

September 20, 2026

Williston-Immanuel United Church
Portland, Maine



Creativity



Welcome

Rev. Reba Delzell

***Gathering Song**

“As We Gather ”

Mike Faye & Tom Coomes

The Call to Fly

“Fly!”

Rev. Reba & Anna Heneise

**In my dreams I can fly
and I soar
and my feet touch the sky
and it seems I can go anywhere if I try
and the world's not so dark
when the clouds make it white
If there's no hope
tell me why
in my dreams I can fly**

We have the capacity to be creative because God is creative. Look at creation, at diversity. We are made in God's image. We have everything we need to make change; we have enough. We just need to stretch our imaginations, break out of constrained thinking.

**In our dreams we can fly
and we soar
and our feet touch the sky
and it seems we can go anywhere if we try
and the world's not so dark
when the clouds make it white
If there's no hope
tell us why
in our dreams we can fly**

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

The world needs to change, a lot.

There are so many things that need change,

and we can get overwhelmed,

especially if we think that we need to make all of the change by ourselves.

We need to remember that God is already at work.

God has been, and always will be, doing a new thing.

We are called to show up and cooperate with what God is doing!

We are the changemakers, and we are being made ready!

May we be changed by this time of worship!

***Hymn**

“All Creatures of Our God and King”

verses 1-3

Call to Confession

Rev. Reba & Anna Heneise

We are called to show up and cooperate with what God is doing, but that is often more difficult than it should be. Let us confess the times that we have failed to be a part of what God is already doing.

Holy One, you are always at work in the world,
and you call us to be a part of what you are doing.

But all too often, we don't see the creative opportunities that you have for us.

We think too narrowly about what we can give, what we can do.

We struggle to trust that you are at work within us as well.

All: Forgive us.

Forgive us for when we fail to see others.

Forgive us for when we failed to trust.

Forgive us for when we failed to risk vulnerability.

Forgive us, and change us again.

Remake us as the people who cooperate with your Spirit.

(Continued)

**Remake us as the Body of Christ,
that we would work for the healing of the world. Amen.**

Assurance and Peace

Hear this assurance of Good News: the scriptures say that God is making “all things new.” Transformation is the nature of the Divine One. We are imbued with the ability to be made new, and to make new things. All we need is to lean into this calling and to release our imaginations for the sake of love. In this moment we let go of all we have not done and recognize that each moment can be the start of something new. We have everything we need.

Peace be with you!

And also with you!

As forgiven and freed people through Christ,
let us pass the peace of Christ with one another as the children come forward.

The God Box

Susan Martin

Prayer of Illumination

Anna Heneise

**Holy One, help us to hear what you are doing in the Gospel.
Help us to hear the ways that we can
show up and cooperate with your Spirit.
May this story show us the way
to become a compassion-driven changemaker, like Jesus,
in whose name we pray. Amen.**

A Story about Creativity

Luke 7:36-50 (CEB)

Anna Heneise

Put peace into each other’s hands and like a treasure hold it; protect it like a candle flame with tenderness enfold it.

Put peace into each other’s hands with loving expectation; be gentle in your words and ways, in touch with God’s creation.

Put peace into each other’s hands, like bread we break for sharing; look people warmly in the eye: our life is meant for caring.

Give thanks for strong yet tender hands held out in trust and blessing. Where words fall short, let hands speak out, the heights of love expressing.

Put Christ into each other’s hands, he is love’s deepest measure; in love make peace, give peace a chance and share it like a treasure; and share it like a treasure.

The apostles gathered around Jesus and told him all that they had done and taught. He said to them, “Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.” For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them.

As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and he began to teach them many things. When it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, “This is a deserted place, and the hour is now very late; send them away so that they may go into the surrounding country and villages and buy something for themselves to eat.” But he answered them, “You give them something to eat.” They said to him, “Are we to go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give it to them to eat?” And he said to them, “How many loaves have you? Go and see.” When they had found out, they said, “Five, and two fish.”

Then he ordered them to get all the people to sit down in groups on the green grass. So they sat down in groups of hundreds and of fifties. Taking the five

loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to his disciples to set before the people, and he divided the two fish among them all. And all ate and were filled, and they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish. Those who had eaten the loaves numbered five thousand men.

Message

Living in the Estuary

Rev. Reba Delzell

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer *(Please use any name for God you prefer for 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. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Sung Prayer Response

“Let It Breathe on Me”

Magnolia Lewis-Butts

Let it breathe on me, Let it breathe on me.

Let the breath of the Lord now breathe on me;

Let it breathe on me, Let it breathe on me,

Let the breath of the Lord now breathe on me.

Ritual of Offering

Anna Heneise

Want to give electronically? See the back page. If you are new here and have filled out a “Wanna Do Some Good” form, please place it in the offertory plate so that we might donate \$5 to our special offering. If you give a cash donation, please use an envelope and designate where your offering should go.

***Doxology** “Let Us Be Makers” (Tune: Blessed Assurance verse and refrain)

**Let us be makers, makers of change,
compassion and courage for each new exchange.**

**As we discern, God, our offerings now,
gift us and bless us, show us just how.**

Praise to the Maker, the One who gives breath.

Praise to Christ Jesus, who reigns over death.

Praise to the Spirit, our strength and our friend.

Three-in-One present, world without end.

***Offertory Prayer**

***Hymn**

“God Reigns O'er All the Earth” Words: Jane Parker Huber

Announcements

Blessing

Postlude

Please stay for the congregational meeting to discuss important church business and look ahead to the coming year. Your presence and participation are important!

As We Gather

Pss. 86:12; 122:1

Words and Music by
MIKE FAYE and TOM COOMES

♩ = 60 to 69

ALL: unison

D F#m7 G2 G A9sus A7

As we gath - er, may _____ Your Spir - it work with - in us.

D2 D F#m7 G2 G Asus A

As we gath - er, may—— we glo - ri - fy Your name.

5 G2 G A D A C B sus 4/2 Bm7

Know - ing well that as— our hearts be - gin to wor - ship,—

Em7	<u>G</u> A	A7	Repeat Ending D	D.C.	Song Ending D	Optional Segue to D "See His Glory"

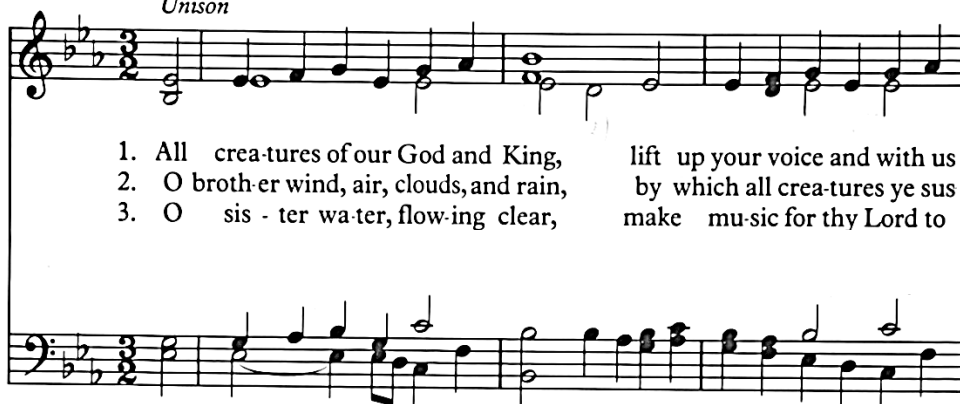
We'll be blessed be-cause—— we came. came. came.

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Topics: OPENING OF SERVICE; Holy Spirit
Congregation: Unison

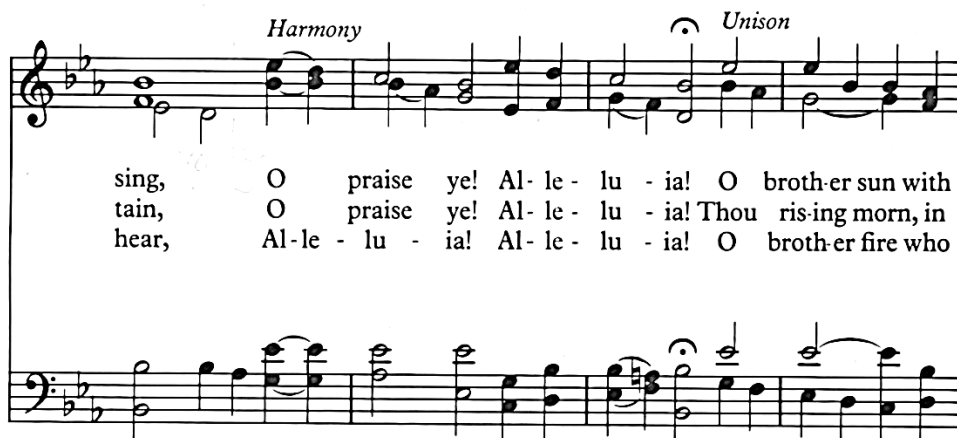
Unison



1. All crea-tures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us
 2. O broth-er wind, air, clouds, and rain, by which all crea-tures ye sus-
 3. O sis-ter wa-ter, flow-ing clear, make mu-sic for thy Lord to

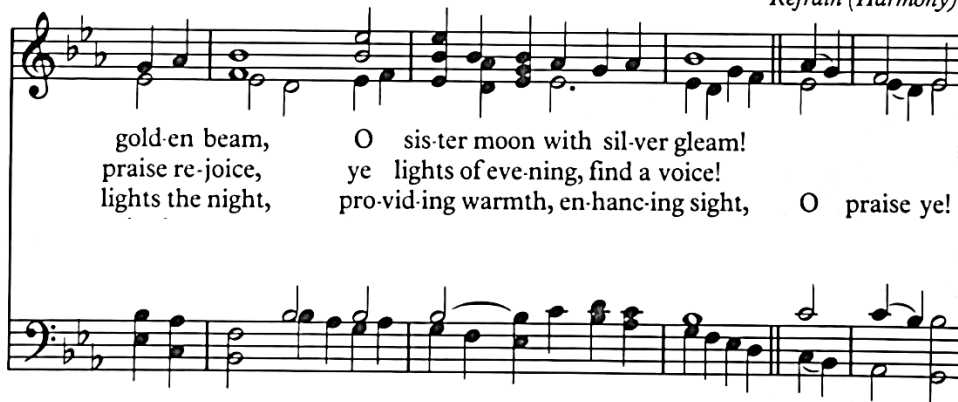
Harmony

Unison



sing, O praise ye! Al-le-lu-ia! O broth-er sun with
 tain, O praise ye! Al-le-lu-ia! Thou ris-ing morn, in
 hear, Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! O broth-er fire who

Refrain (Harmony)



gold-en beam, O sis-ter moon with sil-ver gleam!
 praise re-joice, ye lights of eve-ning, find a voice!
 lights the night, pro-vid-ing warmth, en-hanc-ing sight, O praise ye!

WORDS: Francis of Assisi, ca. 1225; trans. by
 William H. Draper, 1925, adapt. 1987

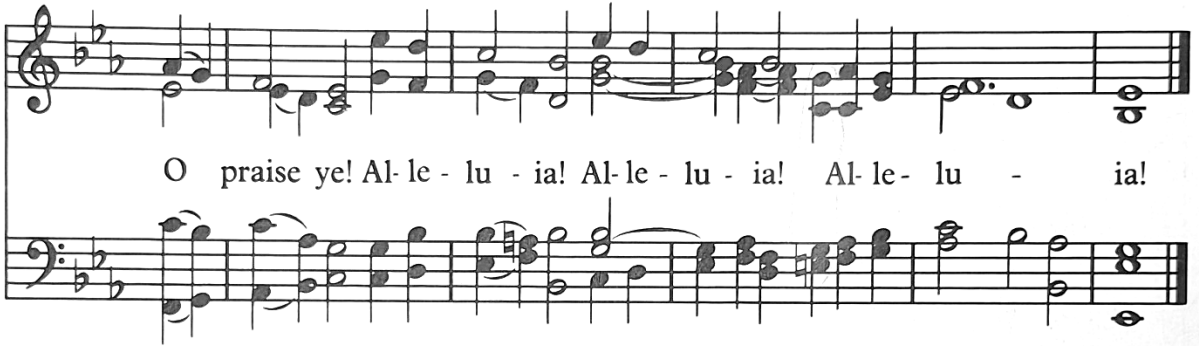
MUSIC: Geistliche Kirchengesänge, 1623; harm. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

Adapt. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

LASST UNS ERFREUEN
 88.44.88 with Refrain

(Continued)

Unison



There's always something happening at WIUC!

Bible Study: Mondays at 4:00 PM, Re-examine Jesus through a changemaking lens be inspired to be changemakers ourselves.

Dinner Church Monthly • 6:00 PM Good food, good company, and great conversation! For more info contact cookiedoe24@gmail.com

Café Conversations 3rd Wednesday • 8:00 AM at Coffee by Design on Diamond Street Coffee, friendship, and lively conversation.

Book Study: *The Inner Work of Age* 1st & 3rd Wednesday at 3:30 pm • Zoom.

Tai Chi at WIUC Interested in gentle movement and mindfulness? Join in on Sundays from September 27 - November 22, 2026 from 11:30-12:30

Come As You Are Choir (CAYA) Everyone has a gift to share! Sing with the “Come As You Are” Choir, no experience necessary. Next CAYA will be October 11th. Arrive to church at 9am to learn a song.

Game Nights The next Game Night is October 20 at 7 pm – in the Parlor. Bring a friend or two!

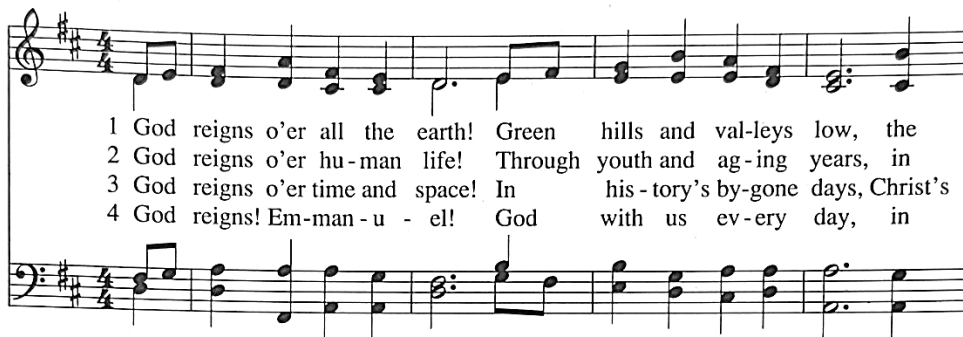
Movie Night The next Movie Night is Tuesday, October 6 in the Chapel

God Reigns o'er All the Earth

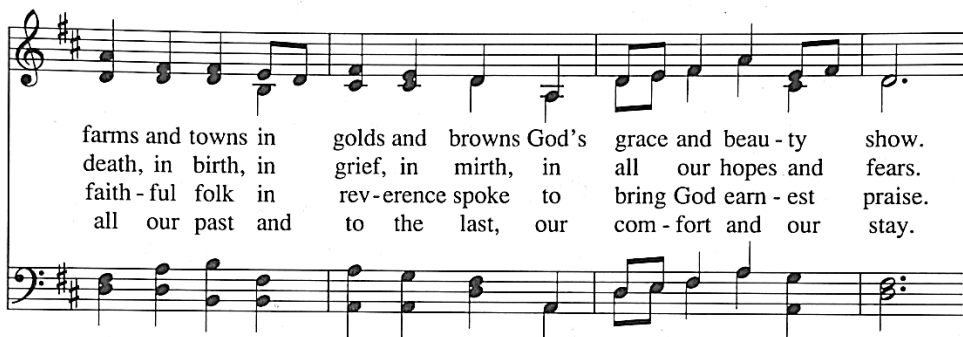
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Jane Parker Huber, 1981

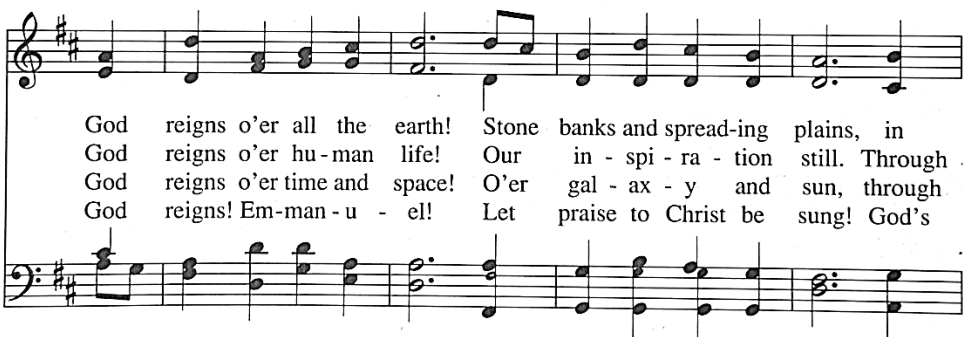
Isa. 52:7-10



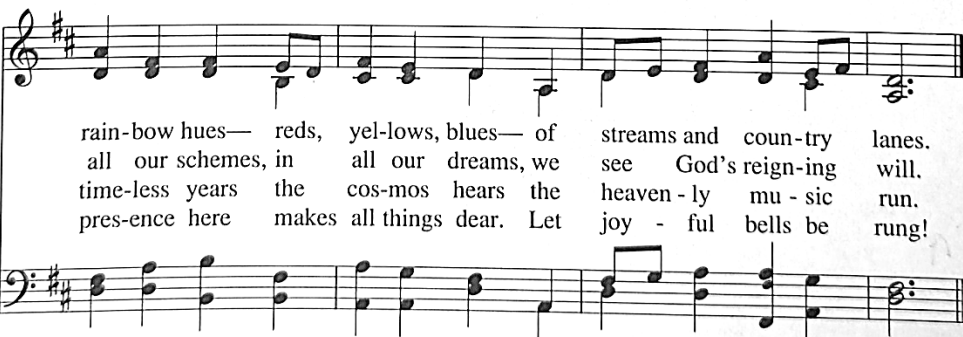
1 God reigns o'er all the earth! Green hills and val-leys low, the
2 God reigns o'er hu-man life! Through youth and ag-ing years, in
3 God reigns o'er time and space! In his-tory's by-gone days, Christ's
4 God reigns! Em-man-u-el! God with us ev-ery day, in



farms and towns in golds and browns God's grace and beau-ty show.
death, in birth, in grief, in mirth, in all our hopes and fears.
faith-ful folk in rev-erence spoke to bring God earn-est praise.
all our past and to the last, our com-fort and our stay.



God reigns o'er all the earth! Stone banks and spread-ing plains, in
God reigns o'er hu-man life! Our in-spi-ra-tion still. Through
God reigns o'er time and space! O'er gal-ax-y and sun, through
God reigns! Em-man-u-el! Let praise to Christ be sung! God's



rain-bow hues— reds, yel-lows, blues— of streams and coun-try lanes.
all our schemes, in all our dreams, we see God's reign-ing will.
time-less years the cos-mos hears the heaven-ly mu-sic run.
pres-ence here makes all things dear. Let joy-ful bells be rung!

The author's notes on this text describe it as a progression of awareness of God's reign among us—in physical surroundings, in the various stages of life, in time and space, and supremely in Christ, God with us.

Tune: TERRA BEATA S.M.D.
Traditional English melody
Adapt. Franklin L. Sheppard, 1915

New Here?

Fill out our “Wanna do some good?” form in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. We will donate \$5 in your name to our Special Offering this month and get you on our mailing list. Or you can simply text **WIUC** to **84576** to receive our **All-Church Email (ACE)**.

Who are we? Williston-Immanuel United Church is an inclusive Christian community that promotes faith, fellowship, social justice and love, compassionately reaching out to our broader community, celebrating our diversity, and affirming everyone’s spiritual journey. **Acceptance without conditions, affirmation without discrimination** these are the goals of Williston-Immanuel United Church. **For more info about us, go to www.wiuc.org**



CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Reba Delzell, *Pastor*
Denise Calkins, *Director of Music & Pianist*
Mick McDade, *Church Administrator*
Renée Michaud, *Building Manager*
Breelyn McClernand, *Childcare*



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