieces because they give me a chance to enjoy the instrument's many available sound colors. Each piece evokes a unique mood. *My Lord! What a Morning* contrasts the beautiful string celeste with the sound of two flutes. This registration reminds us that spirituals were often sung in a "call and response" manner by African American congregations in the early 20th century. As an added effect, the pedal gently plays a single note throughout, like a calm and faint heartbeat. *Joyful Joyful, We Adore Thee* presents a quirky set of variations on Beethoven's familiar tune with crisp articulations, and the right hand figures in *Toccata for a Joyful Day* sparkle over the organ's strong pedal tones.

The choral anthem, *Psalms 34*, was arranged by Carol Cymbala, the longtime director of the Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir, whose recording, available on YouTube, is really thrilling.

Earth and All Stars, our closing hymn, was written by Herbert Brokering in 1964 for the 90th anniversary of St. Olaf College in Minnesota. Brokering shares the following about this text: "I tried to gather into a hymn of praise the many facets of life which emerge in the life of community. So there are the references to building, nature, learning, family, war, festivity. Seasons, emotions, death and resurrection, bread, wine, water, wind, sun, spirit. . . have made great impressions on my imagination."

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Church Office hours are Monday – Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, 412-471-3436, www.fpcp.org.

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Sundays only, get your parking ticket stamped at the FPCP Welcome Center in the Narthex (front lobby). See the person in the payment booth at Mellon Square, Oliver Avenue or Smithfield Street garage to pay \$1 for parking.

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