

Pittsburgh Theological Seminary
A Service of the Word
Hicks Memorial Chapel
Wednesday, April 19, 2017

GATHERING

Prelude

*Call to Worship

from Psalm 66

Leader: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;

***People:* sing the glory of his name;
give to him glorious praise.**

Leader: Come and see what God has done:

***People:* he is awesome in his deeds among all people.**

Leader: Bless our God, O peoples,
let the sound of his praise be heard,

***People:* who has kept us among the living,
and has not let our feet slip.**

Leader: Come and hear, all you who fear God,
and I will tell what he has done for me.

***People:* God's love for us is steadfast.
Blessed be the Lord our God!**

*Opening Song

In the Bulb There is a Flower

GtG #250

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

***People:* God of all nations,
we confess that we have found it easy to hold you captive in our churches,
to see you as white and English speaking, American and male.
We have claimed you as ours to own,
even as we know that your Spirit is on the move in all the world.
Forgive us our presumption
and spare us the short-sightedness and isolation of our blasphemy.
Jesus of Nazareth, as we listen for your voice in unfamiliar tongues,
remind us that you are for us just as you are for all the world. Amen.**

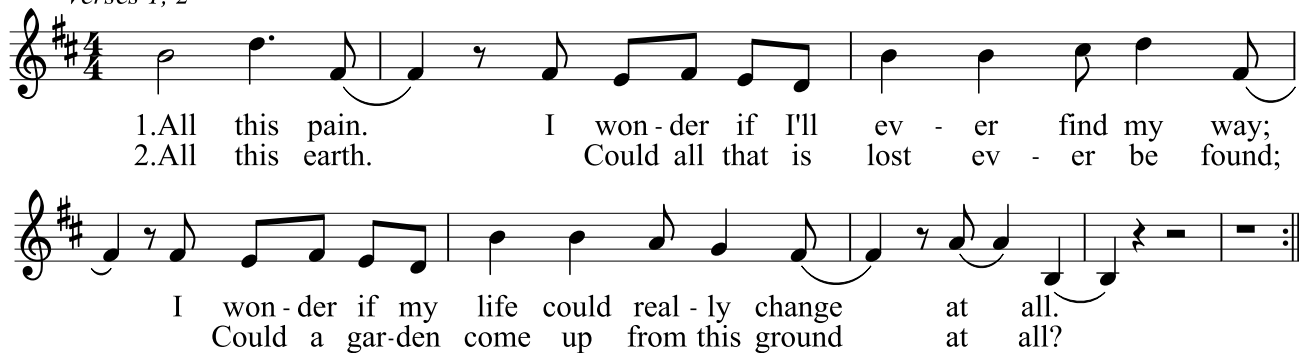
*Assurance of Pardon

Leader: ...In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

***People:* Alleluia! Amen.**

*please rise in body and/or spirit

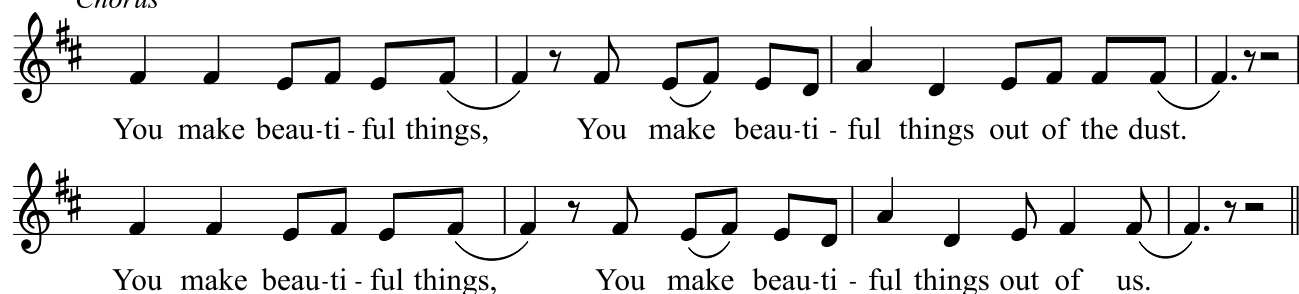
Verses 1, 2



1. All this pain. I won-der if I'll ev - er find my way;
 2. All this earth. Could all that is lost ev - er be found;

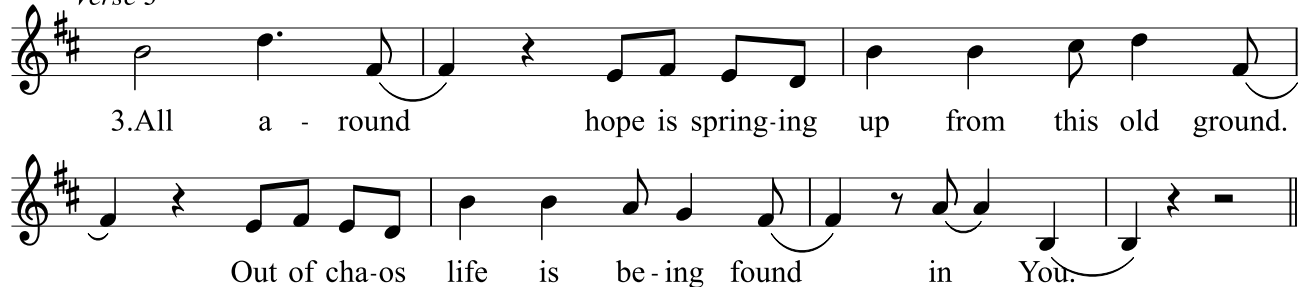
I won-der if my life could real - ly change at all.
 Could a gar-den come up from this ground at all?

Chorus



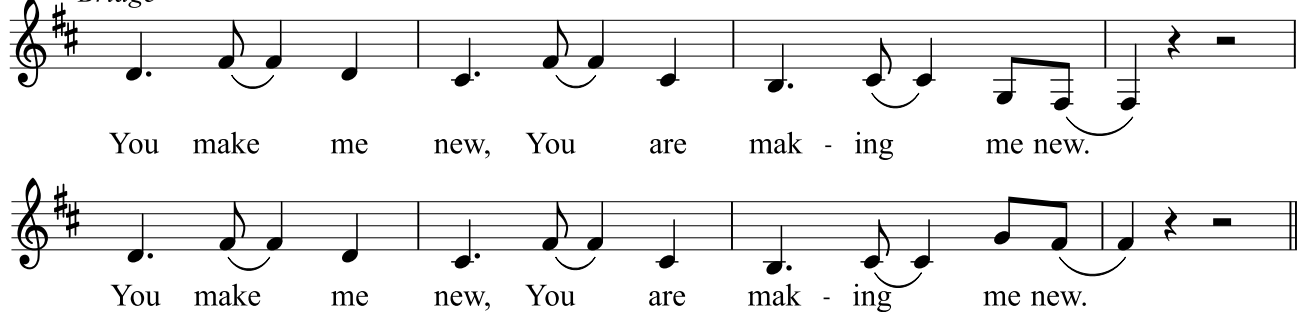
You make beau-ti - ful things, You make beau-ti - ful things out of the dust.
 You make beau-ti - ful things, You make beau-ti - ful things out of us.

Verse 3



3. All a - round hope is spring-ing up from this old ground.
 Out of cha-os life is be-ing found in You.

Bridge



You make me new, You are mak - ing me new.
 You make me new, You are mak - ing me new.

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

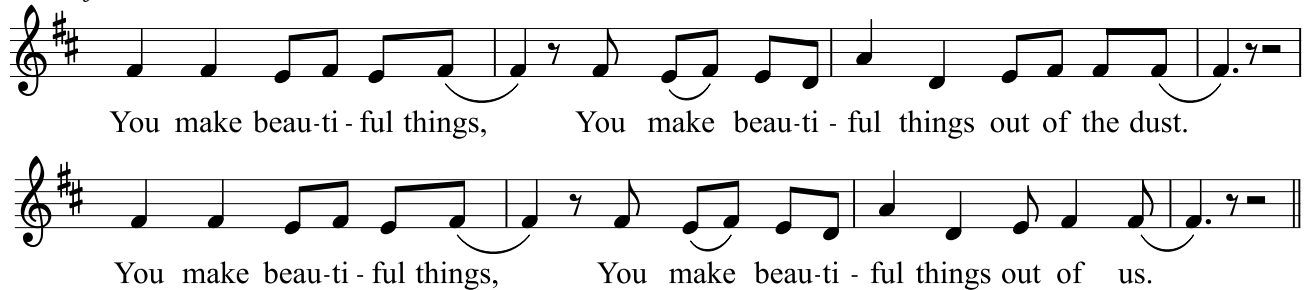
Scripture Reading: John 15:1-11

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

***People:* Thanks be to God.**

Three Meditations

Refrain:



You make beau-ti - ful things, You make beau-ti - ful things out of the dust.

You make beau-ti - ful things, You make beau-ti - ful things out of us.

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

SENDING

*Sending Song

Be Thou My Vision

GtG #450

*Blessing

Postlude

A sign of Christ's peace may be exchanged by all.

Worship Notes

Dutch society has become highly secularized, with a quarter of the population declaring themselves atheist and only a small percentage participating in church life. In such an environment, how do Christian communities function? What have Dutch churches learned about God, themselves, and their neighbors? What would they like to teach us?

On this trip, the team visited church plants and immigrant churches in Amsterdam and Rotterdam, observed how a fourteenth-century city church (from which once the Pilgrims left on their journey to the new world!) has been missionally redeveloped, and stayed overnight with a community in the new monastic tradition in a small 340-people farming community in the Frysian countryside.

Leaders in Worship

WMI Netherlands Team:

Ashley Ashley ♦ Laura Blank ♦ Marjorie Davis ♦ David Deutsch
Ryan Lucas ♦ Karen Rohrer ♦ Kendra Buckwalter Smith ♦ Edwin Chr. van Driel



Kendra Buckwalter Smith, *worship coordinator*
Michael P. Frank III, *chapel musician*
D. Mark Blank, *audio visual technician*