

This is My Fathers World<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bEE5MvoT3oI>

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears
 All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.
 This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought
 Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas-- His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world: the birds their carols raise,
 The morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise.
 This is my Father's world: He shines in all that's fair;
 In the rustling grass, I hear Him pass, He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world: O let me ne'er forget
 That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Ruler yet.
 This is my Father's world: The battle is not done
 Jesus Who died shall be satisfied and earth and heaven be one

Bible Text and Sermon (To access the sermon video/audio and worship liturgy, please visit our website at idealparkchurch.com and click on the "Current Sermon Series" tab for July 26. From there, click on "Watch Now" or "Read Now").

Message title: "A Reason to Rest" **Pastor Chris Bouma**

Scripture: Genesis 1:31-2:3.

³¹ God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

¹ Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array.

² By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. ³ Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.

Sermon Outline

God's creation and practice God creates a masterpiece

- God takes time to do two things:
 - 1) _____
 - 2) _____

Sabbath not a part of our modern culture

Sabbath is:

- Stopping
- Delighting in
- Growing into the image of Jesus

Discussion questions:

- How have I understood why I practice Sabbath?
- How can I make time in my life to "stop" like God does in our text?
- If I don't regularly practice Sabbath, why is this?

Prayers for our church, community, nation, and world (Read these as you feel led, either out loud or silently.)

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit God,

We come to you with busy lives in a busy world

Father, you call us to slow down. You call us to take time in our week to stop and talk with you. You call us to take time each week to worship you and adore you. You call us to come to know you better through your word and prayer. Just as an earthly parent desires to know their child in a deep and meaningful way, so do you desire such a relationship with us. Forgive us when we don't slow down, when we don't heed your calling, when we don't spend time in your word. Draw us close to you, we pray. Speak to us through your word and help us to know you better through it. [silent prayer]

Holy Spirit, we pray that you would work in our hearts to desire deeper fellowship with you. We pray not only for ourselves, but also for those who do not know you, God. We pray that they would hear your voice calling, that they would seek you in your word. We pray that you would prompt the hearts of those we interact with to wonder at the joyous relationship we have with you. [silent prayer]

Jesus, we thank you that you have revealed the loving and righteous nature of the triune God in your work on the cross. If we are ever in doubt of your love for us, turn our eyes to see what you have done. Help us to remember that you have called your disciples friends. Help us to remember that you gave your life that we may have fellowship with you. [silent prayer]

Song of Praise and Hope (The words to the songs have been provided below for singing or reflection. If you would like to sing along with a video or simply listen to the music, please either click on the link provided, look it up on Youtube, or play your own instrument if possible.)

My Friends May You Grow in Grace

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R6bfZFqHbjw>

My friends may you grow in grace
And in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior
My friends may you grow in grace
And in the knowledge of Jesus Christ
To God be the glory - Now and forever
Now and forever Amen
To God be the glory- Now and forever
Now and forever Amen.

“The LORD bless you and keep you, the LORD make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you;
the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.”
Numbers 6:24-26 (New International Version)