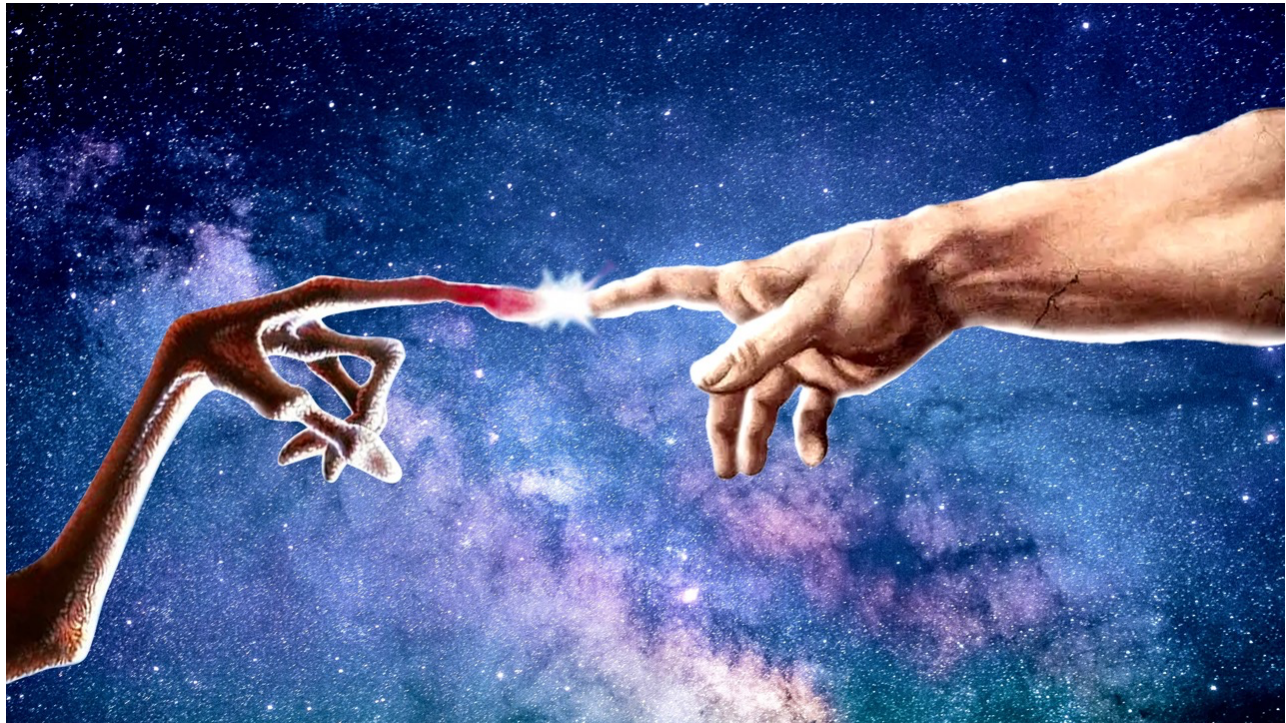




A Service of Worship • Worship for the 11th Sunday of Pentecost
Light Street Presbyterian Church • August 9th, 2026

Rev. Kate Morrison, Pastor • Robert Cantrell, Music Director • Colleen Seremet, Liturgist

Words of Welcome & Announcements

Gathering Music *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian*, arr. Phillip McIntyre
Christopher Chappelle, soloist

Call to Worship (Read bolded text communally)

God speaks peace to the faithful, to those who turn to God in their hearts.

Surely salvation is at hand for those who worship God.

Where God dwells, steadfast love and faithfulness meet;
righteousness and peace kiss each other.

Faithfulness springs up from the ground & righteousness looks down from the sky.

God gives what is good and we respond with abundant praise!

Let us worship our faithful God this day!

Hymn #679* *Let the Whole Creation Cry*

Call to Confession

The psalmist tells us that when we turn to God in our hearts, God speaks peace to the faithful. As we turn to God in true confession of our sin, we trust in God, whose peace makes us whole.

Prayer of Confession (Communal)

Gracious God, you call us to rely on our faith, trusting in you for all things. We respond to your command, but then allow doubt and fear to overcome us. We hide from the challenges of bold discipleship. We are not able to fulfill your commandments because our purposes are never in full accord with yours. Forgive us, we pray. Help us to practice our faith in all circumstances. Take us away from sin and wrap us in the arms of your mercy this day and forevermore.

(There follows a moment for silent personal confession.)

Sung Response

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

Assurance of Pardon & Passing of the Peace (Read bolded text communally)

Jesus is Lord! God raised him from the dead and we are saved through him.

This is the good news we believe in our hearts and confess with our voices: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven! This is good news to share with all people!

And as those who are forgiven, freed, and loved by God, let us now celebrate that love by sharing the peace of Christ with one another. The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Sung Response #741*

Guide My Feet (v. 3-4)

A Time for Wonder with Young Disciples

Prayer for Illumination

Gracious God, your word is very near, on our lips and in our hearts. As this Word is read and proclaimed, by the power of your Holy Spirit, make it become in us the word of faith. Then send us in joy to bring this word to others who also need the good news of salvation.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Reading from the Hebrew Scripture: *Genesis 1: 1-5, 14-19*

When God began to create the heavens and the earth, the earth was complete chaos, and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. And God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness [God] called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the world. **Thanks be to God.**

Reading from the Greek Scripture: *Colossians 1: 15-20*

[Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

When ET Meets Theology

Rev. Kate Morrison

Hymn #23*

God, You Spin the Whirling Planets

The Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

**Our Creator in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kin-dom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory
are yours now and for ever. Amen.**

Call for the Offering

Anthem

For the Mountains Shall Depart,
from *Elijah* by Felix Mendelssohn
Christopher Chappelle, soloist

The Doxology*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God whom we adore.**

Prayer of Dedication*

Hymn #321

The Church's One Foundation (v. 1, 4-5)

Benediction*

Postlude

***Please rise in body or in spirit.**

Thank you for joining our worshiping community this morning, whether in person or online!

Note: Portions of the liturgy have been adapted from *Feasting on the Word*, Liturgies for Year A, Volume 2.

Because of the recent violent attacks on churches in our nation, we have started locking the church door after the early part of the worship service. This is out of an abundance of caution, not because of any specific threats. If you should arrive late & find the door locked, please ring the doorbell. A volunteer will happily open it for you.

Light Street Church is a progressive and LGBTQ+ affirming congregation located right in the heart of Baltimore City, just two blocks from the Inner Harbor. We've worshipped at the corner of Light Street and Montgomery Streets since 1855, and on Zoom since 2020! Light Street Church proudly partners with IPRC Cabaiguan, our sister church in El Centro, Cuba. More information about our congregation is available at www.lightstreetchurch.org.

Weekly Update

TO SUBMIT AN EVENT, UPDATE, OR OTHER ANNOUNCEMENT, please email Geoff (geoff@lightstreetchurch.org) or Kate (kate@lightstreetchurch.org) by Wednesday evening each week. We will do our best to include everything in the weekly newsletter email, as well as this bulletin.

IF YOU'RE A GUEST HERE TODAY FOR THE FIRST TIME, please stop by the table in the vestibule on the way out and pick up a loaf of homemade bread — our gift to you.

Rev. Kate & Iain House Gathering Friday, August 21st, 4-9pm

Now that we're finally feeling settled, the Morrisons would love to welcome you into our home in Greektown! We'll provide some charcuterie and light nibbles, but please feel free to bring something along to share. You can RSVP to Kate at kate@lightstreetchurch.org or use the following link: tinyurl.com/KatelainHouseGathering. Let us know if you have questions!

Light Street 101 / New Member Class Sunday August 23rd

Interested in Light Street & exploring how to become a member of our community? Join Rev. Kate after worship on August 23rd in the Fellowship Hall. We'll provide a light lunch, so please let Kate (kate@lightstreetchurch.org) know if you are planning to attend.

Voter Registration Training Sunday, September 6th, 12:45pm

Help others get ready to vote! Join us after the First Sunday Potluck to become a certified voter registration volunteer and learn other ways to support elections, both in Baltimore City & the County. Please RSVP to kate@lightstreetchurch.org.

Mark Your Calendars! Special Worship Schedule September 19th & 20th

Because parking can be a challenge when the Ravens have Sunday home games, Session is exploring alternative worship schedules for those weekends.

As a trial, we will offer worship at two different times on the weekend of September 19–20. Please join us for one of the following services (either in-person or online, as usual):

- Saturday, September 19 at 4:30 p.m.
- Sunday, September 20 at 11:00 a.m.

Following the weekend, we'll send a brief survey on Monday, September 21. We encourage everyone to participate and share what worked best for you and why. Your feedback will help Session determine how to schedule worship on future Ravens home-game weekends.

Rice & Beans for Rise Food Relief

We are still collecting beans and rice for the Rise Food ministry. one-pound bags of black beans and one-pound bags of rice. You can bring your donations and drop them on the white basket on the coffee table in the sanctuary.

Visit lightstreetchurch.org to sign-up for our weekly newsletter

679 Let the Whole Creation Cry

(Psalm 148)



1 Let the whole cre - a - tion cry, "Glo - ry to the Lord on high."
2 Men and wom-en, young and old, raise the an - them loud and bold;

Heaven and earth, a - wake and sing, "Praise to our al - might-y King."
join with chil - dren's songs of praise; wor-ship God through length of days.

Praise God, an - gel hosts a - bove, ev - er bright and fair in love;
From the north to south-ern pole let the might-y cho - rus roll:

sun and moon, up - lift your voice; night and stars, in God re - joice!
"Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly One, glo - ry be to God a - lone!"

Originally this text was more than twice as long as the present version because it followed Psalm 148 in directing additional parts of the created order to praise God. This wide-ranging text is set here to a suitably expansive and well-crafted 17th-century chorale melody.

400 I HAVE DECIDED TO FOLLOW JESUS

*A scribe then approached and said, "Teacher, I will follow You wherever You go."
Matthew 8:19*

1. I have de - cid - ed to fol - low Je - sus,
2. Though no one join me, still I will fol - low,
3. The world be - hind me, the cross be - fore me,

I have de - cid - ed to fol - low Je - sus,
Though no one join me, still I will fol - low,
The world be - hind me, the cross be - fore me,

I have de - cid - ed to fol - low Je - sus—
Though no one join me, still I will fol - low—
The world be - hind me, the cross be - fore me—

No turn - ing back, no turn - ing back!

Guide My Feet

741

1 Guide my feet while I run this race;

(yes, my Lord!)

guide my feet while I run this race;

(yes, my Lord!)

guide my feet while I run this race, for I

don't want to run this race in vain! (race in vain!)

- 2 Hold my hand ...
3 Stand by me ...
4 I'm your child ...

- 5 Search my heart ...
6 Guide my feet ...

This African American spiritual is based on the imagery of "the race that is set before us" in Hebrews 12:1-2. Its call-and-response structure allows for the improvisation and addition of stanzas related to an athletic metaphor that is as vivid today as it was centuries ago.

God, You Spin the Whirling Planets 23

Capo 1: (D) E^b (G) A^b (D) E^b (G) A^b (A) B^b (D) E^b (G) A^b



1 God, you spin the whirl-ing plan - ets, fill the seas and
 2 You have called us to be faith - ful in our life and
 3 God, your word is still cre - at - ing, call - ing us to

(D) (A) (D) (Bm) (G) (D) (G) (A) (D)
 E^b B^b E^b Cm A^b E^b A^b B^b E^b



spread the plain, mold the moun-tains, fash-ion blos-soms, call forth
 min - is - try. We re - spond in grate-ful wor-ship joined in
 life made new. Now re - veal to us fresh vis - tas where there's

(G) (D) (A) (D) (G) (D) (A)
 A^b E^b B^b E^b A^b E^b B^b



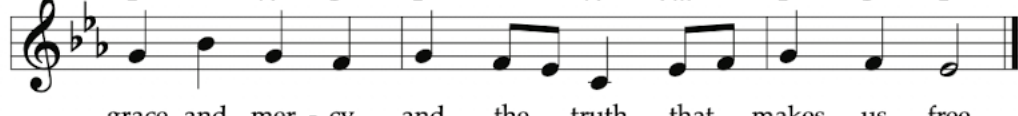
sun - shine, wind, and rain. We, cre - at - ed in your im - age,
 one com - mu - ni - ty. When we blur your gra - cious im - age,
 work to dare and do. Keep us clear of all dis - tor - tion.

(D) (Bm) (F#m) (G) (A) (D) (G)
 E^b Cm Gm A^b B^b E^b A^b



would a true re - flec - tion be of your jus - tice,
 fo - cus us and make us whole. Healed and strength - ened
 Pol - ish us with lov - ing care. Thus, new crea - tures

(D) (G) (A) (D) (G) (Em) (D) (A) (D)
 E^b A^b B^b E^b A^b Fm E^b B^b E^b



grace, and mer - cy and the truth that makes us free.
 as your peo - ple, we move on - ward toward your goal.
 in your im - age, we'll pro - claim Christ ev - ery - where.

This text was written for the 1979 National Meeting of United Presbyterian Women, whose theme, "In the Image of God," is variously considered here as reflection, focus, distortion, and polishing for clarity. The words are well set to an anonymous 19th-century American tune.

TEXT: Jane Parker Huber, 1978

MUSIC: American melody, 1830; harm. Richard Proulx, 1986

Text © 1980 Jane Parker Huber (admin. Westminster John Knox Press)

Music Harm. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc.

PLEADING SAVIOR

8.7.8.7.D

(alternate harmonization, 717)

(alternate tune: AUSTRIAN HYMN)

The Church's One Foundation 321

1 The chur-ch's one foun-da - tion is Je - sus Christ her Lord.
 2 E - lect from ev - ery na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op-pressed,
 4 Mid toil and trib - u - la - tion, and tu - mult of her war,
 5 Yet she on earth has un - ion with God, the Three in One,

She is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion: one Lord, one faith, one birth.
 by schis - ms rent a - sun - der, by her - e - sies dis-tressed,
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more:
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won:

From heaven he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride.
 One ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
 O hap - py ones and ho - ly! Lord, give us grace that we,

With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 and to one hope she press - es, with ev - ery grace en - dued.
 And soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
 like them, the meek and low - ly, may live e - ter - nal - ly.

This hymn was one of twelve written by an English curate to affirm the articles of the Apostles' Creed with biblical allusions such as 1 Corinthians 3:11 here. Though not created for this text, the tune was joined to it in 1868, and the two have been inseparable ever since.