

**Ecumenical Earth Day Worship at Turner Pavilion**  
**Sunday, April 21, 2024**

**Welcome & Opening Prayer**

**Gathering Song**

*I Sing the Mighty Power of God*

I sing the mighty pow'r of God, that made the mountains rise,  
That spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies.  
I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day.  
The moon shines full at God's command and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord, that filled the earth with food.  
God formed the creatures with a Word, and then pronounced them good. Lord,  
how thy wonders are displayed, where'er I turn my eye,  
If I survey the ground I tread, or gaze up at the sky!

There's not a plant or flow'r below, but makes thy glories known, And clouds arise  
and tempests blow, by order from thy throne.  
While all that borrows life from thee is ever in thy care,  
There's not a place where we can flee, but God is present there.

**Call to Worship**

... Response: **Praise God from whom creation flows!**

Final response: **Praise God from whom all blessings flow!**

*(children are invited during this hymn to join Children's Activities)*

**Hymn**

*All Creatures Worship God Most High vv 1,4,7*

All creatures, worship God most high, lift up your voice in earth and sky,  
alleluia, alleluia!

Thou burning sun with golden beam, thou silver moon with softer gleam,  
O sing ye, O sing ye, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Dear mother earth, who day by day, unfoldest blessings on our way,  
alleluia, alleluia!

The flow'rs and fruits that in thee grow, let them God's glory also show,  
O sing ye, O sing ye, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless, and worship God in humbleness, alleluia,  
alleluia! To God all thanks and praise belong! Join in the everlasting song:  
O sing ye, O sing ye, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**Scripture**

Psalm 147:1-11

**Testimony of Response**

*Time's Up, Get Up!*

**Hymn**

*The Garden Needs Our Tending Now*

The garden needs our tending now - the water, soil, and air.

The very rocks and stones cry out for stewardship and care.

Creation groans, awaiting still the consummation of God's will:

Earth shall be green and new, Eden restored. Terra viridisima.

Where air and waters, crystal bright, have now grown choked and foul,  
the sparrow's Maker mourns the loss of eagle, falcon, owl.

Creation groans, its creatures yearn for wilderness and peace returned:

Earth shall be green and new, Eden restored. Terra viridisima.

When human tribe and nations vie to own its fertile yield,  
the Psalmist knows the earth is God's, its fullness, grace revealed.

Creation groans, and pleads for hands to bring God's healing to its lands:

Earth shall be green and new, Eden restored. Terra viridisima.

While peoples die in poverty, some lives are thick with waste.

The Prophets warn us: "Simplify!" Their challenge must be faced.

Creation groans, awaiting still a Church responsive to God's will:

Earth shall be green and new, Eden restored. Terra viridisima.

## A Blessing for Those Who Tend The Earth

### Hymn

*God of Grace and God of Glory vv. 1,2,4*

God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy pow'r.  
Crown thine ancient church's story, bring its bud to glorious flow'r.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour (of this hour),  
For the facing of this hour.

Lo! The host of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!  
From the fears that long have bound us, free our hearts to faith and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days (of these days),  
For the living of these days.

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore.  
Let the search for thy salvation be our glory evermore.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving thee whom we adore (we adore),  
Serving thee whom we adore.

## Prayers for the Sustenance of All Creation

All are invited to respond: ***Creator, hear our prayer.***

### Offering

### Hymn

*There's a Wild Hope in the Wind*

There's a wild hope in the wind: her whisper is heard on the breeze.  
The gale is her shout that is calling us out. There's a wild hope in the wind.  
O God in the wind, come gather us in, be our courage and promise.  
The future is dim, but we want to live into a wild, wild hope.

There's a wild hope in the skies: her gown is the blue of forever.  
The purple of night is her heart's pure delight. There's a wild hope in the skies.  
O God in the skies, come open our eyes, be our courage and promise.  
The future is dim, but we want to live into a wild, wild hope.

There's a wild hope in the earth: her body provides us with nurture.  
The dark underground is where life can abound. There's a wild hope in the  
earth. O God in the earth, come aid our rebirth, be our courage and promise.  
The future is dim, but we want to live into a wild, wild hope.

## **Eucharist**

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and  
praise.**

The people respond:

**The earth is full of your glory.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

## **Sending Song**

## *Sing a New World Into Being*

Sing a new world into being. Sound a bold and hopeful theme.  
Find a tune for silent yearnings. Lend your voice and dare to dream:  
dream a church where all who worship find their lives and loves belong.  
Sing a new world into being. Sing as Christ inspires your song!

Sing a new world into being where each gender, class, and race  
brings its rainbow gifts and colors to God's limitless embrace;  
where the lines that once divided form instead the ties that bind.  
Sing a new world into being: risk transforming heart and mind.

Sing a new world into being where the homeless find a home;  
where no children ever hunger but are filled with God's shalom;  
where all people work for justice, where all hate and vengeance cease.  
Sing a new world into being: raise the harmonies of peace.

Sing a new world into being. Join the ancient prophets' cry  
for a time of health and plenty when all tears have been wiped dry;  
when compassion flows like waters, pouring balm for all who grieve.  
Sing a new world into being: live the promise you believe!

## **Benediction**

## **Participating Congregations and Communities**

Asbury United Methodist Church

Community Mennonite Church (Green Congregation Committee)

Eastern Mennonite University Office of Faith and Spiritual Life

Give Solar

Muhlenberg Lutheran Church

Park View Mennonite Church

RISE Harrisonburg

St. Stephen's United Church of Christ

Shalom Mennonite Congregation

Shenandoah Valley Faith and Climate

Trinity Presbyterian Church

## **Additional Service Notes**

- All are invited to receive communion. The station in the center will have options for juice or wine; the stations on either side will have juice only.
- An offering will be received to support the completion of sustainability improvements at the Shenandoah Valley Black Heritage Center, in partnership with Give Solar.
- Individual congregations have tables where regular church offerings can be given.
- Preschool and elementary children are welcome to participate in activities on the east end of the Pavilion.
- We invite you to peruse the congregational and organizational tables on the west end of the Pavilion, before and after worship.
- Restrooms are available at Asbury UMC and St. Stephen's UCC.
- Paper copies of the hymns with musical notation will be available at the Pavilion.
- Hymn lyrics from the Herald Press *Voices Together Hymnal* are for one-time use and not for further distribution.
- The Community Mennonite Church Green Congregation Committee will show the Common Ground's regenerative agriculture film from Interfaith Power and Light at the church following the worship service. Everyone is welcome, and DVD's will be made available to other congregations!

## **QR Code for Giving**



## **QR Code for Earth Day Worship Website**

