

Peace UCC
August 1, 2021

Prelude Grenadilla Celestina Clarinet Quartet

When Peace, Like a River, by Phillip Bliss, arranged by Hugh Levey, published by woodwindly.com (2020)

Welcome

Opening Words John W. Howell

One: Laugh! Children of God!
Let tears of joy baptize your eyes and your cheeks.
Give God thanks and celebrate!

Many: It is great to be alive!

One: Dance! Children of God!
Lose yourself in the choreography of the Spirit.
Life is a dance and God is the orchestra.

Many: It's great to be alive!

One: Embrace! Children of God!
Open your arms and feel close to each other.
It is in our openness where life takes on meaning.
It's good to be alive!
Give God thanks and celebrate!

Many: It's great to be alive!

Opening Response "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" Ken Medema

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray - ing Lord, send your
Spir-it in this place; Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren
pray - ing, send us love, send us power, send us grace.

Prayer of Invocation Terence Elwyn Johnson (Adapted)

Eternal God, parent of every living creature, whose spirit of love is celebrated in our worship, be with us God. Be our nurturing guide and strengthening tenderness, that we may grow and serve in ways of trust, compassion, and purposeful living. Be with us God. Amen

The Witness of Music Grenadilla Celestina Clarinet Quartet

Bob Baumann, clarinet; Jason Blumenfeld, clarinet; Peter Chow, clarinet;
John Panhorst, bass clarinet

Fugue from Die Kunst der Klarinette, by Ian Holloway, published by Ian Holloway Music (2001)

Reading:

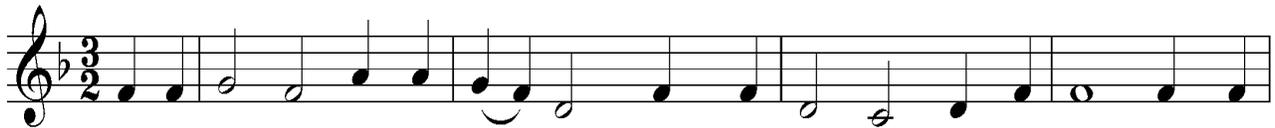
Mark 9:33-37

Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the way?' But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, 'Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.' Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, 'Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'

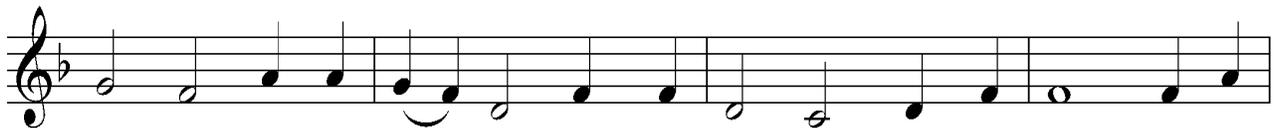
For the wisdom contained in these holy words we give thanks. Amen

Sermon Rev. Wendy Bruner

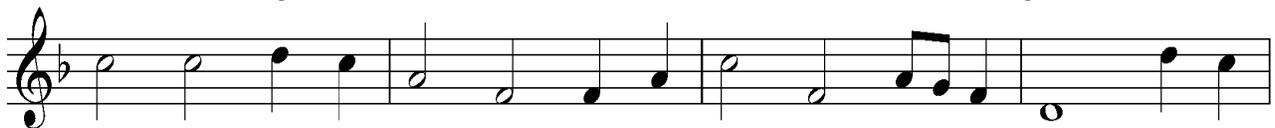
Hymn "Do Not Turn Away the Children" Carolyn Winfrey Gillette



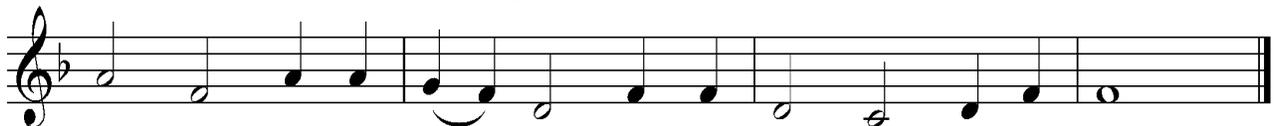
Do not turn a - way the chil - dren. Let them come to me in - stead, for to
Do not turn your back on chil - dren. Who know vio - lence, pain, and war. Give them
Do not tell the na - tion's chil - dren, "Schools are what we can't af - ford!" Give them
Do not miss the faith of chil - dren who have ques - tions deep in - side, for to



them be - longs the kin - dom. "Make them wel - come!" Christ, you said. As we
jus - tice, food and wel - come, make their homes and lives se - cure. Don't ne -
all good ed - u - ca - tion; teach them well both rich and poor. Do not
them be - longs the kin - dom; Won - der with them, be their guide. Je - sus



hear your words of bless - ing that you spoke when they drew near, can we
glect the world of chil - dren who have ill - ness and dis - ease, for to
hur - ry past the chil - dren long - ing for your love this day; For to
as we hear your bless - ing for those ones you wel - comed in, may our



hear your love ad - dress - ing needs of chil - dren we see here?
them be - longs the kin - dom. Give them health care that they need.
them be - longs the kin - dom; Give them time, don't turn a - way.
deeds re - flect your car - ing as we wel - come them a - gain!

Joys and Concerns

Prayer

Creator, who art in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kin-dom come, your 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 yours is the kin-dom, and the power,
and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Communion

Prayer: Come, Holy Spirit, come.
Bless this bread and bless this fruit of the vine.
Bless all of us in our eating and drinking
that our eyes might be opened,
that we might recognize the risen Christ
in our midst, indeed, in one another.
Come, Holy Spirit, come.

Pray of Thanksgiving

Gracious God, you have once again shown us your love
by bringing us to this meal.
We go from here renewed in faith,
renewed in courage,
and strengthened by your presence.
Thank you for loving us so tenderly.
Thank you for challenging us
to know you better and to receive you more fully. Amen

How Shall We Join God's Work in the World

Gracious God, we give thanks.
We ask your blessings on these gifts of time,
talent, and treasure as we use them to join
Your work in the world. Amen

Benediction

Postlude Grenadilla Celestina Clarinet Quartet

The Circus Bee, by Henry Fillmore, arranged by Jari A. Williams, published by Musicians Publications (1995)

