



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
EARTH DAY

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

Prelude in E Minor Ernst Bloch

Dr. David Neiweem, organ

CALL TO WORSHIP AND INVOCATION

Jamie & Celia Polli

Progressive Christian Network of Victoria Earth Liturgy, adapted

One: Will you join us in our call to worship and invocation?

On this weekend, when we pause to celebrate Earth Day,
and remember our connection to the wider human community,
and all of God's creation,

**All: We give thanks for the mountains unfolding to valley and plain,
seas moving to the rhythm of tides,
and skies reflecting all the colors of light.**

One: We give thanks for all the created of the Earth.

The creatures of land, air and sea:

**All: horses running for the joy of living,
birds chatting on roofs and branches,
dolphins leaping from sea to sky.**

One: We give thanks for the fruits of Earth.

**All: grasses bursting with grain to nourish,
flowers shedding color and fragrance,
trees renewing the sweetness of air.**

One: We give thanks for humanity.

We remember all sages and prophets:

**All: through them recalling the power of love;
through them reclaiming a spirit of compassion;
through them embracing Earth and each other.**

One: Let us pray:

Calling God,

you have gathered us into this community this day.

A place has been made for each of us.

Let what we say and do here

be real for us and honest to your creativity,

and prepare us for the life of the world in your name.

May it be so.

Amen.

WORDS OF WELCOME

The Rev. Elissa Johnk & Rabbi Amy Small

*OPENING HYMN

To You, O God, All Creatures Sing

NCH 17

READING Praying the Sunset Prayer, by Jacob Glatstein Hannah Sachs

TIME OF UNBURDENING

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

THE WORD

WORD OF GOD FOR (SM)ALL AGES Hilah Clarke & Rabbi Amy Small

SPECIAL MUSIC *Soon the Day Will Arrive*
First Church Choir

SCRIPTURE READING AND SERMON Rabbi Amy Small

SPECIAL MUSIC *Ana Ruesink, Emma Barker, and Ruby Platt*

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SILENT PRAYER, THE LORD'S PRAYER (UNISON)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy 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 thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING Hannah Sachs

OFFERTORY

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Text FCCBUCC to 73256 to give a gift to FCCB using your text messaging. Standard text message rates apply. You can also write a check and mail it to 38 S. Winooski, Burlington, VT 05401.

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION Hannah Sachs

*CLOSING HYMN *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* NCH 1

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Fugue in C Major* Felix Mendelssohn

**Please rise, as you are able, in body or in spirit*