

LARGE PRINT

# Worship Celebration

Fourth Sunday in Easter  
Festival of God's Creation

April 21, 2024 + 9 AM

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## We Gather as God's Children

Welcome

**Prelude**

*Pie Jesu from "Requiem"*

Gabriel Faure

### + Opening Prayer

Living Word, whose love abides in us,  
You call us to love in truth and action.  
Give courage to our hearts so we may love your beloveds.  
Open our ears to the wisdom of those you send,  
who might otherwise be dismissed.  
Transform our charity into justice over all the earth. Amen.

*Written by Rev. Laurie Bayen and Rev. Laura Baumgartner. Rev. Bayen, Cotati, CA (ancestral homelands of the Southern Pomo and Coast Miwok peoples), is an elder in the California-Nevada Annual Conference, serving Windsor Community UMC. She is involved with the United Methodist Creation Justice Movement. Rev. Baumgartner, Seattle, WA (ancestral homelands of the Duwamish and Coast Salish peoples), is an elder in the Pacific Northwest Conference, serving Haller Lake UMC. She is involved in the United Methodist Creation Justice Movement.*

**+ Hymn**

*Morning Has Broken*

UMH 145

### Prayers of the People (Seeking & Offering Peace)

**Music of Meditation & Reflection**

*Improvisation*

Josh Kraybill

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Bell Choir Anthem**

*Dona Nobis Pacem*

Traditional

## **We Grow in God's Word**

Leader: With disciples of every time and place,  
let us listen for the word of God among us.

**People: *Our ears and hearts are open.***

### **First Lesson—Genesis 1.26 - 2.3 (NRSVUE)**

<sup>26</sup> Then God said, “Let us make humans in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over the cattle and over all the wild animals of the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.”

<sup>27</sup> So God created humans in his image,  
in the image of God he created them;  
male and female he created them.

<sup>28</sup> God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.” <sup>29</sup> God said, “See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. <sup>30</sup> And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the air and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. <sup>31</sup> God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

**2** Thus the heavens and the earth were finished and all their multitude. <sup>2</sup> On the sixth day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. <sup>3</sup> So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

Leader: The word of God for the people of God.

**People: *Thanks be to God.***

## **Second Lesson**—Genesis 2.8-11, 15 (*NRSVUE*)

<sup>8</sup>And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. <sup>9</sup>Out of the ground the LORD God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

<sup>10</sup>A river flows out of Eden to water the garden, and from there it divides and becomes four branches. <sup>11</sup>The name of the first is Pishon; it is the one that flows around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold.

<sup>15</sup>The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.

Leader: The word of God for the people of God.

**People: *Thanks be to God.***

**Sermon** - *A Biblical Case for Creation Care*

Dr. Stephen J. Knisely

**+ Hymn**

*In the Garden*

UMH 314

**Invitation to Give our Tithes and Offerings**

**Choir Anthem**     *Christ is Our Cornerstone*

Hal H. Hopson

The congregations is invited to sing on verses 1, 2, and 4.

**+ Doxology**

*Alleluia, Alleluia* (v. 1 and refrain)

UMH 162

***Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord!***

***Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.***

***Jesus is Lord of all the earth. He is the King of creation.***

***Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord!***

***Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.***

## Prayer of Thanksgiving and Commitment

*Lord God, we offer to you only a portion  
of what you have given us.*

*All that we have is from your creative hand.*

*All that we can give away we do through Jesus' love.*

*All our renewal comes from the Holy Spirit's wisdom.*

*Deal graciously with these gifts  
so that others may have joy.*

*In Jesus' name. Amen.*

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## We Go Out to Serve in God's Name

+ Hymn

*All People That on Earth Do Dwell*

UMH 75

+ Benediction

Postlude

*Sortie in E<sup>b</sup>*

Lefebure-Wely

*Our service of worship is ended.  
Our worship through service now begins.*

### Morning Prayer

Good shepherd, walk beside me  
through the joy  
and trouble this day,  
and lead me in the right paths  
for your name's sake. Amen.

### Evening Prayer

Good shepherd, remain with me  
in the dark and stillness this night,  
and let me lie down in safety  
to restore my soul. Amen.

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