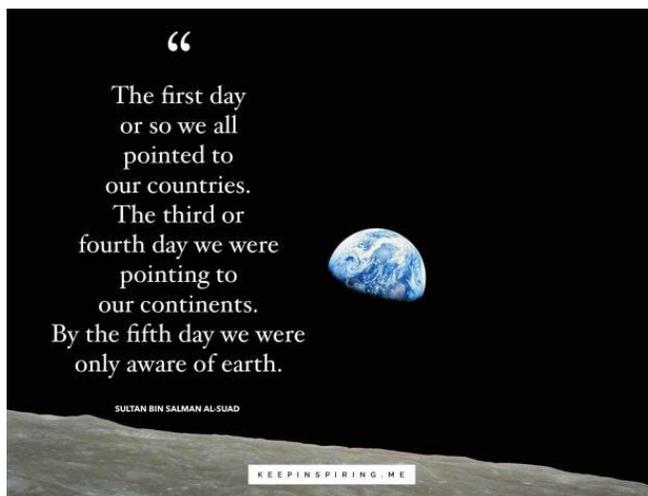


**THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
ORDER OF WORSHIP
APRIL 26, 2020**

In Celebration of the Earth



PRELUDE: “Oh How He Loves You and Me” (Patty Meyer)

INTROIT: “Great Trees” words by Wendell Berry, music by Mary Alice Amidon

WELCOME

SILENT MEDITATION and THE LIGHTING OF CANDLES

Please join by lighting a candle in your home

REPORT FROM THE SEARCH COMMITTEE

A slogan for Earth Day could be, “We’re all in this together!” We hear and see it every day in news releases and TV ads and Facebook posts, relating to the COVID-19 pandemic. The slogan is also appropriate for us as a church, as we wait, imagine, hope, and plan—expecting that any plan we make must change as our situation changes. You are all in our hearts! This is not an easy time, whether our circumstances are comfortable or not. Let’s try to bear in mind these words of Scripture: “Cast all your anxieties on God, because God cares for you.” (1 Peter 5:7) Please continue to pray for the search and transition committees, for Lise, for our whole congregation, and for the pastor who is to come. “May grace and peace be yours in abundance.”

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE FOR THE SEARCH COMMITTEE

PRAYER FOR THE SEARCH COMMITTEE

OPENING WORDS: (unison) by Carl Sagan

"Look again at that dot. That's here, that's home, that's us. On it everyone you love, everyone you know, everyone you ever heard of, every human being who ever was, lived out their lives. The aggregate of our joy and suffering, thousands of confident religions, ideologies and economic doctrines, every hunter and forager, every hero and coward, every creator and destroyer of civilization, every king and peasant, every young couple in love, every mother and father, hopeful child, inventor and explorer, every teacher of morals, every corrupt politician, every "superstar," every "supreme leader," every saint and sinner in the history of our species lived there—on a mote of dust suspended in a sunbeam."

OPENING HYMN: #258 "Morning Has Broken" (Tom and Connie Green)

Morning Has Broken

words Eleanor Fajeon
Gaelic traditional tune

Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing, black - bird has spo -
Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from heav - en, like the first dew -
9 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing born of the one
ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the
fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet
17 light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - ery
morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!
gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where his feet pass.
morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

PREPARATION FOR CONFESSION (unison)

Morning breaks and the day dawns
Winter turns to spring
Cold to warmth
Brown to green
Help us also turn ,Lord
Help us turn to you
Day by Day
Hour by Hour
Help us turn to You.
SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (unison)

Now is the season
Turn turn turn
To gratitude
To wonder
To courage
And let us celebrate our Life, together.

ANTHEM: "What a Wonderful World"
(Arthur Davis, Amelia Fontein, Emma Schneider, Guillaume Sparrow-Pepin)

CHILDREN'S STORY: "Rain and the Rainbow"

PRAYER

CHILDREN'S HYMN: #98 "God of the Sparrow" (Larry Crockett)

God of the Sparrow

Words Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1983
 Music: Carl F. Schalk, 1983



1. God of the spar - row God of the whale,
 2. God of the earth - quake God of the storm,
 3. God of the rain - bow God of the cross,
 4. God of the hun - gry God of the sick,
 5. God of the neigh - bor God of the foe,
 6. God of the a - - - ges God near at hand,



God of the swir - ling stars. How do your crea - tures say
 God of the trum - pet blast. How do your crea - tures cry
 God of the emp - ty grave. How do your crea - tures say
 God of the prod - i - gal. How do your crea - tures say
 God of the prun - ing hook. How do your crea - tures say
 God of the lov - ing heart. How do your chil - dren say



Awe? How do your crea - tures say Praise?
 Woe? How do your crea - tures cry Save?
 Grace? How do your crea - tures say Thanks?
 Care? How do your crea - tures say Life?
 Love? How do your crea - tures say Peace?
 Joy? How do your chil - dren say Home?

READINGS FOR EARTH DAY: Lila Tadlock & Finn Breismeister

I. by Wangari Maathai:

“Today we are faced with a challenge that calls for a shift in our thinking, so that humanity stops threatening its life-support system. We are called to assist the Earth to heal her wounds and in the process heal our own - indeed to embrace the whole of creation in all its diversity, beauty and wonder. Recognizing that sustainable development, democracy and peace are indivisible is an idea whose time has come”

II. “Earth, Teach Me” from the Ute Tribe in Colorado

Earth teach me quiet ~ as the grasses are still with new light.
 Earth teach me suffering ~ as old stones suffer with memory.
 Earth teach me humility ~ as blossoms are humble with beginning.
 Earth teach me caring ~ as mothers nurture their young.
 Earth teach me courage ~ as the tree that stands alone.

Earth teach me limitation ~ as the ant that crawls on the ground.
Earth teach me freedom ~ as the eagle that soars in the sky.
Earth teach me acceptance ~ as the leaves that die each fall.
Earth teach me renewal ~ as the seed that rises in the spring.
Earth teach me to forget myself ~ as melted snow forgets its life.
Earth teach me to remember kindness ~ as dry fields weep with rain.

III. Job 12: 7-9

“But ask the animals, and they will teach you,
or the birds in the sky, and they will tell you;
8 or speak to the earth, and it will teach you,
or let the fish in the sea inform you.
9 Which of all these does not know
that the hand of the LORD has done this?
10 In his hand is the life of every creature
and the breath of all mankind.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE Hymn:#617
“Write These Words in Our Hearts ...”

SERMON “What Are We Fighting For?”

ANTHEM: “Captain Kidd” from the Southern Harmony, arr. Andy Davis

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE_i (Elliot Freeman and Diane Larsen-Freeman)

For Xiuhtezcatl (pronounced “Shu-TEZ-caht”), the Aztec people, and indigenous groups everywhere, for the mountains and rivers of Colorado facing the pestilence of foreign species, fires and drought...

For Kelsey, Cascadia and the Pacific Northwest, a land increasingly impacted by wildfires, ocean acidification, and heat waves...

For Miko, the Marshall Islands and all islands in the Pacific and all Pacific Islander Peoples on the frontlines of rising tides and climate change...

For Levi, the barrier islands of Florida, the sea life being impacted by red algal blooms and all in the paths of increasing storms and hurricanes...

For Tia, Kiran and Isaac, the mountains of Oregon facing record low snowfall and summer droughts and the communities around the state impacted and those trying to free themselves from fossil fuels...

For Sahara, Hazel, Avery and Zealand, the decreasing water levels of the Mohawk River in Oregon and increasing sea levels on the coasts, the animals that are endangered throughout the Pacific Northwest...

For Victoria, the low-lying land of New York City and the coastal areas threatened by increasing storm intensity in all seasons...

For Journey, his native Sioux people and lands as well as his adopted culture and land in Hawaii and the communities seeing shrinking beaches, dying coral reefs and drought and lives threatened by complete submersion by the end of the century...

For Jaime, her native Dineh people, the communities of Arizona, and the Navajo Nation facing water scarcity, the cultural and spiritual impacts of climate change...

For Jayden, the people and land of Louisiana, facing what should be 500 and 1,000-year floods multiple times a year and those whose health is diminished because of pollution and fossil fuel development...

For Nathan, the people and land of Alaska where severe winter ice storms and summer wildfires are changing the land, water and air...

For Aji, for ancient trees that need protection and for those fighting to protect forests and plant new ones...

For Sophie and for children whose lives are disrupted by climate change, who miss school in the wake of increasing storms, and who are losing their spaces to encounter creation and living eco systems...

For Nick and those called by their faith to protect the earth...

For Jacob and those pioneering sustainable ways of farming and agriculture even as climate change makes it harder, and for those fighting pipelines and pollution from industrialized agriculture...

For Alex and young people committed to studying earth sciences and working for an end to climate change...

For our youth bringing legal action in states and at the national level, on behalf of all of us...

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:

Hymn #278 "Hear our Prayer, Oh Lord..."

THE OFFERTORY
CALL TO OFFERING
*DOXOLOGY
PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PASSING OF THE PEACE

*THE CLOSING HYMN: #51 "All Creatures of Our God, Now Sing"
(Rachel and Dwayne Johnson, Robin and Andy Davis)

All Creatures of Our God

Words: St. Francis of Assisi, 1225 Tr. William H. Draper, 1925
Music: *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Cologne, 1623

1. All crea - tures of our God, now sing; lift up your voic - es, let them
2. O rush - ing wind with voice so strong, O clouds that sail in heav'n a -
3. O flow - ing wa - ter, pure and clear, make mu - sic for your God to
4. Now we who are of ten - der heart, for - giv - ing oth - ers, take our
5. Let all things their cre - a - tor bless, and wor - ship God in hum - ble -
5 ring, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! O burn - ing sun with gold - en
long, sing your pras - es Al - le - lu - ia! O ris - ing morn, in praise re -
hear, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! O fire so mas - ter - ful and
part sing - ing prais - es, Al - le - lu - ia! To God we lift our pain and
9 ness, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! O praise the One who gives us
beam, O sil - ver moon with soft - er gleam, O sing prais - es, O sing
joice, O lights of eve - ning, find a voice,
bright, that gives to all both warmth and light,
care, the bur - dened sor - rows that we bear,
birth, re - deem - ing giv - ing life its worth,
13 prais - es, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - - ia!

BENEDICTION

*THREEFOLD AMEN: Hymn #291

ZOOM CALL - Lise Sparrow is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: ZOOM Coffee Hour

Time: Apr 26, 2020 10:30 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85414595315>

Meeting ID: 854 1459 5315

i From UCC.org...**Justice For #EachGeneration Worship Service**
Solidarity with the Youth Awakening a Nation to Climate Action

Prepared by Rev. Tracy Howe Wispelwey

Written to honor the words and experiences of the 21 youth plaintiffs in *Juliana v. U.S.* Learn more about the youth on the Our Children's Trust website.

