



Covenant

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Loving God, loving people, making disciples

Home Sweet Home



Earth Care Sunday

April 25, 2021

LOVING GOD, LOVING PEOPLE, MAKING DISCIPLES

Worship

**-Please stand in body or in spirit*

(Congregants are asked not to sing indoors but are encouraged to hum along as the choir sings.)

*-Chiming of the Hour and Presentation of the Word

Prelude "All Things Bright and Beautiful/For the Beauty of the Earth" Keith Kolander; Craig Phillips

Welcome and Announcements Dr. Kyle Allen

Earth Care Team Recognition and Acknowledgement of Covenant as Certified Earth Care Congregation

Introit "Morning Has Broken" arr. Lloyd Larson

*-Call to Worship**

Voice 1: In the beginning, the Spirit of God moved over the waters,

All: and God said "Unbind creation and let her out!" and God declared it to be Good.

Voice 2: God said, "Let there be light" and called the light "Day" and the darkness "Night."

**All: God spoke the word to call the land from the water,
pulling Smith Mountain Lake down to the depths
and raising the Blue Ridge Mountains above the waters, and in God's eyes they were Good.**

Voice 1: God's word called to life the soybean and the milking cow, the robin and the earthworm,

**All: the honey bee and the gray wolf, the microbe and the muskellunge,
and God's heart saw them to be Good.**

Voice 2: Then God spoke a final time, making creatures who carry the divine image: us.

**All: Forming humans by holy word, male and female together,
to tend and steward all that God had made.**

Voice 1: And God saw that it was all Very Good.

All: And God declared that it is all Very Good.

Voice 2: On the seventh day, God rested.

*-Call to Confession Judi Barnes

One: With the confidence that God forgives our sins:

All: Let us draw near to God, confessing our transgressions in song.

*-Hymn of Confession "The Earth Is the Lord's"

Tune: "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

(The congregation is asked to read along silently as the choir sings.)

"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.

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.

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.

*-Assurance of Pardon

One: Just as God makes creation new each morning,

All: God offers us a new beginning each new day.

One: Sisters and brothers we are a forgiven people.

All: Praise be to God!

*-Response "The Earth Is the Lord's"

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.

Teach

Time with Our Children “The Diminishing Apple” Mandy Culley, Children’s Music Director

Prayer for Illumination Ed Mahler

Scripture Readings Genesis 1:26-31; Ephesians 5:1-2, 8-10

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon “*Good Housekeeping in the Theater of God’s Glory*” Dr. Jennifer Powell

Anthem “This Is My Father’s World” arr. Robert Lau

Nurture

Invitation to Offering

Offertory Hymn “We Plow the Fields and Scatter”

We thank you, our Creator, for all things bright and good:
the seed-time and the harvest, our life, our health, our food.
Accept the gifts we offer for all your love imparts;
accept what you most welcome: our humble, thankful hearts.
All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above;
then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all his love.

Prayers for the People and the Lord’s Prayer***

Reach

***-Hymn of Gratitude and Recessional Outside, *Glory to God* #37** “Let All Things Now Living”

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving to God our Creator triumphantly raise;
who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us, by guiding us on to the end of our days.
God’s banners are o’er us; his light goes before us, a pillar of fire shining forth in the night:
till shadows have vanished, and darkness is banished, as forward we travel from light into light.

By law God enforces, the stars in their courses, the sun in his orbit obediently shine;
the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains, the deeps of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing; with glad adoration, a song let us raise,
till all things now living unite in thanksgiving: to God in the highest, hosanna and praise!

*As the choir sings, the youth will lead the congregation outside where our service will continue, weather permitting.
Please exit to the left and bring your bulletin with you, as we can sing outside.*



***-Charge and Benediction**

***-Blessing and Planting of the Butterfly Bush**

***-Congregational Response** “All Things Bright and Beautiful”

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

Welcome! We are so glad you have joined us in worship today, and we hope you will join us again. More information about Covenant is available on our website at covenantroanoke.org. Look for us on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and Twitter.

Leaders in Worship

Dr. Kyle Allen, Pastor
Dr. Jennifer Powell, Director of Faith Formation
Richard Rudolph, Director of Music
Ronn Lowe, Organist/Accompanist
Mandy Culley, Children's Music Director
Covenant's Sanctuary Choir Ensemble

Covenant Youth
Judi Barnes, Earth Care Team Lead
Ed Mahler, Liturgist
Roger Dickenson, Audio
Beth Allen, Pranav Singh; video

Special Thanks to Covenant's Earth Care Team – Jerry Barnes, Judi Barnes, Gene Collier, Susan Foard, Ed Mahler, Carol Merritt, Deborah Patterson, and Harriet Snead!

A rose on the pulpit today celebrates the birth of Rylan Eugene Overacker, born to Collin and Caroline Overacker, on Friday, April 16, 2021. Proud grandparents are Mark and Kathryn Overacker, Great-Grandmother Jane Renick, and Great-Great Aunt Ann Cecil Renick. Congratulations to all!

We extend our congratulations and best wishes to Bob and Alice Garrett as they celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on Thursday, April 21, 2021.

Faith Formation

The earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it,
for he founded it upon the seas and established it upon the waters.

~ Psalm 24: 1-2

** Developed by Rev. David Huber and Kathy Bartilson, members of The Green Group, Wisconsin Conference UCC

*** Green Group Earth Care Worship

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