

## MORNING HAS BROKEN

Genesis 1:1-5; 2:1-3

Dr. Doyle Sager, First Baptist Church,  
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WATCH/LISTEN: <https://www.fbcjc.org/sermon/morning-has-broken/>

I've been accused by family and staff of having a neurotic attachment to early mornings. I absolutely love them. Do you? Sunrise is a beautiful experience. I realize some of you are willing to take my word for it! Here are some photos of sunrises, to whet your appetite. When the word "morning" is used in Genesis 1, the Hebrew word is literally "dawn."

Perhaps you're acquainted with this poem, "Morning Person," included in our online worship guide. It's by Vassar Miller:

God, best at making in the morning, tossed  
stars and planets, singing and dancing, rolled  
Saturn's rings spinning and humming, twirled the earth  
so hard it coughed and spat the moon up, brilliant  
bubble floating around it for good, stretched holy  
hands till birds in nervous sparks flew forth from  
them and beasts—lizards, big and little, apes,  
lions, elephants, dogs and cats cavorting,  
tumbling over themselves, dizzy with joy when  
God made us in the morning too, both man  
and woman, leaving Adam no time for  
sleep so nimbly was Eve bouncing out of  
his side till as night came everything and  
everybody, growing tired, declined, sat  
down in one soft descended Hallelujah.

The first two chapters of Genesis make it clear: God is in the business of making mornings. This morning, more than ever, we need to hear the hope in this message. In Gen. 1:2 God's breath swept across chaos and created order. Out of a murky nothing, order! Astronomer Fred Hoyle suggested an analogy for the likelihood that the earth organized itself without some outside intelligence and force. It would be like a gale force wind blowing through a junk yard and leaving behind a fully assembled 747 jet, which had assembled itself [*Creed*, by Adam Hamilton, p. 25].

In the midst of the pandemic, in the midst of all your challenges, you need to know that morning has broken. God is somehow still in control, guiding and providing.

And who among us does not ache for morning to break on our own nation in this time of turmoil? The message of Genesis is needed in the time of racial tension. All lives have

significance and worth to Creator God. The first step in all racial hatred is to see the other as less than human. We are all made in God's image.

The creation story reminds us that it's all about relationships. God's essence is relational. The Trinity (Father, Son, Holy Spirit) speaks of God's relational nature. God made us for relationships. Think about something. I think about the way I am aching to see all of you, my children and grandchildren. If we ache that much, how much more God is longing to be in relationship with us.

Morning has broken, like the first morning! The resurrection of Jesus Christ is God remaking the morning. God is in the business of making mornings. Your conversion to Jesus Christ was God remaking the morning. Every act of forgiveness, every act of servanthood is God remaking the morning. Every time we grow in character and make a decision to love, not hate, God is remaking the morning. Morning has broken!