

Peace UCC
April 18, 2020
Psalms: Words of the Heart

Prelude "This Is My Maker's World" Franklin D. Ashdown
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Welcome

Opening Words Adapted from The Rabbinical Assembly of the United Synagogue of America

One: Light and Darkness, night and day.

Many: We marvel at your creation.

One: Moon and sky, sand and sea.

Many: We marvel at your creation.

One: Twilight, high noon, dusk and dawn.

Many: We marvel at your creation.

One: Though we are mortal, we are Creation's crown.

Many: We marvel at your creation.

One: Resplendent skies, sunset, sunrise.

Many: We marvel at your creation.

One: The grandeur of Creation lifts our lives.

Many: We marvel at your creation.

One: Evening darkness, morning dawn.

Many: We marvel at your creation.

One: Renew our lives as You renew all time. Amen

Opening Response "A Repeating Alleluia" Calvin Hampton/Sheldon Curry

Prayer of Invocation

As we gather this morning, recognizing that Earth Day is celebrated this week, let us be mindful of the awesomeness of your creation, O God. Let us hear your voice, crying from the wilderness of our doing, to care for the earth and all of its creatures. Be with us today as we ponder our place in sustaining your work. Amen

The Witness of Music Rev. Wendy Bruner

Readings

Psalm 8

Lord, our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory
in the heavens.

Through the praise of children and infants
you have established a stronghold against your enemies,
to silence the foe and the avenger.

When I consider your heavens,
the work of your fingers,

the moon and the stars,

which you have set in place,

what is mankind that you are mindful of them,
human beings that you care for them?

You have made them a little lower than the angels
and crowned them with glory and honor.
You made them rulers over the works of your hands;
you put everything under their feet:
all flocks and herds,
and the animals of the wild,
the birds in the sky,
and the fish in the sea,
all that swim the paths of the seas.
Lord, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

A reading from Steve Garnaas-Holmes, *Unfolding Light*

You are the earth,
a little bit of it.
You are a microcosm of it,
all earth's life and beauty and hope,
right in you.
By yourself you are nothing,
but you are not by yourself,
you are all the rest of it, too.
There is one thing,
and we are all it.
Wonder deeply, thank freely,
serve humbly and do justice boldly.
Above all, simply belong,
and let our joy be in you.

For the wisdom contained in these holy words we give thanks. Amen.

Sermon Rev. Al Schon

Hymn "Touch the Earth Lightly"

Joys and Concerns

Prayer

Creator, who art in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kin-dom come, your will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
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 yours is the kin-dom, and the power,
and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

How Shall We Join God's Work in the World

Gracious God, we give thanks.
We ask your blessings on these gifts of time,
talent, and treasure as we use them to join
Your work in the world. Amen

Closing

Postlude "For the Beauty of the Earth" Conrad Kocher
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