

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP  
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER  
April 8, 2018  
11:00 A.M.

*Together in Christ, Reaching Beyond Our Doors.*

**GATHERING TO PRAISE**

PRELUDE

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, GETTING ACQUAINTED

\*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*This is God's house – a place of peace where we befriend one another in the name of Christ.  
Greet those around you as a sign of God's peace and Christ's friendship.*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Hear the proclamation of faith: Christ is risen from the dead!  
The Spirit is poured out. Lives are transformed.

**All: God is active in our world. God brings hope and healing.**

One: Hear the call of God: The Spirit of God invites us into community.  
We are called to see beyond ourselves, and to join in loving care  
for all those around us.

**All: We accept God's call, and we rejoice in the gift of community.**

One: Hear a challenge for today: The Earth is stressed by the heavy impact of human  
use. The whole of God's creation is groaning, crying out in pain.

**All: We name the Earth as part of our community. We extend our love to all of God's  
creation.**

One: People of faith, gather now to worship God the creator and redeemer of the  
world. Gather now to be transformed by God's compassionate love.

**All: We praise with joy the world's creator, God of justice, love and peace!**

\*HYMN

"All Things Bright and Beautiful"

No. 147

A TIME TO CELEBRATE OUR CHILDREN

"Where Children Belong" (congregation sings)

***This, this is where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshipping throng.***

***Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song: This is where children belong. This, this is  
where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshipping throng. Water, God's Word, bread and  
cup, prayer, and song: This is where children belong.***

**CONNECTING WITH GOD IN PRAYER**

HYMN

"Circle of Life"

(see insert)

## UNISON PRAYER

**Creator God, you make all things and weave them together in an intricate tapestry of life. Guide by your wisdom those who have power and authority that, by the decisions they make, life may be cherished and a good and fruitful Earth may continue to show your glory and sing your praises. Guide us also to tend and keep the garden of your creation. Teach us to respect the fragile balance of life. Give us wisdom and reverence for all your plants and animals who share this planet with us and whose lives make possible our own. Help us to remember that they too love the sweetness of life and join with us in giving you praise. We pray this in the name of your Christ, Jesus, who shows us the sacredness of our path in the world. Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

No. 895

**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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

"For Them to Keep"  
*Allie Kessel, voice and piano*

Tim DeFrance

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Genesis 2: 8-9, 15; Psalm 104: 24-30

(OT p. 2; p. 554)

Leader: The Word of God. **All: For the People of God.** Leader: Thanks be to God.

VIDEO

"A Photo Prayer"

SERMON

"Tending God's Garden"

GIVING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Offertory Hymn

"How Great Thou Art"

No 77

\*Doxology for Today

No. 62

**All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing, O praise ye!  
Alleluia! O brother sun with golden beam, O sister moon with silver gleam! O praise ye! O praise ye! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

\*Prayer of Dedication

## GOING FORTH IN JOY

\*HYMN

"God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale"

No. 122

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE