



April 19, 2020 Order of Worship Earth Day Sunday



Prelude *Adagio in E Major*

Velda Graham Bell, organ

Frank Bridge

Recognition of UMC EarthKeepers

Chuck Campbell, Carol Donahue, Pastor Sarah Horsfield, Naomi Yaeger

Call to Worship

The Prescott Family

One: On this Earth Day morning, we gather giving thanks for the beauty of creation.

All: All creatures great and small, the Lord God made them all.

One: Our minds are filled with the wisdom and wonder of all that God has made.

All: May we gently care for the gift of all creation, that we, too, might be keepers of the Earth.

* **Hymn** *All Things Bright and Beautiful*

UM Hymnal #147, v. 1-3

*All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful: the Lord God made them all.*

*1. Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colors, and made their tiny wings.
All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful: the Lord God made them all.*

*2. The purple-headed mountains, the river running by,
the sunset and the morning that brightens up the sky.
All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful: the Lord God made them all.*

*3. The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun,
the ripe fruits in the garden: God made them every one.
All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful: the Lord God made them all.*

Morning Prayer

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Unison Prayer

Help us to harness the wind, the water, the sun, and all the ready and renewable sources of power. Teach us to conserve, preserve and use wisely the blessed treasures of our wealth-stored earth. Help us to share your bounty, not to waste it or pervert it into peril for our children or our neighbors in other nations. You, who are life and energy and blessing, teach us to revere and respect your tender world. – Thomas John Carlisle

Prayers of Joy and Concern

Solstice Prayer by Chuck Dayton

Our Creator, throughout the heavens, hallowed by thy flame. In a trillion suns, thy will be done. In the tiniest cell, thy kingdom comes. Give us each day – a bird in flight, a flower's perfume, a bright star's light. And lead us not on the path of greed but teach us to tread lightly, taking only what we need. For ours is the journey from ignorance to understanding, from separateness to oneness. Together with you, the universe, the energy and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Anthem *Uncertain Certainties*

Josh Peterson

Josh Peterson

Directed and produced by Ryan Nordin with additional help from Matt Porter

Scripture Reading

Michael Hintzman

Luke 24: 13-35

Now that same day, two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; but they were kept from recognizing him. He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?" They stood still, their faces downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" "What things?" he asked. "About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus." He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself. As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?" They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together and saying, "It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon." Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.

Sermon *Hope for the Earth*

Pastor Sarah Horsfield

* Hymn *For the Beauty of the Earth*

UM Hymnal #92, v. 1-4

1. *For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies;
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.*

2. *For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light.
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.*

3. *For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight;
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.*

4. *For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild;
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.*

Offering

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Unison Prayer of Dedication

Lord, we thank you for your creation, your covenant with all living things and our obligation to be good stewards of the gifts you have provided. Help us to understand that each of us has an important role in caring for creation, by the choices we make and by the actions we take. Give us the wisdom to choose thoughtfully and to act with care, in accordance with your will and your love of this good Earth, our home. We thank you, God, creator and sustainer of life. Amen.

Offering Our Gifts and Tithes

Offertory

This is God's Wondrous World

arr. MaryAnne Korsch

MaryAnne Korsch, piano

Thank you to Steve Mattson for the beautiful photographs

*** Hymn**

Now the Green Blade Riseth

UM Hymnal #311

*1. Now the green blade riseth, from the buried grain,
wheat that in the dark earth many days has lain;
Love lives again, that with the dead has been;
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.*

*2. In the grave they laid him, Love who had been slain,
thinking that he never would awake again,
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.*

*3. Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
Jesus who for three days in the grave had lain;
quick from the dead my risen Lord is seen:
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.*

*4. When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
Jesus' touch can call us back to life again,
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.*

Words for Going Forth

Pastor Sarah Horsfield

Postlude

Chorale prelude on *Gelobt sei Gott* ("God be Praised")

Healey Willan

Velda Graham Bell, organ

* please stand as you are comfortable

Thank you to Michael Goodlet and Velda Graham Bell for leading the hymns today.

Next Sunday, April 26, Rev. Cynthia Coffin-Langdon will preach on faith and doubt.

