

April 28, 2024
 Fifth Sunday of Easter
 Creation Care Worship
 Eleven O'Clock in the Morning

Know the ways of the ones who take care of you, so that you may take care of them. Introduce yourself. Be accountable as the one who comes asking for life. Ask permission before taking. Abide by the answer. Never take the first. Never take the last. Take only what you need. Take only that which is given.

Never take more than half. Leave some for others. Harvest in a way that minimizes harm.

Use it respectfully. Never waste what you have taken. Share.

Give thanks for what you have been given.

Give a gift, in reciprocity for what you have taken.

Sustain the ones who sustain you and the earth will last forever.

—Robin Wall Kimmerer,

Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants

Lighting of the Candles

Welcome Courtney Allen Crump

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude *For the Beauty of the Earth* arr. Justin Reeves
 Theresa Steward, piano

†Call to Worship Roger Pittard

We depend on those around us.

We depend on You, O God.

Those who support us and provide wisdom and guidance

Tell of your wisdom, O Christ.

The species whose life sustains our own

Teach us of our interdependence, O Holy Spirit.

May we this day recognize our place among all whom you have created.

Show us your love through the beauty of your Creation.

†Hymn 230 *Now the Green Blade Rises* NOEL NOUVELET

The Gospel Reading John 15:1-8 Chip Hardy

Found on pg. 878 of the pew Bible.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Call to Stewardship

How shall we live when we have more than enough?

We have no greater praise to offer

than caring for your creatures and Creation.

The earth is our teacher – nurturing and tender.

In this hour, O God, nourish us in the soil of your love.

Let us worship God, the Ground of All Being by giving what we have.

Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings *Now is the Cool of the Day* by Jean Ritchie,
 The Chancel Choir arr. James Erb

My Lord, he said unto me,

"Do you like my garden so fair?"

You may live in this garden if you'll keep the grasses green.

And I'll return in the cool of the day."

Refrain:

Now is the cool of the day.

Now is the cool of the day.

This earth is a garden, the garden of my Lord.

And he walks in his garden In the cool of the day.

Then my Lord, he said unto me,

"Do you like my pastures so green?"

You may live in this garden if you will feed my lambs.

And I'll return in the cool of the day." *Refrain*

Then my Lord, he said unto me,

"Do you like my garden so free?"

You may live in this garden if you'll keep the people free.

And I'll return in the cool of the day" *Refrain*

†Doxology O WALY WALY

Praise God who calls cre-a-tion, "good;" Praise God for wis-dom un-der - stood; Praise God who died yet lives a - gain; Let all God's peo - ple sing, "a - men." A - men.

Time with Children Lauryn Everic

Hymn *I am Your Mother* BUNESSAN

1. I am your moth - er: Do not ne -
 2. I am your nur - ture: do not de -
 3. I am your lodg - ing: do not a -
 4. God is our mak - er: do not de -
 glect me! Chil-dren pro - tect me- I need your
 stroy me! Love and en - joy me, sa - vor my
 buse me! Ten - der - ly use me, sooth - ing my
 ny God, chall-enge, de - fy God, threat - en this
 trust: my breath is your breath, my death is
 fruit; my good is your good, my food is
 scars; my health is your health, my wealth is
 place: life is to cher - ish- care, or we
 your death, ash - es to ash - es, dust in - to dust.
 your food, wa - ter and flow - er, branch-es and root.
 your wealth, shin-ing with prom - ise, set a-mong stars.
 per - ish! I am your moth - er, tears on my face...

Prayers of the People Jenny Griffin

Eternal Spirit,
Earth-Maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all.
Loving God, in whom is heaven.
The hallowing of your name echoes through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the earth!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and forever.
Amen.

† Please rise in body or in spirit.
 Elements in bold print are to be spoken by the congregation.