



Lutherans Restoring Creation

www.LutheransRestoringCreation.org

Lutherans Restoring Creation is a grassroots movement promoting care for creation in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

We accomplish this by cultivating a community of dedicated stewards of earth and neighbor who proclaim God's promise of hope and healing for all.

Thank you for joining us for worship this morning and for supporting us in this important creation-care work.



Sunday Worship Service Bulletin for April 25, 2021

Prelude *Beautiful Savior* played by Dale Niehaus

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

We enter the song of Creation!

Earth cradles our ancestors, birthing new life.

We enter the prayer of Creation!

Sky brings darkness and light, holds storms and the stars.

We enter the praise of Creation!

Mountains peaked with snow, hills swaying with grasses.

We enter the silence of Creation!

Humanity between the ground and the heavens.

GATHER

WL: We worship in the name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

We come here, humbly, as one earthly family to worship our Creator: the
giver of form, the maker of space.

Amen.

Gathering Song *All Creatures, Worship God Most High* (ELW #835)

**1 All creatures, worship God most high!
Sound ev'ry voice in earth and sky: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Sing, brother sun, in splendor bright;
sing, sister moon and stars of night:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**2 Sing, brother wind; with clouds and rain
you grow the gifts of fruit and grain: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Dear sister water, useful, clear,
make music for your Lord to hear:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**3 Sing, brother fire, so mirthful, strong,
drive far the shadows, join the throng: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Dear mother earth, so rich in care,
praise God in colors bright and rare:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**4 All who for love of God forgive,
all who in pain and sorrow grieve: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ bears your burdens and your fears;
still make your song amid the tears:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Confession & Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + One God, who calls forth Creation, evokes
praise from Creation, and stirs life in Creation.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God, Creation, and one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of righteousness and justice,

You have made the Earth and all that is in it, but we have failed to honor your good work. We do not recognize your presence among us, and our hardened hearts do not hear Creation's cry. We have made your good land a desolation, and we dishonor your image in our neighbors. Forgive us, in your steadfast love, O God, for trampling your vineyards and polluting your sky. On your holy mountain, call us again to be stewards of your Earth and to join all Creation in songs of praise. Amen.

Rejoice, for the Incarnate Word has come to you. Laying aside all heavenly glory, the Servant of all, Jesus Christ, is obedient unto death to make of you and all the Earth a new Creation. Rejoice, for Christ, from whom nothing can separate you, + forgives you all your sins. Rejoice, for the One whose name is majestic in all the Earth raises you up to newness of life.

Amen.

Prayer of the Day

Sovereign of the universe, your first covenant of mercy was with every living creature. When your beloved Son came among us, the waters of the river welcomed him, the heavens opened to greet his arrival, the animals of the wilderness drew near as his companions. With all the world's people, may we who are washed into new life through baptism seek the way of your new creation, the way of justice and care, mercy and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading: Acts 4:5-12

Second Reading: 1 John 3:16-24 (NRSV)

Gospel Acclamation *Alleluia* from Tree of Life Liturgy

**Alleluia, Alleluia
Lord, to whom shall we go?
For you have the words, you have the words,
the words of eternal life.
Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Gospel Reading: John 10:11-18

Children's Sermon: Rev. Harold Vanicek

Sermon: Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Eaton

Hymn of the Day *Morning Has Broken* (ELW #556)

- 1 Morning has broken like the first morning;
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!**

- 2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.**

- 3 Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning,
born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise ev'ry morning,
God's recreation of the new day!**

Apostle's Creed

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was
conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under
Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into
hell.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated
at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living
and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion
of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and
the life everlasting.**

Amen.

Sharing of the Peace - Lutherans Restoring Creation Board

Offering

Offering Prayer

Loving Creator,

you brought us forth from the very earth itself. We share with others what you have entrusted to us. Bless these offerings, and compel us to use them not only to serve our human neighbors, but also to serve our sister sky, our brother mountain, our mother earth, and all our family in Creation. We pray this in the name of the Word that dwells among us. Amen.

Prayers of the People

WL: Creator God,

C: hear our prayer.

Sending Song *On Our Way Rejoicing* (ELW #537)

**1 On our way rejoicing
gladly let us go.**

**Christ our Lord has conquered;
vanquished is the foe.
Christ without, our safety;
Christ within, our joy;
who, if we be faithful,
can our hope destroy?**

Refrain

**On our way rejoicing;
as we forward move,
hearken to our praises,
O blest God of love!**

**2 Unto God the Father
joyful songs we sing;
unto God the Savior
thankful hearts we bring;
unto God the Spirit
bow we and adore,
on our way rejoicing
now and evermore. *Refrain***

Communion Liturgy

Great Thanksgiving

Santo

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the
kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Distribution *Lamb of God* Tree of Life Liturgy

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world.
Have mercy on us.
(Repeat)**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world.
Grant us your peace.
Grant us your peace.**

Benediction

The God of all creation:

Of flowers and trees, of butterflies and bees, of squirrels and mountain lions, bless you, keep you, and strengthen you for the work of loving all Creation.

In the name of the Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Dismissal

Go in peace. Care for Creation.

Thanks be to God.

Music by Dani Lemieux

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