

Prelude: variations on the theme of Terra Beata

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

Call to Worship:

This is God's wondrous world

We exult in the return of spring being able to turn our backs on winter.

We breathe in the sweet smell of new grass and smile.

We marvel at the beauty of the tulip, the crocus and the dandelion.

All nature sings God's praises. We would join the carol of the birds if only we knew how.

We offer our worship instead to God, the maker of this wondrous world.

Prayer of Approach:

Creator God,

Bless this time of worship. Bless the thanksgivings we offer.

Feed us with your Word. Fill us with your Spirit.

Grant us a deeper understanding of what you want of us.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

Opening Hymn: VU 291 – All Things Bright and Beautiful

Refrain (sung at the beginning and the end)

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,

All things wise and wonderful: in love, God made them all.

V1

Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colours, God made their tiny wings.

V2

The purple headed mountains, the river running by,
The sunset and the morning that brightens up the sky.

V3

The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden: God made them every one.

V4

The rocky mountain splendor, the lone wolf's haunting call.
The great lakes and the prairies, the forests in the fall.

V5

God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell
How great is God our maker, who has made all things well.

Refrain

Welcome to Earth Sunday
Life and Work of the Church

Musical Offering: Allison

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

Scripture: Genesis 1:26-30 read by Julee Pauling

Responsive Reading: Psalm 8 and a poem from ee cummings

Sermon for Earth Sunday

Hymn: VU 307 - Touch the Earth Lightly

V1

Touch the earth lightly, use the earth gently,
Nourish the life of the world in our care:
Gift of great wonder, ours to surrender,
Trust for the children tomorrow will bear

V2

We who endanger, who create hunger,
Agents of death for all creatures that live,
We who would foster clouds of disaster
God of our planet, forestall and forgive!

V3

Let there be greening, birth from the burning,
Water that blesses and air that is sweet,
Health in God's garden, hope in God's children,
Regeneration that peace will complete,

V4

God of all living, God of all loving,
God of the seedling, the snow and the sun,
Teach us, deflect us, Christ reconnect us,
Using us gently and making us one.

WE RESPOND IN LOVE

Call to Prayer

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Invitation to Share Our Gifts

Song of Dedication: VU 541

Praise God from whom all blessing flow,
praise God, all creatures high and low;
give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word and Spirit One. Amen

Prayer of Dedication

WE GO FORTH IN SERVICE

Closing Hymn MV 135 - Called By Earth and Sky

Refrain

Called by earth and sky, promise of hope held high.
This is our sacred living trust, treasure of life sanctified,
Called by earth and sky.

V1

Precious these waters, endless seas,
Deep ocean's dreams, waters of healing,
Rivers of rain, the wash of love again. R

V2

Precious the gift, the air we breathe;
Wind born and free, Breath of the Spirit,
Blow through this place, our gathering and our grace. R

V3

Precious these mountains, ancient sands;
Vast fragile land. Seed of our waking,
Rooted and strong, Creation's faithful song. R

V4

Precious the fire that lights our way,
Bright dawning day. Fire of passion,
Sorrows undone, our faith and justice one. R

Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude