

# OAK HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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September 18, 2022

15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 a.m.

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

**Gathering Music**

Brian, John, and Paul

**Welcome**

Rev. Wanda Lawry

**Prelude**

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

Susan Brown

**\*Call to Worship**

Sandy Kay

Leader: We are not here because we have found God but because God our Creator has called us here.

**People: Challenging us to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, and to be servants in the service of the whole human family.**

Leader But the call is also God's promise:

**People: A promise of forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, and eternal life in the realm that has no end.**

**All: Blessing and honor and glory and power be unto God!**

**\*Opening Hymn**

*For the Beauty of the Earth*

No. 14

**\*Prayer for the Day (unison)**

Sandy Kay

Caring God, in you we find all we need. Some of us come to worship today in joy and wonderment. Some of us come quaking with fear. Some of us come confused and needing a guiding hand. Others of us come distracted or angry or bored. Some come aching with pain or uncertainty. But we all come—because we know that here we will find you and praise you and thank you for the breath of life that is ours today. Accept our worship Lord as an offering of our tender hearts. Amen.

**Call to Confession**

Rev. Wanda Lawry

**Prayer of Confession (unison)**

Oak Hill Community

We bring nothing into the world, and we take nothing out of it. If we have food and clothing, we ought to be content. There is great gain in godliness combined with contentment. Yet we strive, at great spiritual and emotional expenses to ourselves for more than we can use, more than we ought to have. Teach us to treasure what we have in the moment—the beauty of the earth, the love of our Christian family, the riches of your Holy Spirit showering us with spiritual blessings, and the hope of salvation that blesses us not only in the present—but eternally. May we give less thought to the future, and more thought to ways we can serve you in the present. God who gives us enough, God who knows the fall of every sparrow, Creator who knows our hearts and our needs, transform us, redeem us, restore us to right relationship with you and with one another. Amen.

*Time for silent prayers of confession.*

**Assurance of Pardon**

Rev. Wanda Lawry

**Peace**

Oak Hill Community

**Time for Growing Disciples**

Rev. Wanda Lawry

**Meditation**

*I Cannot Tell*

Susan Brown

**First Scripture Reading**

Psalm 113

Sandy Kay

**Second Scripture Reading**

Luke 15:11-31

Rev. Wanda Lawry

<b>Sermon</b>	<i>You Are Loved Beyond Measure</i>	Rev. Wanda Lawry
<b>Special Music</b>	<i>God Help the Outcasts</i>	Avery Smith, soloist
<b>Offering</b>	<i>You can make an offering online at <a href="http://www.oakhillpcusa.org">www.oakhillpcusa.org</a>, place it in the plate on the table in the back of the sanctuary, or mail your check to the church.</i>	Oak Hill Community
<b>*Response</b>	<i>We Give Thee but Thine Own</i>	
	<b>We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be; all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord from thee.</b>	
<b>Prayers of the People</b>		Oak Hill Community
<b>The Lord's Prayer</b>		Oak Hill Community
	<b>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.</b>	
<b>Announcements</b>		Rev. Wanda Lawry
<b>*Closing Hymn</b>	<i>Softy and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling</i>	No. 418
<b>Benediction</b>		Rev. Wanda Lawry
<b>Postlude</b>	<i>To Jesus Christ, Our Sovereign King</i>	Susan Brown

## **First Scripture Reading**

Psalm 113

- <sup>1</sup>Praise the LORD! Praise, O servants of the LORD; praise the name of the LORD.  
<sup>2</sup>Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time on and forevermore.  
<sup>3</sup>From the rising of the sun to its setting the name of the LORD is to be praised.  
<sup>4</sup>The LORD is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens.  
<sup>5</sup>Who is like the LORD our God, who is seated on high,  
<sup>6</sup>who looks far down on the heavens and the earth?  
<sup>7</sup>He raises the poor from the dust, and lifts the needy from the ash heap,  
<sup>8</sup>to make them sit with princes, with the princes of his people.  
<sup>9</sup>He gives the barren woman a home, making her the joyous mother of children. Praise the LORD!

*Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.*

***People: Thanks be to God!***

## Second Scripture Reading

Luke 15:11-31

<sup>11</sup>Then Jesus said, “There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup>A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. <sup>14</sup>When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. <sup>16</sup>He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup>But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! <sup>18</sup>I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; <sup>19</sup>I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’ <sup>20</sup>So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup>Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ <sup>22</sup>But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup>And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; <sup>24</sup>for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate. <sup>25</sup>“Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup>He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. <sup>27</sup>He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ <sup>28</sup>Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. <sup>29</sup>But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup>But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ <sup>31</sup>Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours.

*Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.*

***People: Thanks be to God!***

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*The Peace Prayer is by the Rev. Melanie Smith, Pastor, Trinity Presbyterian Church,  
University City, MO.*

*Thank you for participating today in worship with Oak Hill. Please check our website for more  
information and updates: [www.oakhillpcusa.org](http://www.oakhillpcusa.org).*

## For the Beauty of the Earth 14

1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the glo - ry of the skies,  
 2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,  
 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,  
 4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,  
 5 For thy - self, best gift di - vine to the world so free - ly given;

for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:  
 hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:  
 for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:  
 friends on earth, and friends a - bove, for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:  
 for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:

*Refrain*

Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.

In the course of many revisions, the original eucharistic emphasis of this text has shifted to a hymn of thanksgiving for a wide range of human experience, with a Christological summation. It is set here to the tune that is customary in North America, though not elsewhere.

TEXT: Folliot Sandford Pierpoint, 1864, alt.

MUSIC: Conrad Kocher, 1838; abr. William Henry Monk, 1861; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

DIX  
7.7.7.7.7.7

CONFESSION

# 418 Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for  
 2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for  
 3 O for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for

you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,  
 you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,  
 you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

*Refrain*  
 watch - ing for you and for me.  
 mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!  
 par - don for you and for me. "Come home, come home!

You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,  
 Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

This 19th-century gospel hymn has often been used as a hymn of invitation at evangelistic services. Its imagery is primarily based on Jesus' parable in Luke 15:11-32, commonly called "The Prodigal Son." Each singer thus becomes a wandering child who is urged to return home.

TEXT and MUSIC: Will L. Thompson, 1880

SOFTLY AND TENDERLY  
 11.7.11.7 with refrain