

A new, old thing

Scripture contains an interesting balance, encouraging people to both remember the old and anticipate the new. For instance, in the book of Isaiah, God says, "Do not remember the former things or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth; do you not perceive it?" (43:18-19a). And then just three chapters later, God says, "remember the former things of old, for I am God, and there is no other;" (46:9a). In the first instance, God wants the people to notice God paving a new path out of horrible circumstances. In the second instance, God wants the people to remember how God has always been faithful. At face value, these scriptures seem to contradict one another, but in reality they both name God's consistent presence and activity in the world.

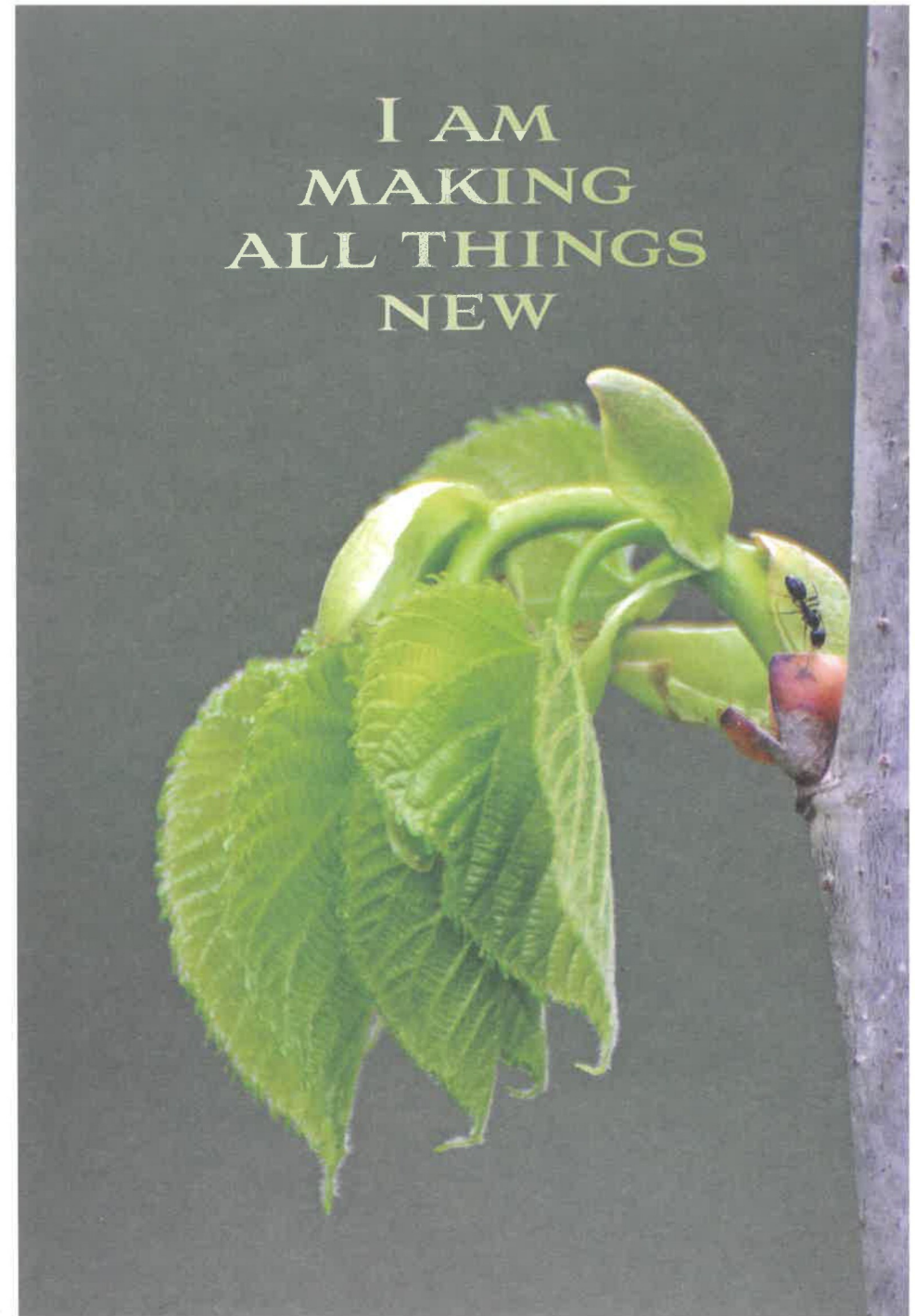
At the end of Revelation, God once again proclaims that something new is happening. God tells of the day when God will be with humanity, but this is not new. In the prologue to John's Gospel, we are told that God took on flesh and came into the world (John 1:1-14). Even before this truly embodied appearance of God in Jesus, God was known to visit the garden when evening's breeze blew (Genesis 3:8), lead wanderers with a pillar of cloud or fire (Exodus 13:21), and speak to people through a variety of angelic messengers.

God desires to be with those whom God created. We see evidence of this throughout scripture. And yet, God is doing something new in Revelation. One day, we are promised that the presence of God will never end. And in that day all things will be made new. In the meantime, be on the lookout, for God has a tendency of showing up. It's a new, old habit.

—Audrey Hollenberg-Duffey
Vienna, Virginia

"And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, *I am making all things new.*' Also he said, 'Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true'" (Revelation 21:5, *NRSVue*). **Today's Bible readings from the lectionary:** Acts 11:1-8; Psalm 148; Revelation 21:1-6; John 13:31-35.

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CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
Hagerstown, Maryland

COMBINED MORNING WORSHIP **10:45 AM**

May 18, 2025
All Music Sunday

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Jan Young, Worship Leader

PRELUDE "Morning Has Broken" (Lau)

***CALL TO WORSHIP** "Let There Be Music" (Young)

***SCRIPTURE READING** Psalm 95:1 OT 550
Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

***HYMN #71** "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"
[Verse 1]

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love. Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee, praising thee their sun above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away. Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!

[Verse 2]

All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heav'n reflect thy rays, stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise. Field and forest, vale and mountain, blooming meadow, flashing sea, chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.

[Verse 3]

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever bless'd, well-spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest! Thou our Father, Christ our brother, all who live in love are thine. Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

[Verse 4]

Mortals, join the mighty chorus which the morning stars began. Love divine is reigning o'er us, leading us with mercy's hand. Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife. Joyful music lifts us sunward in the triumph song of life!

BRETHREN BELLS "Resounding Joy" (McChesney)

***OPENING PRAYER**

Dear God, our friend, we come to worship you today. We come to sing, pray, and listen. You always hear us. Help us to hear you. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS CELEBRATING JESUS

Luke 2:14 - "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

1 Peter 1:3 - "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy, he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."

MORNING PRAISE TEAM AND CHOIR "King of Kings"

BRETHREN BELLS "Wondrous Love" (Edwards)

SERVICE OF GIVING

Call to Giving

God has shown us the meaning of generosity in the beautiful diversity of creation, in the overflowing love of Jesus Christ, in the never-ending gift of the Holy Spirit. God has abundantly blessed us and called us to be a community that honors each other, to be servants to others with Joy, to share our love and material possessions. Let us rejoice in what we have been given and in what is ours to give.

As we pass the offering plate here in the sanctuary, we also pass a virtual offering plate to those worshipping with us on Facebook Live. We invite you to give by mailing your offering to the church or dropping it off at the church during the week, or by going to the Hagerstowncob webpage.

Offertory "Toccata Giojoso" (Sewell)

***Doxology #119** "Praise God from whom"

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Let us pray. Dear God, We offer you our praise, we offer you our hearts, we offer you our money, we offer you our lives. Thank you for everything you give to us. Amen.

BRETHREN BELLS "Fantasy on Kingsfold" (Wagner)

A MOMENT TO BECOME LIKE CHILDREN

SHARING OUR JOYS, CONCERNS, AND HOPES

Please remember our worship is also on Facebook Live and our website.

Please do not share any personal information you do not want to be made public.

An usher will hold the microphone for you while you share.

CALL TO PRAYER “Just As I Am” (Martin)
Temple Choir

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER RESPONSE “Still”
Morning Praise Team

HYMN “When Words Alone Cannot Express”
[Verse 1]
When words alone cannot express
all that our hearts ache to confess, bring music! Alleluia!
Bring melody and rhythmic fire!
Bring instruments, bring bells and choir!
Bring music! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
[Verse 2]
When speech erodes and tempers flare,
when peace gives way to idle dare, bring music! Alleluia!
Let psalms restore our memory that God has made us to be free!
Bring music! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
[Verse 3]
When bread is broken, wine is poured,
when we encounter Christ the Lord, bring music! Alleluia!
When children teach us how to pray, when simple heroes
show the way, Bring music! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
[Verse 4]
Within each season of our lives,
when every passageway arrives, bring music! Alleluia!
Sing when the infant draws a breath;
sing when the elder yields to death.
Bring music! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

MORNING ANTHEM “Joyful Sing!” (Berry)

SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 148 OT 582
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights! Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host! Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars! Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens! Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he

commanded and they were created. He established them forever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed. Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps, fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command! Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars! Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds! Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth! Young men and women alike, old and young together! Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven. He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise the Lord!

REFLECTION “Listen to the Music” Pastor Twyla Rowe

BRETHREN BELLS “God of Grace and God of Glory” (McChesney)

***HYMN #44** “When in Our Music God Is Glorified”
[Verse 1]
When in our music God is glorified, and adoration leaves no room for pride,
it is as though the whole creation cried, alleluia!
[Verse 2]
How often, making music, we have found a new dimension in the world of sound,
as worship moved us to a more profound alleluia!
[Verse 3]
So has the church, in liturgy and song, in faith and love, through centuries of
wrong, borne witness to the truth in ev’ry tongue, alleluia!
[Verse 4]
And did not Jesus sing a psalm that night when utmost evil strove against the
Light? Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight: alleluia!
[Verse 5]
Let eve’y instrument be tuned for praise! Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!
And may God give us faith to sing always alleluia! alleluia!

***CHORAL BENEDICTION** “Give Me a Song” (Choplin)

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\*After the Benediction, you are dismissed.  
Thank you for joining us in worship today.

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Hagerstown
Church of the Brethren
15 S. Mulberry Street,
Hagerstown, Maryland
21740
301-733-3565

Office: Tuesday—Friday
Flexible hours
(appointments welcome/
call ahead)

Morning Praise Worship
at 8:30 AM
Sunday School at 9:30 AM
Worship and Facebook Live at
10:45 AM

www.hagerstowncob.org

[www.facebook.com/
hagerstowncob](http://www.facebook.com/hagerstowncob)

Twyla Rowe
Pastor

Allyson McPeak
Administrative Assistant

Burton Young
Director of
Music Ministries

Don Rowe
Interior Esthetics
Technician

*We welcome you to our church and
Rejoice in your participation with us in
worship. It is our prayer that you will
experience the presence of God's Spirit and
that it will equip you for service and ministry
in the week ahead. Our Pastor, Deacons, and
Cluster Leaders are available after worship
and during the week to listen and assist you in
your Christian pilgrimage.*

THE ANNOUNCER **May 18, 2025**

If you placed someone on the prayer list and they are now celebrating a recovery and would like their name taken off the list, please contact the church office.

If you or a loved one has surgery scheduled, is hospitalized, or would like a visit from the pastor, please notify the church.

"Take A Moment" Let this be our daily "Take a Moment" prayer beginning on Sunday, May 18 - I praise you, O God! I will lift my heart and voice to praise you today and every day. I will glorify your name even on the days that are rocky with trials; and that are filled with melancholy emotions. The rhythm of my heart beat and of my breath sings a glorious melody of thanksgiving to you for giving me this day. The sights and sounds of all creation stir my soul to dancing with joy. Your presence can be seen and felt all around and within me; so, how can I keep from singing your praises? I can't! Holy are you, O God! Great are You, Lord! Amen.

Today is All Music Sunday! Our thanks to Jan Young for being our worship leader today, to our wonderful music groups, the Temple Choir, the Brethren Bells, and the Praise Band, to our Director of Music Ministries, Burt Young and all our many talented soloists and musicians who bring us special music throughout the year.

Attendance. Please sign the attendance rosters found at the end of your pew, or possibly in the hymnal rack, and pass it down the row so everyone can sign.

The flowers on the altar this morning are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Mom/Maw-Maw, Phyllis R. Kline, and in remembrance of her passing May 18, 2017, with love from Susan (Janie) Hughes, Jeremy Springer and little Colie.

If you would like to place flowers on the altar, we have two openings in June. June 8th & June 29th, please contact Wanda Winner at 301-733-8222

There will be a joint meeting of the Christian Education Ministry Team and all VBS volunteers at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, May 20th in the Altruistic Room. All are welcome!

It's time for Messenger Magazine renewals! Renewal is \$14.50 for one year, or \$27.00 for two years. Never before subscribers - \$10.00 for the first year only. Should you choose to subscribe (or renew) to Messenger, your check should be made out to Hagerstown Church of the Brethren and should be placed in the offering or forwarded to the Church Office no later than **May 21, 2025**. Be sure to write "Messenger" on the memo line of your check. This deadline is firm. The paperwork has to be mailed to the Messenger office before their deadline. **CURRENT SUBSCRIBERS:** Check your email for a note! Messenger now offers an online option. If you would like more details on this, please contact the church office at secretaryhcob@gmail.com or call 301-733-3565.

HCOB Church Picnic will be held on Sunday, June 1st at Marty Snook Park, pavilion #4 at 1:00 pm. 17901 Halfway Blvd., Hagerstown, MD 21740. Please bring a covered dish and a lawn chair, if you like. Spiritual Nurture will provide chicken, hot dogs, water, and paper goods. Please indicate on the sign-up sheet in the west entrance and fellowship hall if you will be attending the church picnic and if you are bringing a side dish. We need a head count of how many are attending. (Come into the park off the Bower Ave entrance and pavilion #4 will be on your left.) Thank you!

HCOB has a YouTube Channel! Moving forward, all service will be uploaded to YouTube. This change is necessary due to Facebook's updated policy, which now only retains uploaded videos for 30 days. In order to begin live streaming our services on YouTube, we need your support. YouTube requires a minimum of 50 subscribers (we are a little over half way there!) before live streaming capabilities are enabled. Until we meet that goal, all services will still be live streamed on Facebook. We encourage you to subscribe to the channel and share it with others and you can do so by going to www.youtube.com/@hagerstowncob

The HARC Hike will be on Saturday, May 31, and the Challenge Hike on Saturday, May 17. More information can be found at <https://harccoalition.org/hike/>

The Community Picnic will be held on Saturday, June 7th. We need a lot of help from our members and friends to help us with this event. We also need baked beans. Sign-up sheets are available in the west entrance and fellowship hall. The Service & Outreach Team thanks you in advance.

The Service & Outreach Team will be giving away clothes at our upcoming June Community Picnic. If you have spring or summer clothes you would like to donate, we would appreciate them.

Fellowship Time — We're in need of volunteers to provide goodies for Fellowship Time, held the first Sunday of each month from 10:20 am—10:40 am. Goodies may be your favorite recipe or a delicious store bought treat. Suggestions include cookies, muffins, or doughnuts (3-4 dozen of whatever you choose) and may be dropped off in the Mullendore Room (the room behind the wing of the sanctuary) that morning. Beverages and paper products are provided. Please sign up on the sheet located in the west entrance, or contact Kristal Bricker or Amy Hardy. Thank you for helping to make Fellowship Time possible!

Deadline for bulletins and newsletters. Announcements for the weekly bulletin need to be given to the administrative assistant before noon on Wednesday. Announcements for the monthly newsletters need to be given to the administrative assistant before the 15th of each month. Let's help her out by meeting deadlines, and also by not asking for special exceptions. Announcements should continue to be emailed to secretaryhcob@gmail.com. Thank you!

Cash for Causes/Martin's Gift Card Program. Purchase Martin's gift cards to take to the store to pay for your groceries or gas, and 5% of the face value of the gift card is a donation to the church and goes toward your yearly charitable contribution. To purchase a card, please contact Larry Kees, Jr. (301-331-0107). We can make arrangements to leave cards in your church mailbox or mail them to you.

Please remember to keep the administrative assistant updated on when and where meetings/events are being held. Please email or call the Administrative Assistant with information that needs added to the church calendar. **301-733-3565 or secretaryhcob@gmail.com**. Thank you!

Warm, sunny weather is here! We want to take this opportunity to remind you that in the warm weather many of the neighborhood children ride bikes, trikes, skateboards, and scooters, on our parking lot. They're often low to the ground and moving fast so please be on the lookout for them when you visit the church. When on foot, please also be on the lookout for cars speeding through the parking lot to "beat the light" at the corner.

If you have changed your email address, and would like to continue to receive the bulletins, eTidings, and other church related news as it happens please send the change to secretaryhcob@gmail.com.

CALENDAR

Sunday, May 18

Music Sunday

9:30 am	Sunday School, individual classrooms
10:45 am	Combined Worship, Sanctuary & Facebook Live
2:30 am	Growing Hope Globally's Blessing of the Seed/Near Grossnickle COB

Monday, May 19

Church office closed

Tuesday, May 20

12:00 pm	Mary Martha Group/Altruistic Room or Mullendore Room
6:30 pm	CE Meeting_VBS Meeting/Altruistic Room
7:00 pm	Hag. Choral Arts/Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, May 21

Administrative Assistant/Work from Home

12:00 pm	Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions
12:30 pm	Hag. Choral Arts Women's Ensemble/Fellowship Hall

Friday, May 23

8:00 am	Bulletin prep./Church office
1:00 pm	Islamic Center/Use of Parking Lot (1-3pm)

Saturday, May 24

Pastor Twyla's day off

Sunday, May 25

Junior Church

8:30 am	Morning Praise Worship/Fellowship Hall
9:30 am	Sunday School, individual classrooms
10:45 am	Worship, Sanctuary & Facebook Live

Remember our weekday schedule is subject to rapid change.

You may mail your offering to
15 S. Mulberry Street,
Hagerstown MD 21740
OR
you can make a secure offering
donation on our website using
Breeze www.hagerstowncob.org

The church calendar is online at
www.hagerstowncob.org.
Click the calendar tab.