

God of the rainbow God of the cross God of the empty grave  
How does the creature say Grace  
How does the creature say Thanks

God of the hungry God of the sick God of the prodigal  
How does the creature say Care  
How does the creature say Life

God of the neighbor God of the foe God of the pruning hook  
How does the creature say Love  
How does the creature say Peace

God of the ages God near at hand God of the loving heart  
How do your children say Joy  
How do your children say Home

#### **Announcements**

#### **Benediction**

#### **Postlude**

##### **Announcements**

- **Look forward to our next Town Hall~ TODAY~ August 15th**
- **Building Dedication Service August 29<sup>th</sup>:** Worship @ 10:30, Dedication @ 11:30. Stay for Ice Cream, Tour, and Program
- **SELC Grand Opening Celebration: September 9<sup>th</sup>, 6-8 PM**  
See the new early learning center, learn about enrollment and hiring opportunities, donate to fund a new playground for SELC and the community
- **United Methodist Women regular meeting: September 17<sup>th</sup>,** time will be announced in the future
- **Free Lunch Program** is at the Masonic Temple. Preparation time is Monday 8/23 and Monday 8/30, between 9:00 and 11:00 AM. Distribution between 11:00 AM and Noon.

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## **Stevensville United Methodist Church**

### **August 15, 2021~9:00 & 10:30 AM**



**Pastor Sarah Merchant**

**Blessing of Animals:**

**“Digging for the (w)hole.”**

**Scripture: Genesis 2:18-20, 9:9-10**

## **Prelude**

## **Welcome**

### **Call to Worship**

Leader: Come, let us gather together.

**Response: Let us join the gathering: we bring fins and feathers.**

Leader: Come, all is ready for all of creation.

**Response: Let us join the gathering: we bring scales and fur.**

Leader: Come let us praise our Creator.

**Response: We are loved: we bring skin.**

Leader: Come, with fins, feathers, scales, fur and skin.

As we gather, we are mindful that, as part of God's creation, we wish the best for one another. Within this faith community we express this in prayer, and through blessing.

Let us pass God's blessing amongst one another: Peace be with you!

**Response: And also with you.**

### **Opening Song: For the Beauty of the Earth (UMH 92)**

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies;  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light;  
Lord of all to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,  
for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight;  
Lord of all to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,  
friends on earth and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild;  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For thy church, that evermore lifteth holy hands above,  
offering up on every shore her pure sacrifice of love;  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For thyself, best Gift Divine, to the world so freely given,  
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy  
in heaven:

Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

### **Children's Time (10:30 service)**

#### **Centering Song: Sanctuary**

Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary,  
Pure and holy tried and true.  
With thanksgiving I'll be a living  
Sanctuary, for You.

#### **Prayers of the Heart**

#### **Offering & Special Music**

#### **Scripture Lesson: Genesis 2:18-20, 9:9-10**

#### **Message: "Digging for the (w)hole:**

#### **Blessing of the Animals"**

#### **Sending Song:**

**(UMH 122)**

#### **God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale**

God of the sparrow God of the whale God of the swirling stars  
How does the creature say Awe  
How does the creature say Praise

God of the earthquake God of the storm  
God of the trumpet blast  
How does the creature cry Woe  
How does the creature cry Save