

UNITE IN LOVE

Pre-service Music

Welcome

Prelude

***Call to Worship**

One: Church, where do you see God?

**ALL: We see God in the wide reach of sky,
in the towering height of mountains,
in the depths of the sea,
and in the vividness of flowers.**

One: Church, where else do you see God?

**ALL: We see God in early morning sunrises,
in the quiet after a snow,
in the reaching of rivers and tributaries,
and in the stars that light the night.**

One: And in your seeing, what do you know?

ALL: We know that God is here and we know that God is good.

***Gathering Hymn #664**

“Morning Has Broken”

all verses

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession

ALL: Creator God, we have lost our way.

One: In the beginning, humanity was instructed to care for creation.

However, in pursuit of our own wealth and efficiency, we have done the opposite.

**ALL: The oceans are heavy with plastic.
The ice caps are melting by the hour.
Animals and plants are treated as a means to an end.
Corporations fill the atmosphere with pollution.
Policies and practices are slow to change.**

One: Forgive us, O God.

ALL: Bring us back to the garden.

One: Fill our hearts with compassion for your world.

**ALL: Show us where we can make a difference,
and help us to see your fingerprints in every glimpse of the natural world.**

Quiet Reflection

Assurance of Grace

One: Join me in proclaiming these words of forgiveness:

Just as flowers that bloom after the fire, there is nothing that God cannot redeem.

ALL: We are known. We are loved. We are made new.

One: So may we roll up our sleeves and get our hands dirty

ALL: with the work of justice,

One: with the work of compassion,

ALL: with the work of mercy.

One: Thanks be to God for this new day!

ALL: Alleluia! Amen.

Response to Grace #582

“Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me”

Anthem

“Touch the Earth Lightly”

The congregation is invited to join on last verse.

GROW IN FAITH

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Psalm 19:1-4

Time for Wonder *children are invited forward*

Scripture Reading

Hosea 4:1-3

Reflection on the Word

Affirmation of Faith

**We believe in a creating God
who delights in the Earth and calls it good.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit
who moves through creation like a mighty rushing wind.**

**We believe in Jesus of Nazareth
who calmed the seas and told stories of mustard seeds, birds, and valleys.**

**We believe that humanity is undeniably intertwined with creation,
and that creation is undeniably intertwined with God.**

**Therefore, we believe our faith calls us to care for creation: to plant flowers,
to speak tenderly to animals,**

to thank the Earth for her bounty,

to clean the streams,

to protect the forests,

and to live like we are standing on holy ground, because we are.

Amen.

***The Word in Song**

*"The Earth is the Lord's" by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette
Using the tune of #12 "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"*

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|---|---|
| 1) "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof."
Creation reminds us, O God, of your love.
By grace we are learning, as year leads to year,
We're called to be stewards, your caretakers here. | 3) Too often, O God, we abuse your good earth.
We fail to remember its beauty and worth.
We take from creation much more than we need,
We threaten your world through indifference
and greed. |
| 2) Your rainforests nurture the world that we share.
Your wetlands give animals shelter and care.
Your coral reefs cradle the life of the sea.
You've shown us, in love,
what your good world can be. | 4) May we be good stewards of all that you give,
Protecting creation wherever we live.
May we be a church that renews and restores
And lovingly cares for this earth that is yours. |

REACH OUT TO OTHERS

Prayers of the People

Prayer Writing

The Lord's Prayer

Our Creator in heaven, holy is your name, your kin-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kin-dom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Offering Invitation

Poem

"East of Eden"

By Sarah A. Speed

Prayer of Gratitude

***Doxology 606**

Our Life Together

- **Congregational Meeting**

***Sending Hymn #765**

"May the God of Hope Go with Us"

all verses

Blessing & Charge

Postlude