



# First Presbyterian Church

## Sunday, April 21, 2024



*Seeking the Faith – Sharing the Spirit – Serving God's People*

You are invited to join us on our journey of faith! We seek to serve God, to minister to our community, and to love one another. Help us in our quest to become an ever more inclusive church that welcomes all people from all backgrounds, abilities, and identities. Come and experience the love of God, the grace of Christ, and the communion of the Holy Spirit.



### Order of Worship

#### Prayer in Preparation

Creator God, thank you for the many good gifts you have given us — so much beauty and abundance in creation all around us. The earth is yours, and everything in it, the world and all who live in it. Amen.

#### Prelude

*For the Beauty of the Earth*

arr. Chris Rice

#### Gathering for Worship

Leader: Along with all creation we wait for the glory of God to be revealed and we commit to playing our part, as the children of God.

May we find liberation from our plastic addiction and healing for our land and water.

**All: Let us worship God.**

#### \*Hymn #14

*For the Beauty of the Earth*

#### \*Call and Response for Earth Day:

Leader: Scripture tells us that "creation waits with eager longing for the children of God to be revealed."

**All: Creation is waiting for us.**

Leader: To open our eyes to the devastation in our world.

**All: Creation is waiting for us.**

Leader: To put the needs of the most vulnerable above the greed of the powerful.

**All: Creation is waiting for us.**

Leader: To move from doing what is easy to doing what is necessary and right.

**All: Creation is waiting for us.**

Leader: To prioritize the needs of community over the convenience of self.

(Cont.)

*\*Please stand as you are able*

**All: Creation is waiting for us.**

Leader: To remove pollution from our seas, land, air, bodies, and hearts.

**All: Creation is waiting for us.**

Leader: In all these things and more,  
creation waits for us to assume our roles as its servants and protectors.

**All: With God’s help, we will answer creation’s call. Amen.**

**\*Giving of the Peace**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you all!

**All: And also with you!**

**\*Response #582** *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*



**Children’s Sermon**

Hey! Yea! It’s Earth Day!

Elizabeth Hamilton

**Prayer for Illumination**

Reader: Lord God, good shepherd, by the leading of your Spirit, help us to listen for your voice and follow in your paths all the days of our lives; in Jesus’ name. **Amen.**

**Old Testament Lesson**

Psalm 148 (OT p. 582)

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights!  
Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host! Praise him, sun and moon;  
praise him, all you shining stars! Praise him, you highest heavens,  
and you waters above the heavens! Let them praise the name of the Lord,  
for he commanded, and they were created. He established them for ever and ever;  
he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed. Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea  
monsters and all deeps, fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command!  
Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars! Wild animals and all cattle,  
creeping things and flying birds! Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of  
the earth! Young men and women alike, old and young together! Let them praise the name  
of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven.  
He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful,  
for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise the Lord!

**Anthem**

*Glory, Glory! I Feel Better*

arr. Matt and Adam Podd

**New Testament Lesson**

John 10:11-18 (NT p. 103)

‘I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason, the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.’

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Proclamation of the Word**

And Like a Good Shepherd...

**\*Affirmation of Faith** (from the PCUSA Resource "Fall in Love With The Earth")

Leader: Let us affirm our faith responsively. Now we know creation calls on us to change and the changes we need will not be small. There are many ways we know we need to grow and if there's one that matters most of all,

**All: Maybe it's as simple as this:**

**it's time for humankind to fall in love with the Earth. Amen.**

**\*Hymn #15**

*For the Beauty of the Earth*

v. 1-3

**Minute for Mission – Adult Literacy Program**

Ann Warner

**Invitation to the Offering**

Leader: How does God's love abide in anyone who has the goods of the world yet refuses to help a sibling in need? With love for God and neighbor, let us offer our lives to the Lord.

**Offertory**

*Sunset at the Beach*

Kevin Olson

**\*#606 Doxology**

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

Leader: Gracious God, we give you thanks that you have shown us the meaning of love through Jesus Christ, who gave his life for us. Show us how to share Christ's love by giving our lives for one another; to the glory of your holy name. **Amen.**

**Pastoral Prayer and Congregational Prayer**

**Joys and Concerns** (*In the bulletin, on cards, or via Zoom Chat*)

Minister: We give thanks to God for these blessings.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

Minister: For all these people and all who are in need

**All: Please hold your people near, O God!**

Minister: God inspires us to pray, hears our prayers, and answers our prayers.

**All: Alleluia! Amen!**

Minister: Let us pray...

*Silent Prayer*

Minister: Let us pray together...

**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.**

**\*Hymn #15**

*For the Beauty of the Earth*

v. 4-6

**Announcements**

**Blessing**

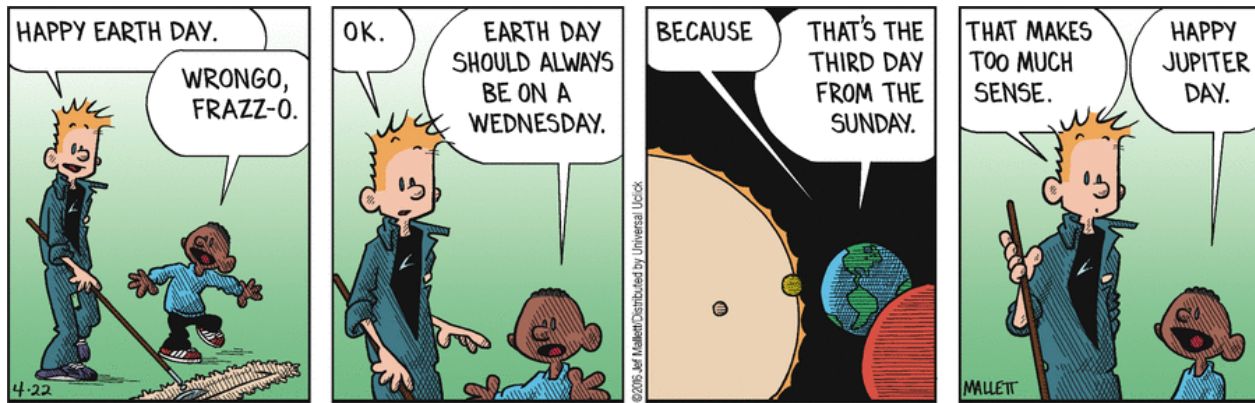
Minister: May the goodness and mercy of God follow you all the days of your life, and, at your life's end, may you dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

**Postlude**

*Shout to the Lord*

arr. Jan Sanborn

**Moment for Reflection:** (Happy Mercury Day!)



**Worship Assistants**

Jim Caloway- Greeter  
Sue Bailey- Worship Assistant  
Jiyeon Lee- Accompanist  
Elwood Prest- AV Tech

Wendi Zea- Head Usher  
Allan Bennett- Scripture Reader  
Choir- Anthem  
Pat Manfredi- Zoom Greeter

**APRIL 21, 2024**

9:30 am Worship in the Sanctuary and via Zoom.  
Coffee Fellowship in the Fellowship Hall (Hosts: Rick and Dori Jefferson)  
2:00 pm Radio Show Rehearsal

**APRIL 24, 2024**

10:00 am Bible Study will Bill and J. P.  
3:30 pm Bible Study with Pastor Kerry via Zoom

**APRIL 28, 2024**

9:30 am Worship in the Sanctuary and via Zoom.  
Coffee Fellowship in the Fellowship Hall (Host: Phyllis Beck)  
2:00 pm Radio Show Rehearsal

**Pastor Kerry's Office Hours:**

Monday - Thursday: 10:00 am-1:30 pm

If you would like a visit—or if you know someone who needs a visit—  
please let Pastor Kerry or one of the Deacons know.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please fill out **Joys and Concerns** cards at the back of the sanctuary prior to the beginning of worship. The cards are on the table as you enter, and there is a basket to put the completed cards in. If you are participating via Zoom, use the Chat feature to let the Zoom Greeter know what your Joys and Concerns are (please complete asap during the service.)

The next rehearsal for *The Brief Case of the Missing Briefcase* is Sunday, April 21 at 2:00 pm in the Sanctuary. The production takes place on May 5 at 7:00 pm. Desserts and beverages will be served starting at 6:15 in the Fellowship Hall. Donations will support the Laundry Project.

**Fellowship Hosts** – we appreciate you! If you haven't already done so, please sign up.

Tru-Earth laundry sheets are available at the Fair-Trade kiosk.  
Each package is \$15 and supports the **Laundry Project**.

The Church Women United **Annual Hunger Sale** is scheduled for April 26 & 27. Volunteers are needed beginning Tuesday, April 23. Contact Brenda Myers or Ann Warner for more information.

*Please, as you are able, continue to contribute financially to the life and ministry of the church through Sunday offerings, direct deposit, by sending checks in the mail, online at <http://www.firstprescdale.org> or by scanning this QR code with your smartphone camera.*



## Joys and Concerns

### Remember to Pray for:

- Areas of the world at war, peace in the Middle East
- Covid concerns
- Our Democracy in the face of social unrest and political polarization
- Those struggling with addictions and the consequences
- Transgender community under attack legislatively
- Those in the destructive path of natural disasters
- Those affected by threats of terrorism, mass shootings, and hate crimes
- Our National, State, Regional, and Community Leaders
- Those who are homeless, hungry, and in harm's way
- Those in shelters on the southern border
- Those who continue to be marginalized and underrepresented
- Military Service Members

Each week we pray for one of the Carbondale Interfaith Council faith communities.

This week, please pray for: **SIH Health Ministry**

The Mission/Ministry we are praying for this month: **Mission**

### ***Household Prayer: Morning***

Good Shepherd, walk beside me through the joy and trouble of this day,  
and lead me in right paths for your name's sake. Amen.

### ***Household Prayer: Evening***

Good Shepherd, remain with me in the dark and stillness of this night,  
and let me lie down in safety to restore by soul. Amen.

#14 *For the Beauty of the Earth*  
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1 For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:

Refrain:  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

2 For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light: [Refrain]

3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,  
for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight: [Refrain]

4 For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,  
friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild: [Refrain]

5 For thyself, best gift divine to the world so freely given;  
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven: [Refrain]

#582 *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me* (sing twice)  
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Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen

**Psalm 148** (OT p. 582)

Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights!  
Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host! Praise him, sun and moon;  
praise him, all you shining stars! Praise him, you highest heavens,  
and you waters above the heavens! Let them praise the name of the LORD,  
for he commanded and they were created. He established them for ever and ever;  
he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed. Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea  
monsters and all deeps, fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his  
command! Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars! Wild animals and all cattle,  
creeping things and flying birds! Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers  
of the earth! Young men and women alike, old and young together! Let them praise the  
name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven.  
He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel  
who are close to him. Praise the LORD!

**John 10:11-18** (NT p. 103)

‘I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I

know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.'

#15 (v 1-3) *All Creatures of Our God and King*  
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1 All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing, Alleluia! Alleluia!  
O brother sun with golden beam, O sister moon with silver gleam, sing praises! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

2 O brother wind with clouds and rain, you nurture gifts of fruit and grain. Alleluia!  
Alleluia! O sister water, flowing clear, make music for your Lord to hear.  
Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

3 O brother fire, so warm and bright, chase off the shadows of the night. Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Dear mother earth, who day by day unfolds such blessings on our way,  
sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

#606 *Praise God from Who All Blessings Flow (Doxology)*  
Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below  
Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

#15 (v 4-6 ) *All Creatures of Our God and King*  
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4 All who for love of God forgive, all who in pain or sorrow grieve, Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Christ bears your burdens and your fears; so, even in the midst of tears,  
sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

5 And you, most gentle sister death, waiting to hush our final breath: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom, fair is the night that leads us home.  
Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

6 O sisters, brothers, take your part, and worship God with humble heart. Alleluia!  
Alleluia! All creatures, bless the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Three in One!  
Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!