Bible Chat week starting 25 9 22

Psalm 65 (The Message translation)

1-2 Silence is praise to you, Zion-dwelling God,
And also obedience.
You hear the prayer in it all.

2-8 We all arrive at your doorstep sooner or later, loaded with guilt,
Our sins too much for us — but you get rid of them once and for all.
Blessed are the chosen! Blessed the guest at home in your place!
We expect our fill of good things in your house, your heavenly manse.
All your salvation wonders are on display in your trophy room.
Earth-Tamer, Ocean-Pourer, Mountain-Maker, Hill-Dresser,
Muzzler of sea storm and wave crash, of mobs in noisy riot—
Far and wide they'll come to a stop, they'll stare in awe, in wonder.
Dawn and dusk take turns calling, "Come and worship."

9-13 Oh, visit the earth, ask her to join the dance!
Deck her out in spring showers, fill the God-River with living water.
Paint the wheat fields golden.
Creation was made for this!
Drench the ploughed fields, soak the dirt clods
with rainfall as harrow and rake bring her to blossom and fruit.
Snow-crown the peaks with splendour, scatter rose petals down your paths,
All through the wild meadows, rose petals.
Set the hills to dancing,
Dress the canyon walls with live sheep, a drape of flax across the valleys.
Let them shout, and shout, and shout! Oh, oh, let them sing!

1. This week we engage with Eugene Peterson's rendering of Psalm 65. Describe the mood of this text in a few adjectives.
2. The poem starts with silence and ends with noise. What's the relationship between silence and noise when it comes to worship? Reflect on Hearsall's style of worship in this regard.
3. How is the worship in the sanctuary connected with the life of the world in this text?
4. What understanding of the natural world is explored here?
5. In recent years, how has humanity affected this world?
6. How can we as a community of people allow our worship to flow into our life as citizens of the world, consumers of products.
7. Make some practical suggestions for the church meeting to consider.