Order of Service

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| |  | | --- | | April 25th, 2021 – 10:30am Springfield Presbyterian Church Third Sunday After Easter - Earth Day – Creation Care   *Announcements*   *Lighting the Christ Candle* Leader: Whenever we light this candle we proclaim: **People: Christ is the Light of the world and center of our lives.**   *Gathering of the People* Leader: The Lord be with you! **People: And also with you!**  *Call to Worship*  Leader: For the scent of the flowers and the vastness of the fields,  **People: We give you praise, O God.**  Leader: For the tides of the ocean and the ripple of the river,  **People: We give you praise, O God.**  Leader: For the chirping of birds and the elegance of the fox,  **People: We give you praise, O God.**  Leader: For the sounds of human voices joined and communities strengthened,  **People: We give you praise, O God.**  Leader: For all that you have created and are recreating,  **People: We worship you, Creator God.**  *\* Hymn*  *Let All Things Now Living*               GTG #37  *Prayer of Confession*  Creator God, you have crafted within us and within this Earth that we call home - beauty and wonder and nourishment for our bodies, minds, and souls. We want to enjoy the delight of this world and all the wonders your hands have created, yet we are sometimes our own downfall. We use our resources more than we need, draining your land and harming your wildlife. We have chosen to erode land, to cut down oxygen-giving trees and plants, and have sought to be greedy and call this land our own. Forgive us, O God, for we know that You are the Creator, and we are called to the care of your land. Help us to grow into better stewards and guide us by your light to further your gift of creation for generations to come. Amen.  *Silent Prayers of Confession*  *Response: Breathe On Me, Breath of God*  *Words of Assurance (responsive)*  Leader: When we come before God and confess our sin, sincerely and with change in our heart, we are a forgiven people.  **People: Thanks be to God who chooses to forgive again and again, through abundant mercy and grace. Amen.**  *The Peace* Leader: The peace of Christ be with you! **People: And also with you!** (You may greet those around you)   *The Proclamation of the Word*  *Prayer of Illumination*  Generous God, open our eyes to see, our ears to listen, and our hearts to change as your Word is expressed to us this day. Amen.  *Scripture Lesson* Psalm 8 Divine Majesty and Human Dignity  **1**O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. **2**Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger. **3**When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; **4**what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them? **5**Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor. **6**You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet, **7**all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, **8**the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas. **9**O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!  *Sermon* **For the Wonders of the World**  [Intro]  Song: ‘The Lost Words Blessing’  Lyrics:  Enter the wild with care, my love  And speak the things you see  Let new names take and root and thrive and grow  And even as you travel far from heather, crag, and river  May you like the little fisher, set the stream alight with glitter  May you enter now as otter without falter into water.  Look to the sky with care, my love  And speak the things you see  Let new names take and root and thrive and grow  And even as you journey on past dying stars exploding  Like the gilded one in flight, leave your little gifts of light  And in the dead of night my darling,  Find the gleaming eye of starling  Like the little aviator, sing your heart to all dark matter.  Walk through the world with care, my love  And sing the things you see  Let new names take and root and thrive and grow  And even as you stumble through machair sands eroding  Let the fern unfurl your grieving, let the heron still your breathing  Let the selkie swim you deeper, oh my little silver-seeker  Even as the hour grows bleaker, be the singer and the speaker  And in city and in forest, let the larks become your chorus  And when every hope is gone, let the raven call you home.  *The Response to the Word*   *\* Hymn All Creatures of Our God and King*   GtG # 15 (verses 1,2 & 3)  *Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer*  “For this I pray to God” / “For this I give thanks to God.” Congregational Response: “**Hear our prayer, O God.”**  And now, in confidence and in gratitude, we say the prayer together that Jesus Christ, our Savior and Redeemer, taught us to pray…  **Our Father,** **who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven and give us this day our daily bread** **and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.** **For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**  *Hymn For the Beauty of the Earth*   GtG # 14  *Charge and Benediction* Leader: Go from this place,  **People: To care for the earth in new ways.**  Leader: To tend the soil of the ground,  **People: So that new things take root.**  Leader: And as your tender gifts grow,  **People: May we be stewards of your creation.** | |