



CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER
United Church of Christ



Reflections from Pastor Brooke for October 2, 2020

The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.
~ Psalm 19:1

How did you learn various pieces of scripture? Did you have to memorize them as a child in Sunday School? Was there a verse that had special meaning to you or your family? When I read this scripture this week, [this piece of music](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yTYJm5Ae0Xo), *The Heavens are Telling* (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yTYJm5Ae0Xo>), immediately went through my head.

Over the years, I have learned scripture through music. *The Heavens are Telling* is one of the movements in Haydn's *Creation*. It is based on Psalm 19. Now, if I am honest, did I know that? No! But when I read the scripture, that piece immediately began going through my head.

We learn and spend time with scripture in many different ways. Some of us sit down with our Bible every day and read a piece of scripture. Some of us read the piece of scripture that is attached with our daily devotional. Some of us listen to a piece of music and hear scripture.

Each week as I choose hymns for worship, I begin by looking in the back of the hymnal to see if there are any hymns based on the piece of scripture upon which I am preaching. Did you know that index was back there? Not every hymn is based on a specific piece of scripture, but many are. There are weeks that the suggested hymn is either too unfamiliar or too difficult to sing and I don't use it, but that is often how I choose the hymns to go with worship.

So if you have ever been concerned that you don't spend enough time in scripture, open your hymnal and sing your favorite hymn — you have likely just spent time in scripture.

Blessings,

Pastor Brooke