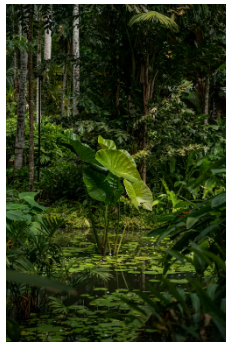


Preview for Service of Word and Sacrament, August 30 , 2026
Ordinary Time
Liturgical Color: Green
Westminster Presbyterian Church, Tiburon, California

Visit the church website: www.wpctiburon.org, 415-383-5272
240 Tiburon Boulevard, Tiburon, California 94920

This weekly study guide seeks to help members, friends, and visitors prepare for the upcoming Sunday service and teaching.



Call to Worship (8:30)

One: We gather here not because God is contained here.

Many: We gather here because this is where we can share what we have experienced of God in the world.

One: We gather to reconnect with the One who desires relationship,

Many: the One who gives freely of wisdom, strength, and guidance.

Opening Blessing (10:00)

We gather here not because we believe God is contained in the church, but rather because this is where we can share what we have experienced of God in the world. We gather to reconnect with the One who desires relationship and gives freely of wisdom, strength, and guidance.

Community Prayer

We have known your grace, your beauty, and your joy, O God and we offer our praise. We confess that we may not have always reflected your goodness to the world, leaving many to turn away and seek the good elsewhere. Let us become faithful ambassadors of your abundant love, advocates for compassion, and eager partners for wherever hope and help may be found. Let us be inspired by your creation and join in its wonder. Amen.

Sermon Focus & Title What I Find in Nature - Talking About God 3 Robert McClellan
"I find God in nature." It's a phrase uttered as a reason for not going to church or participating in organized religion. Since when are these two opposed? Our ancestors in the faith didn't draw such a strong distinction between the Creator and the created. Today we reclaim as

Christian the experience of finding God in nature, and we position church as where we come to give that experience language, reverence, and meaning.

Scripture(s)

Psalms 104

1 Bless the Lord, O my soul.

O Lord my God, you are very great.
You are clothed with honor and majesty,

2 wrapped in light as with a garment.

You stretch out the heavens like a tent;

3 you set the beams of your[a] chambers on the waters;
you make the clouds your chariot;
you ride on the wings of the wind;

4 you make the winds your messengers,
fire and flame your ministers.

5 You set the earth on its foundations,
so that it shall never be shaken.

6 You cover it with the deep as with a garment;
the waters stood above the mountains.

7 At your rebuke they flee;
at the sound of your thunder they take to flight.

8 They rose up to the mountains, ran down to the valleys,
to the place that you appointed for them.

9 You set a boundary that they may not pass,
so that they might not again cover the earth.

10 You make springs gush forth in the valleys;
they flow between the hills,

11 giving drink to every wild animal;
the wild asses quench their thirst.

12 By the streams the birds of the air have their habitation;
they sing among the branches.

13 From your lofty abode you water the mountains;
the earth is satisfied with the fruit of your work.

14 You cause the grass to grow for the cattle
and plants for people to cultivate,
to bring forth food from the earth

15 and wine to gladden the human heart,
oil to make the face shine
and bread to strengthen the human heart.

16 The trees of the field are watered abundantly,
the cedars of Lebanon that he planted.

17 In them the birds build their nests;
the stork has its home in the fir trees.
18 The high mountains are for the wild goats;
the rocks are a refuge for the coney.
19 You have made the moon to mark the seasons;
the sun knows its time for setting.
20 You make darkness, and it is night,
when all the animals of the forest come creeping out.
21 The young lions roar for their prey,
seeking their food from God.
22 When the sun rises, they withdraw
and lie down in their dens.
23 People go out to their work
and to their labor until the evening.

24 O Lord, how manifold are your works!
In wisdom you have made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.
25 There is the sea, great and wide;
creeping things innumerable are there,
living things both small and great.
26 There go the ships
and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it.

27 These all look to you
to give them their food in due season;
28 when you give to them, they gather it up;
when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.
29 When you hide your face, they are dismayed;
when you take away their breath, they die
and return to their dust.
30 When you send forth your spirit,[g] they are created,
and you renew the face of the ground.

31 May the glory of the Lord endure forever;
may the Lord rejoice in his works—
32 who looks on the earth and it trembles,
who touches the mountains and they smoke.
33 I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;
I will sing praise to my God while I have being.
34 May my meditation be pleasing to him,
for I rejoice in the Lord.
35 Let sinners be consumed from the earth,
and let the wicked be no more.

Bless the Lord, O my soul.
Praise the Lord!

Hymns

All Things Bright and Beautiful 20

O That I Had a Thousand Voices 16

Quotes, Questions & Prompts for Reflection, Discussion, and Prayer

“Nature is too thin a screen; the glory of the omnipresent God bursts through everywhere.”

-Ralph Waldo Emerson

1. Where are some places in nature where you find God?
2. Why do you suppose so many people say they find God in nature (but not in church)?
3. What can we learn from God in nature?
4. How could the church or Christianity change to be more in sync with what people find of God in nature?
5. Where is nature? Where isn't it?