



*“Planet vs. Plastics” by Kaylee Ridenour*

**April 21, 2024**  
**Earth Care Sunday**

**Ministers**  
Pastor  
Director of Faith Formation Ministries  
Director of Music  
Organist/Accompanist  
Director of Preschool  
Maintenance Superintendent  
Administrator/Recording Treasurer

**All the People of Covenant**  
Dr. Kyle Allen  
Jewel Aagaard  
Richard Rudolph  
Ronn Lowe  
Anne Craig  
Mark Overacker  
Gail Schuler

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# Loving God, Loving People, Making Disciples

## Gathering

*\*Please stand in body or in spirit*

**\*Chiming of the Hour and Presentation of the Word** Jerry Barnes

**Prelude** "The Lord's My Shepherd (Brother James's Air)"  
John Ferguson

**Welcome and Covenant Life** Dr. Kyle Allen

**Introit** "All Creatures of Our God and King"  
arr. Jay Althouse

**\*Call to Worship** (based on Psalm 8 and Psalm 104) Pattie Muller

One: O Lord, our Lord.

**All: how majestic is your name in all the earth!**

One: O Lord, how manifold are your works!

**All: In wisdom you have made them all.**

One: May the glory of the Lord endure forever.

**All: May the Lord rejoice in all his works of creation.**

One: For all that God has made,

**All: I will sing to the Lord as long as I live.**

One: May my meditation be pleasing to him,

**All: for I rejoice in the Lord. Bless the Lord, O my soul!**

**\*Hymn of Joy** (see insert) "To Us, Now, Your Wisdom Lend"

**Call to Confession** Carol Merritt

**Prayer of Confession** (*in unison*)

**God of Earth and Sky, Author and Keeper of the Universe, your creativity astounds us, and the wonders of your world never cease to amaze us. While we marvel at your glory and goodness reflected in that which you have made, we also neglect to treat your earth and its creatures with the dignity they deserve. O God, forgive us for the ways we pollute your earth, for the ways we fail to reuse and recycle, and for the ways we put peoples and cultures at risk by the mismanagement of natural and human resources. According to your will, give us loving hearts for all creatures. Grant us keen minds to be faithful stewards of your earth not only for our generation, but for those yet to come. Led by your Son the Christ, and by the generative, loving power of your Holy Spirit, set us on a course where we regulate consumption, remain ever mindful of our local, national, and global neighbors, and rekindle our passion caring responsibly for the earth you so dearly love. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

**Words of Forgiveness**

**Hymn of Wonder, #20** (verse 1) "All Things Bright and Beautiful"

**Time with Our Children** Maggie Moen  
Jewel Aagaard, Director of Faith Formation

**\*Passing of the Peace**

*(Greet one another, "Peace be with you.")*

**\*Response, Hymn #20** (verse 2)

"All Things Bright and Beautiful"

## **Teaching**

**Prayer for Illumination**

Derek O'Dell

**Homily**

"Passionate About the Earth? Small Steps for Great Strides"

## **Scripture Readings and Reflections**

Psalms 24:1-2

"Rain Barrel Project"

Derek O'Dell

Genesis 2:15

"Soft Plastic Recycling for Trex®"

Beth Allen

Daniel 3:56-82

"Creation as the First Testament"

Kevin Aagaard

Romans 1:20

"Learning = Action"

Kathy Barnhill

**\*Affirmation of Faith<sup>1</sup>** (*in unison*)

Rhea Haner

**We believe that God creates all things, renews all things and celebrates all things. We believe Earth is a sanctuary, a sacred planet filled with God's presence, a home for us to share with our kin.**

**We believe that God became a human being in the person of Jesus Christ, who lived and breathed and spoke among us, and who suffered and died on a cross, for all human beings and for all creation.**

**We believe that the risen Jesus is the Christ at the core of creation: reconciling all things to God, renewing all creation, and filling the cosmos with love.**

**We believe the Holy Spirit renews life in creation, groans in empathy with creation when it suffers, and waits with us for the rebirth of creation. In the name of God our Creator, Christ our Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit our Counselor. Amen.**

**Anthem**

"This Is My Father's World"  
arr. Robert Lau

## **Nurturing**

**Celebration of Giving+**

Kathy Barnhill

**Offertory**

"All Earth Is Hopeful"  
arr. Lynn Petersen

**\*Doxology, #14** (verses 1-2)

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

**Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

Judi Barnes

## **Reaching**

**\*Charge and Benediction**

Pattie Muller, Lisa Warden,  
Rhea Haner, Dr. Kyle Allen

**\*Hymn of Celebration, #32** (verse 1)

"I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

**Trinity Chimes**

*Our Trinity Chimes played before the postlude provide the opportunity to sit and enjoy the end of our service with music, or to exit quietly as our Livestream continues for this part of worship.*

**Postlude**

"Alleluia Toccata"  
Fenton Groden

**Welcome!** We are blessed to have you join our worship today, and we hope to keep seeing you! More information about Covenant is available on our website at [covenantroanoke.org](http://covenantroanoke.org) and you can also follow us on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and Twitter. We would love to get to know you better, and a card is available in the pew before you to begin this journey together.

**Greetings, Parents!** Children are always welcome in our worship services. If you so choose, a professionally staffed nursery is available for children ages 3 and younger. Please ask an usher for assistance.

**We also have a Parents Room** just outside the Sanctuary, with a changing table and rocking chairs. **Children's bulletins and activity bags are available** on the table in Heritage Hall. **We offer Children's Worship** during the second half of the service for children ages 4 to 11.

**Cookies and lemonade await you!** After worship, all are welcome to gather in Heritage Hall (the entrance area) to visit with church members and guests. Thank you to Donna Jones and Pranav Singh for hosting this morning.

***The flowers in the chancel are given by John and Ginny Fedison  
to the glory of God and in honor and celebration of  
their 60th wedding anniversary today.***

**Greeter:** Sharon Nanz

**Ushers:** Covenant Youth

**Elder of the Month:** Christopher Bircher

**Deacon of the Month:** Laura O'Dell

**Assistant Deacon of the Month:** Donna Jones

**Sound:** Roger Dickenson **Video/Livestream:** Jena Bircher, Gene Collier

#### **In Our Prayers . . .**



**Church Members:** Christine Beck, Tricia Cronise, Mary Jane Fisher, Lynnmarie Hancock, Walter Jones, Jerry Lawson, Joann McElmurray, Lindsey Nanz, Peggy Phillips, Ann Cecil Renick, Carol

Ryan, June and Forrest Smith, Jo Wilson, Betty Young, caregivers, military service members and families

**Family & Friends:** Rob Adcox, Rob Ahlers, Lowell Bashlor, Jr., Aubrey Bayne, Kenneth Benner, Mike Cummings, Patrick Dooley, Maria Dreiling, Cesia Enriquez, Peggy Evans, Heather Ford, Larry Gray, Jim Haugen, Tyler and Rochelle Holm, the people of Malawi, Jim McGill, Bob & Betty Sizemore, Ezra Schuyler Soto, James Toth and foster parents Jim & Katie Toth (friends of the Kelloggs), Daniel Woodbury, Religious violence against Christians in northeast India

<sup>1</sup> From [seasonofcreation.org](http://seasonofcreation.org)

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