



MATTHIAS J. PEARSON, ARCHITECT

ARCHITECTURE

FURNITURE
ART

DESIGN AND SUSTAINABILITY

"God's Grandeur"

The world is charged with the grandeur of God.
It will flame out, like shining from shook foil;
It gathers to a greatness, like the ooze of oil
Crushed. Why do men then now not reck his rod?
Generations have trod, have trod, have trod;
And all is seared with trade; bleared, smeared with toil;
And wears man's smudge and shares man's smell: the soil
Is bare now, nor can foot feel, being shod.
And for all this, nature is never spent;
There lives the dearest freshness deep down things;
And though the last lights off the black West went
Oh, morning, at the brown brink eastward, springs--
Because the Holy Ghost over the bent
World broods with warm breast and with ah! bright wings.

Gerald Manley Hopkins (1877)

Design and Sustainability

- How do we respond to each of these?
- Are design and sustainability essential?
- Are they peripheral?
- How can sustainability feed our need/responsibility to be creative?
- How can design and sustainability enhance our worship?
- What is stewardship?

Biblical Basis

Psalms 19:1-6

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours out speech, and night-to-night reveals knowledge. There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard. Their measuring line goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them he has set a tent for the sun, which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy. Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them, and there is nothing hidden from its heat.

Psalms 104

O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom have you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

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

1 Peter 2:9

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies (acts) of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Discovering God

- General Revelation - Creation, culture and the conscience of men
- Specific Revelation – Scripture

Both still work side by side to reveal the nature of God and to draw people to him.

Personal Mission Statement

- Discover Beauty
- Work Creatively
- Search for Truth
- Value Relationships
- Act upon God

Philosophy of Practice

My philosophy of practice is summed up in the following phrase”

“Creating places for the measuring line of God to reveal itself.”

How I practice creating spaces like this.

- Space (creation)
- Site/landscape/microclimate (creation)
- Human need (creation, culture)
- Materials (creation, conscience)
- Technology (conscience)

What is this creation less
 Than a capacious reservoir of means
 Form'd for his use, and ready at his will?
 Go, dress thine eyes with eye-salve; ask of him,
 Or ask of whomever he has taught;
 And learn, though late, the genuine cause of all

William Cowper

"Myriad"

Upon the page, symbolic form,
Both a miracle and yet the norm
The functions clear,
Sum and difference will soon transform

Equations chain lies in His hand,
Voice authority will dance command
Solution's true, line of measure will divide, expand

Myriad, see the numbers as they're counting down
Thousands and thousands
Myriad, form and function to display the sound
Line upon line every melody points the way

The cycle turns, like Heaven's gate,
Unknown integers predestinate
Calculating all we must explore, and navigate

Quantities no man can know,
No formula to wield
No pages left to turn,
No choices but to yield

Kansas – Somewhere to Elsewhere