

So, God, as we gift to You our morning offering, we ask that Your Spirit aid us in recognizing that we are a part of – not apart from – Your Creation. That our fates are inextricably bound. And that we must love and care for it as you do. Because without it we are nothing. But together we are made in Your image. Amen.

Hymn: MV 30 “It’s a Song of Praise to the Maker”

Benediction

Song for the Journey (MV 212)

Sent out in Jesus name, our hands are ready now, to make the world the place in which the kingdom comes. x 2

The angels cannot change a world of hurt and pain

Into a world of love of justice and of peace.

The task is ours to do, to set it really free.

O help us to obey, and carry out your will. x 2

Memorials

In Loving Memory of Dad, Maurice Gray
from
Roxanna and Bob Purcell

In Loving Memory of my husband, Maurice Gray
from
his wife, Shirley

Lectionary Readings – April 28, 2024

- Genesis 1:1-31
- Psalm 22
- 1 John 4:7-21
- John 15:1-8

St. James United Church

Earth Sunday

April 28, 2024

11:00 am



St. James United Church

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The Life and Work of St. James United Church

Birthday/Anniversary Song

Happy birthday/anniversary to you; to Jesus be true.
May God's richest blessings abide unto you!

Lighting the Christ Candle

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, **the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.** Then God said, "Let there be light"; **and there was light.** And God saw that the light was good; **and God separated the light from the darkness.** God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. **And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.**

Hymn: MV 41 "O Beautiful Gaia"

Call to Worship

Brian Day

To the God of Earth, **we come as creatures of Earth.**
To the God of the cosmos, **we come as beings made of stardust.**
To the God of mystery and making, **we come to the One who is our source and home.**
We come to worship and seek wisdom. **May it be so.**

Opening Prayer (together)

Brian Day

God of the universe, who is the origin of what is and what will be, we thank you for the wondrous planet Earth and its placement among galaxies, stars, and planets.

We thank you for its abundance of life: for the plant life draped green and flowered over the globe, for all the creatures that swim through the seas, for the astounding range of animal life, and for the ways you are seen and sensed in the creatures of Earth.

We thank you for our creation that is part of the fabric of this world, and for the blessing of being inhabitants of Earth.

God of the universe, we thank you for the beauty of this province that is our home, for flowers and birdsong and chorusing frogs, for the stewardship of all who have come before us, and for all who care for the land in our time.

We thank you for the gifts of water and air, and for the sustaining food that soil and human labor yield, and for Earth's provision of all our needs. We thank you for this world imbued with beauty, for the abundant generosity of your gifts, your world. God of the universe, we thank you. Amen.

Hymn: VU 29 "All Things Bright and Beautiful" (v.1-3,5)

Scripture Reading: Genesis 1:6-31

Anthem

Reflection: All My Relations

Hymn: MV 135 "Called by Earth and Sky"

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer

Invitation to the Offering

Sung Response (MV #196) "*We Will Take What You Offer*"

We will take what you offer

We will live by your word;

We will love one another

And be led by you Lord. (Repeat)

Prayer of Dedication (together)

We are a part of God and God is a part of us. This we know and exalt in this truth, but rarely recognize that the same could be said of the whole of Creation. It comes from God and is a part of God and no matter how different from us it may appear the Earth, the Sky, the Sea, the Sun, the Moon, the Stars, every green thing that grows, and every living thing that walks, swims, flies or crawls are our siblings.