

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Bausman Memorial United Church of Christ

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.



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July 26, 2026

9:30am Worship

WELCOME TO BAUSMAN!

1ST TIME GUESTS: Most everything you need is found in this bulletin. Plus, those around you are glad to help and an usher is always available at the main rear entrance. If there are ways we can better extend God's hospitality, leave us a note on the Welcome Card. Your insights are essential as we continue to grow into the community God is calling us to be. Thank you!

HOW TO PARTICIPATE: Congregational readings are in bold with an *All*, *People*, or *Unison* designation. Songs are in the bulletin or pew hymnal. Times for standing and sitting are listed, with it always being okay to remain seated.

"BUSY BAGS": Coloring books and crayons are available in the north narthex (lobby) for use during worship. Please return all items following the service for others to use the following week. See an usher for assistance.

NURSERY CARE: During the summer, the space is available for use with parental/guardian supervision. No attendant is present. Live audio of the worship service is broadcast to the nursery. The nursery is past the office, to the right. See an usher for assistance.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Is on summer break till September 20th.

RESTROOMS: Ladies and a unisex/accessible bathroom (with wall mounted baby changing table) are available through the doors at the front of the sanctuary. Follow the signs to the office. Bathrooms are on the left.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS: Contain printed scripture and music, in addition to being in a larger font. Ask an usher for a copy.

HEARING ASSISTANCE: Ask an usher at the rear entrance to the sanctuary who will provide you with a device directly tied into the sanctuary sound system. Please return the device to an usher at the conclusion of worship.

GET CONNECTED: Use the pew holder Welcome Card to register your attendance, share contact information, ask questions, and more. Once completed, place it in the offering plates during the offering time.

WIFI & DEVICES: Thank you for silencing all your devices during worship. Bausman's guest wifi is accessible with the passcode: "gladurhere!"

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WE GATHER TO BE GOD'S PEOPLE

Centering Thoughts: While writing to the persecuted Christians in Rome, Paul states, “If God is for us, who is against us?” In other words, he asks, “How can we possibly fail with God on our side?” But what can we not possibly fail at? Certainly, it can’t be everything and anything we desire! Instead, Paul’s words call the Roman Christians to remain steadfast in their faithful following of Christ’s way as they endure persecution and rejection for their discipleship. In what way do you need God to assure you that nothing can stand against you as you actively strive to live out Jesus’ calling for your life?

Opening Chimes

Welcome & Announcements

Sharing of Christ's Peace

(Rise in body or spirit to share Christ's peace using customary forms of greeting or by using a peace sign. Please be seated once the prelude begins.)

Prelude: “Fairest Lord Jesus” – Arr Ray

(The acolyte carries the light of Christ into our presence, calling us to worship)

(Please rise in body or spirit)

Call to Worship

Pastor: O give thanks to the Lord; call on God's holy name.

People: **We gather to make known God's deeds among the peoples.**

Pastor: Sing to the Lord, sing praises to God; tell of all his wonderful works.

People: **We remember the wonderful works God has done –**

God's miracles, and the judgments God has uttered.

Pastor: Seek the Lord and his strength, seek God's presence continually.

People: **Let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.**

Pastor: The Lord is our God. For a thousand generations God keeps his word.
God's covenant is forever. Thus, let us worship and give praise.

People: **Glory be to God, in whom we find our delight. Amen!**

WE CONFESS OUR NEED FOR HEALING & GRACE

Call to Confession

Corporate Confessional

**All: God, we are like lost sheep – seeing only what is right before us,
following only what gives us immediate pleasure,
finding ourselves lost and alone again and again and again.
Have mercy upon us. Forgive us our sin
and our willful wandering from you.
Rekindle within us the vision of your reign that restores this earth,
brings wholeness to our soul, joy to our lips,
and passion to our hearts to serve you with the fullness of our lives.
For if you are with us, there is nothing that can stand against us.
Through the mercies of your Son, we pray. Amen.**

Personal Silent Confession

(Personal prayers for God’s healing and redeeming peace)

Assurance of Grace

Pastor: Who will separate us from the love of Christ?

**All: I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come, nor power, nor height,
nor depth, nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

Pastor: Stand in this faith, and you will live!

People: Thanks be to God!

Confession Response (*Unison*)

And God will raise you up on ea - gle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the
sun, and hold you in the palm of God's hand.

The musical score is written on three staves in treble clef, key of D major (two sharps), and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics, with chords D, Asus4, A, and D above it. The second staff contains the melody for the second line of lyrics, with chords Em, A7, D, and D7 above it. The third staff contains the melody for the third line of lyrics, with chords G, A, Bm, F#m, Em, A7, and D above it. The melody is simple and unison, suitable for a group of people to sing together.

(Please be seated)

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S LIVING WORD

Message for the Young & Young at Heart

(All youth are invited to come forward to the front steps.)

Prayer of Illumination

All: Your Word, O God, is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.
Let your Word shine brightly before our eyes
that even in our blindness we may see, and know, and follow
in the way that leads to your life.
In the name of Christ Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Epistle Lesson: Romans 8:28-39 (p. #158)

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son but gave him up for all of us, how will he

not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 13:44-53 (p. #15)

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and reburied; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.” When Jesus had finished these parables, he left that place.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon: “Is God Your Ultimate Goal?”

Special Music - “The Gift of Love” - Hal Hopson
Nancy Helbig and Michele Wolfskill, duet / Sandy Mengle, piano

WE RESPOND TO GOD

(Please rise in body or spirit)

Statement of Faith – Apostles Creed

**All: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:
And in Jesus Christ His only begotten Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

(Please be seated)

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer (sins)

**All: 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Receiving of Tithes and Offerings

*(Electronic & physical giving options are available through the pew envelope.
Register your attendance with a Welcome Card or using Realm’s mobile check-in.)*

Offertory: “God Will Take Care of You” – Martin

(Please rise in body or spirit)

Offering Response *(Unison)*

The musical score is written for a unison voice part in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are: "Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise God, all crea-tures here be-low;". The second system also has a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are: "Praise God a-bove, you heaven-ly host: Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost." The music is simple, using mostly quarter and eighth notes with some rests.

Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise God, all crea-tures here be-low;

Praise God a-bove, you heaven-ly host: Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Prayer of Dedication

All: God our Provider, all good gifts come from you.
Every richness we have begins with you.
Thus what we give is already yours,
yet filled with fullness of our hope and our heart.
Receive us and these our gifts, we pray, that we may be blessed
to share in the truth of your presence
and the joy of your salvation.
Through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

WE GO WITH GOD'S CALLING

Recessional Hymn: "All Things Bright and Beautiful" (p. #31)

(The acolyte carries the light of Christ into the world.)

Commissioning & Benediction

Chimes

Postlude: "All Hail the Power of Jesus Name" – Holden

(As the postlude concludes, go in peace to love and serve at the calling of God.)

THIS WEEK AT BAUSMAN

Sunday, July 26

9:30AM Worship

Monday, July 27

8:15 AM 815 Morning Meeting – Fellowship Hall

9:00 AM Exercise Group – Upper Level

11:00 AM Turning Point Group, AA – Fellowship Hall

6:30 PM Property – Conference Room

Tuesday, July 28

8:15 AM 815 Morning Meeting – Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, July 29

8:15 AM 815 Morning Meeting – Fellowship Hall

9:00 AM Exercise Group – Upper Level

11:30 AM Turning Point Group, AA – Fellowship Hall

Thursday, July 30

8:15 AM 815 Morning Meeting – Fellowship Hall

10:30 AM Women's Recovery Group, Fellowship Hall

Friday, July 31

8:15 AM 815 Morning Meeting – Fellowship Hall

11:30 AM Turning Point Group, AA – Fellowship Hall

Sunday, August 2

9:30AM Worship

1:00 PM Wyo Girl Scouts – Room 22

PRAYERS & CARES

Congregational Cards of Care

God invites us to share life-giving love through our faith. One way to do this is to weekly join in our “Cards of Care” ministry. This week we are uplifting Andrea Brunner, who is one of our Home Congregants. Stop by the table in the front left corner of the sanctuary to add your name and care to this week’s card. Thank you!

Prayer Requests

Thank you for joining in the joy and care of others by including the following prayers in your prayer times. Submit your prayer requests by using a Prayer Card, contacting the church office, or the prayer chain coordinator (Mary Moll). Prayer requests are maintained for up to four weeks and can be resubmitted an unlimited number of times. When possible, please check with the person before submitting their name.

Praise & Celebrations: Salem/Belleman's and Pastor Kevin Fruchtl; Luyben Scholarship Recipients Natalie Motz & Ella Anders; Life-filling VBS Program; Dara Wentzel

Healing & Strengthening: Mike Ritter; Pam Daniels; Peggy Riley; Lynn Hooven; Pidge Brown; Dean & Sharon Weidman; Amanda Kraft & Family; Sue Lewis; Carol Warner

Care & Support: The Chandler Family; Storm Ravaged Communities of Missouri; Pamela Clark & Stephanie Sites; Dennis Stine

Comfort In Time of Loss: The Family & Friends of Rev. Dr. Robert G. Aregood; The Family & Friends of Jack Crewswell; The Family & Friends of Tom Bitner

Birthdays Celebrated this Week

7/28 Russel Becker Jr.
7/28 Susie Derr
7/29 Craig Bressler
7/29 Bill Errich
7/31 Charlie Wentzel
8/1 Kent Hollinger
Mike Ritter
8/2 Bibba McKemy

Anniversaries Celebrated this Week

7/27 Tom & Jodi Reardon
8/1 Chris & Melissa Blickley

Worship Information

Sponsorships

Bulletins: To the Glory of God by Gail Freymoyer

Today's Worship Leaders

Ministers: All Members

Head Usher: Nevin Hollinger

Ushers: Mary Moll, Jane Bitner, Renee Dietrich, Jennifer Joiner

Acolyte: TBD

Reader: Emma Stone

Welcome: Lori Moser

Guest Pianist: – Debbie Weinhold

Preacher: Rev. Joseph Motz

Livestream: Kyla Andre

Sound: Rod Baer

Altar Guild: Mary Moll

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Last Week's Worship

Worship Attendance: In Person: 91

Online: 6

Offerings Received for God's Ministry:

General Fund: In person \$3814 Online: \$140

"LOOK AND SEE"
WHAT IS HAPPENING AT BAUSMAN!
JULY 26, 2026

(Visit bausmanucc.org and sign up for the weekly e-blasts as well)



Reading Phillies "Stand Up to Cancer" Night – As of today, there are **7 seats remaining** (out of 25 seats secured by the S.O.A.R. committee) for the Wednesday, August 12 Reading Phillies "Stand Up to Cancer" game against the Chesapeake Baysox. Game starts at 7pm with doors opening at 5pm. Price per ticket is \$13. You can sign up using the QR code or the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board next to the library.

New Bible Study Group Starting - Are you looking for an opportunity to dive deeper into scripture, to wrestle with what Jesus is saying and what it means for our lives? The "Going Deeper" Bible Study Group might just be right for you. Each Sunday, starting August 16, this Bible Study group, led by Pastor Joe, will dive deeper into that Sunday's scripture readings to explore more of the history, meaning, nuance, calling, and challenge present in the texts. The Bible Study will meet in the fellowship hall and will run roughly from 11:00am - 11:50am. No registration is needed, and yes, coffee will be provided.

Backpack & Luggage Collection for CONCERN - August 2-23 - Gently used backpacks and luggage will be collected for the children of Concern who are placed in foster care. Your backpacks and luggage will ensure that the client has something to carry their belongings in other than a trash bag and will let them know someone cares. Concern is a private multi-service non-profit human services organization that provides adoption services for children, youth and families. For more information, contact Sue Wentink at (610) 374-1524.

First Sunday Fellowship - Next Sunday, following worship, stay for a time of connection and light refreshments. This is a great opportunity to build new relationships and strengthen old ones. To ensure accessibility for all, the fellowship time, with its light refreshments, will be held in the sanctuary.

Mark your Calendars...Bausman Oktoberfest returns on September 26, 2026!! Oktoberfest is one of Bausman's largest fund-raising events of the year, and the planning team is currently offering several event sponsorship opportunities to both businesses and individuals. Sponsorships range from \$100 to \$500 and provide the sponsor with advertising on all promotional materials and social media, signage at the event, and meal and beer vouchers.

If you know of a business/organization/individual that may be interested, please help us connect! Take a copy to work or hand out to any business owner you may know. Responses are due back by August 15, as the advertising event will begin shortly thereafter. For additional details and Sponsor Commitment Forms, please contact Stephanie Tremble at 484-345-1523 or <mailto:stremble0202@gmail.com>.

Thank you for helping make Bausman's Oktoberfest a huge success again this year.

Oktoberfest – September 26 – Oktoberfest planning has begun! If you would like to participate or find out in what you can help, please contact Ron Keller at 484-332-6789.

Become a Bulletin Sponsor –There are only 3 dates available on the 2026 Bulletin sponsorship calendar! Thank you to everyone who has participated as a 2026 bulletin sponsor. It is a great way to recognize friends, loved ones, life events, or show support for something you care about, while helping to defray the cost of weekly bulletins.

If you are interested, bulletin sponsorship is \$15 each or 2 for \$25 and the sign-up forms and calendar poster are located on the doors by the church office. Dates are still available November 15, 29 and December 27.

Outdoor Worship & Church Picnic – September 13 -Mark your calendars for the September 13 outdoor worship and picnic held at the Wyomissing Hills Playground, 53 Valley Rd, Wyomissing, PA 19610. The Worship & Music Committee will provide fried chicken. Members are asked to bring a salad, non-salad side dishes, or dessert (further guidance will be provided in the September newsletter). This is great event that continually builds deepened relationships year after year. We look forward to seeing you there!



The Keystone Connection

A Message to the Conference

July 21, 2026

Members and Friends of Keystone Conference,

"Give your servant, therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil, for who can govern this great people of yours?" It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this." (1 Kings 3:9-10)

This week's Hebrew scripture reading (1 Kings 3:5-12) offers us a remarkable prayer. When God, in a dream, invites Solomon to ask for anything, he does not pray for a longer life, military victory, wealth, or prestige. Instead, he asks for "an understanding mind" to govern God's people. Other translations speak of a "discerning heart," or even "a God-listening heart," a heart attentive first to God before responding to others.

It is a prayer worth lingering over.

We are people who pray for many good and faithful things: healing for those who are sick, comfort for those who grieve, guidance for our congregations, strength for difficult decisions, and hope for a troubled world. Yet Solomon's prayer reminds us that before we ask God to change our circumstances, we might first ask God to change us.

Our churches, like our communities, are living through a season of profound disagreement. Questions surrounding diversity, inclusion, political polarization, immigration, economic inequality, the care of the poor, and countless other concerns touch deeply held convictions and lived experiences. Too often, we find ourselves listening only long enough to prepare our response rather than to understand another's heart.

Solomon invites us to begin somewhere different.

What if our first prayer was not, "Lord, prove that I am right," but "Lord, give me a listening heart"? What if we prayed not only for wisdom to speak but also for humility to hear? Such a prayer does not require us to abandon conviction. Rather, it asks God to refine our convictions through grace, patience, and love.

Prayer has always been more than presenting God with our requests. Prayer forms us. It softens what has become hardened. It opens what has been closed. It teaches us to see our neighbors not as opponents to defeat but as siblings for whom Christ gave his life.

The divisions we experience within the Church are real, and they cannot be healed by clever arguments or strategic plans alone. The broken Body of Christ longs for people whose hearts are being shaped by the One who prayed that we all might be one. (John 17:21)

Perhaps this week, Solomon's prayer can become our own. Before our meetings, before our conversations, before our social media posts, before our judgments, may we simply pray: "Lord, give your servant a listening heart."

And may God, who delighted to answer Solomon's prayer, continue the transforming work of making us into a people who discern together the way of Christ in our world and communities today.

Shalom,

Nora

Rev. Dr. Nora Foust

Transitional Regional Conference Minister, Region 2

Keystone Conference

Ready to Make an Impact?

Join one of our 2027 Annual Meeting committees and help us build on the success of this year's meeting. Your ideas, skills, and enthusiasm can make a difference!

If you have any interest in serving on one of the following committees, please reach out to Sue Creswell at sue@keystoneucc.org.

- Accessibility - Golf Carts/Scooters/Eyes on all things accessible
 - Excursions - Tours/Events taking place outside of venue
 - Fun/Fellowship - Open Mic/Food Trucks/Poetry/Mystery Night/Morning Walk - coordinate whatever events and be responsible for having them take place
 - Hospitality/Welcome - Greeters/Assistance with directing people/Assistance with Registration
 - Mission - Choose and Manage a Mission for the event
 - Registration - Prepare for and manage registration for event
 - Rooming - Assign rooms at the dorm
 - Speakers - Responsible for coordination of 100% of the details and management of our guest speakers
 - Tech - Work with location to set up tech needs for all meetings
 - Slides (subgroup of Tech) - Compose and arrange slides to meet meeting needs
 - Vendors - reach out to, manage and organize outside and internal vendors
 - Visual Arts - Elevate the event with decorations
 - Volunteers - Compose write ups to draw volunteers, coordinate volunteers during meeting
 - Worship - Work with Carrie to plan worship for event
 - Music (subgroup of Worship) - Work with worship to arrange music - will be reaching out to churches for bands, bell choirs, etc
 - Youth Service Team - Compose write ups to draw youth service team members, arrange schedule and coordinate youth while on site
- Youth childcare - Arrange for childcare, plan for Playground (if wanted) plan schedule for younger attendees

Phil. 4:8-9

St. 1, 2, Howard Arnold Walter, 1917

St. 3, anon.; alt.

1 I would be true, for there are those who trust me; I would be
 2 I would be friend of all, the foe, the friend-less; I would be
 3 I would be prayer-ful through each bus-y mo-ment; I would be

pure, for there are those who care; I would be strong, for
 giv-ing, and for-get the gift; I would be hum-ble,
 con-stant-ly in touch with God; I would be tuned to

there is much to suf-fer; I would be brave, for
 for I know my weak-ness; I would look up, and
 sense God's slight-est whis-per; I would have faith to

there is much to dare, I would be brave, for there is much to dare.
 laugh, and love, and live, I would look up, and laugh, and love, and live.
 keep the path Christ trod, I would have faith to keep the path Christ trod.

The first two stanzas of this hymn are from "My Creed," a poem that Howard Walter sent to his mother from Japan, where he taught English before becoming a Congregational minister. Walter died at the age of thirty-five while working for the Y.M.C.A. in India.

Tune: PEEK 11.10.11.10.10.
 Joseph Y. Peek, 1911

All Things Bright and Beautiful

31

Cecil F. Alexander, 1848; alt.

Unison
Refrain

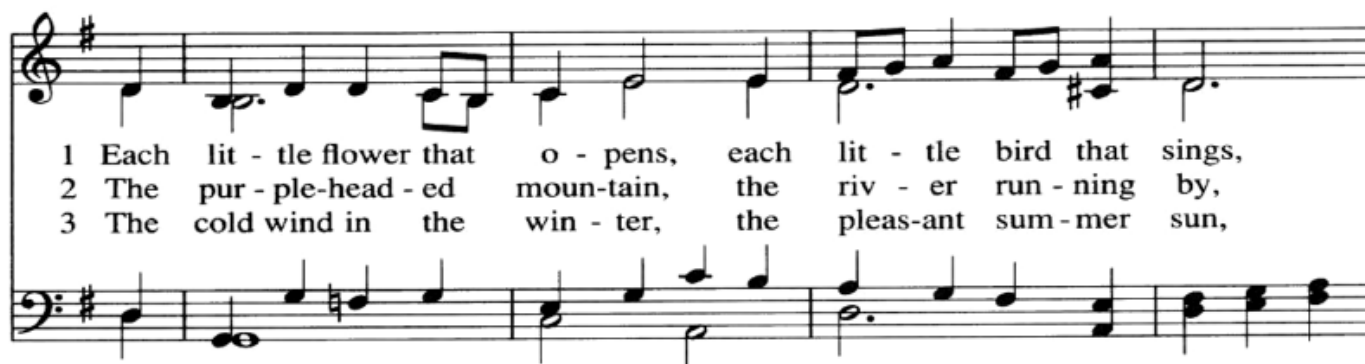


All things bright and beau-ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,

Last time, end

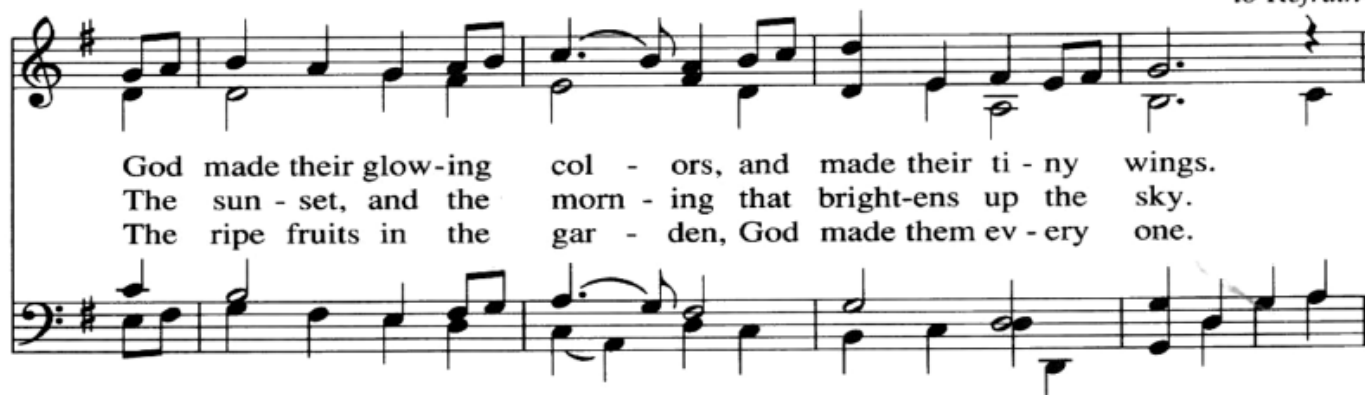


All things wise and won - der - ful, our dear God made them all.



1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
2 The pur - ple-head - ed moun-tain, the riv - er run - ning by,
3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas-ant sum - mer sun,

to Refrain



God made their glow-ing col - ors, and made their ti - ny wings.
The sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright-ens up the sky.
The ripe fruits in the gar - den, God made them ev - ery one.

This hymn for children is based on the first article of the Apostles' Creed: "Maker of heaven and earth." The English hymnwriter Cecil Frances Alexander was married to William Alexander, who became bishop of Ireland.

Tune: ROYAL OAK 7.6.7.6. with refrain
English melody
Adapt. Martin Shaw, 1915