

WORSHIP GUIDE for EARTH SUNDAY, APRIL 19

Setting Your Space

Easter is not just a day but a season, so we invite you to keep your rainbow ribbons and your Alleluia butterflies prominently displayed throughout these next weeks. And this Sunday we celebrate the glory, beauty, and gifts of the earth, so we invite you to add to your worship space something that makes you grateful for our planet – maybe a picture of a favorite place in nature, maybe a special rock or shell you’ve collected, maybe a bunch of fresh-picked flowers from your yard. Place these reminders on your altar to help center your attention for our Earth Sunday worship.

Gathering Songs: Hear Our Praises & Breathe

Hear Our Praises

May our homes be filled with dancing, may our streets be filled with joy
May injustice bow to Jesus, as the people turn to pray

From the mountains to the valleys, hear our praises rise to You
From the heavens to the nations, hear our singing fill the air

May Your light shine in the darkness, as we walk before the cross
May Your glory fill the whole earth, as the water o'er seas

From the mountains to the valleys, hear our praises rise to You
From the heavens to the nations, hear our singing fill the air
Hallelujah, hallelujah

From the mountains to the valleys, hear our praises rise to You
From the heavens to the nations, hear our singing fill the air

Breathe

This is the air I breathe, This is the air I breathe: Your holy presence living in me
This is my daily bread, This is my daily bread: Your very word spoken to me

And I, I'm desperate for you; And I, I'm lost without you

This is the air I breathe, This is the air I breathe: Your holy presence living in me
This is my daily bread, This is my daily bread: Your very word spoken to me

And I, I'm desperate for you; And I, I'm lost without you

Communal Prayer from Karen Loveland and Nancy Carroll

Our Mother, the earth, nurturing are your ways. Your web of life be woven; your way be found within, as it is all around. We thank you this day for our daily bread and sweat, and forgive us our misuse of you, as we forgive others their misuse of us. And lead us not into exploitation, but deliver us from lording it over you, and over each other, and over all our other fellow creatures. For yours are the waters of life; the hills, valleys and plains of home; the breeding, seeding, feeding ground; for now, and for as close to forever as we will ever come.

Scripture: Matthew 28:16-20

The Eleven made their way to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had summoned them. At the sight of the risen Christ, they fell down in homage, though some doubted what they were seeing. Jesus came forward and addressed them in these words: "All authority has been given me, both in heaven and on earth; go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations. Baptize them in the name of Abba God, and of the Only Begotten, and of the Holy Spirit. Teach them to carry out everything I have commanded you. And know that I am with you always, even until the end of the world!"

Response Song: We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky

We cannot own the sunlit sky, the moon, the wildflowers growing,
For we are part of all that is within life's river flowing.
With open hands receive and share the gifts of God's creation,
That all may have abundant life in every earthly nation.

When bodies shiver in the night and weary wait for morning,
When children have no bread but tears, and war horns sound their warning,
God calls humanity to awake, to join in common labor,
That all may have abundant life, oneness with their neighbor.

God calls humanity to join as partners in creating
a future free from want or fear. Life's goodness celebrating,
that new world beckons from afar, invites our shared endeavor
that all might have abundant life and peace endure forever.

Going Forth Song: We Are Not Our Own

We are not our own. Earth forms us,
human leaves on nature's growing vine,
fruit of many generations,
seeds of life divine.

We are not alone. Earth names us:
past and present, peoples near and far,
family and friends and strangers
show us who we are.

Therefore let us make thanksgiving,
and with justice, willing and aware,
give to earth, and all things living,
liturgies of care.

Let us be a house of welcome,
living stone upholding living stone,
gladly showing all our neighbors:
we are not our own!

–

To make an offering to FBC McMinnville:

www.fbcmac.org/give

To join in congregational fellowship at 11am Sunday:

<https://zoom.us/j/92036874254?pwd=TEsrY2ZZVTIKYVlweWdMUlFvVktoQTo9>

Meeting ID: 920 3687 4254

Password: 725899

To join the Children's Chapel Zoom immediately following worship Sunday:

<https://zoom.us/j/956078254>