

TRINITY UNITED CHURCH

Sunday, April 23, 2017 - 10:30 a.m.

Trinity United Church extends a warm welcome to everyone. Please be advised that the service is being recorded for viewing on COGECO (channel 10), Thursday and Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

*Stand as you are able

Bold print=Congregation

Earth Day Service: “Earth, Sea and Sky”

Order of Worship

Prelude

We Gather

Welcome and Announcements

Life of the Congregation

Acknowledging Traditional Territory

Praise Hymn: VU412 “This Is the Day” vs 1

Lighting the Christ Candle

Call to Worship: Adapted Miles J. Russell, “Seeds of Life,” Mandate 41:2 (May 2010), pp. 17–18. Used with permission.

Leader: The birds return from their southern home.

People: Buds emerge on the trees as they discover again the warmth of the earth.

Leader: Crocuses and other early spring flowers begin to carpet the land as it throws off its wintry coating.

People: The creation awakens to the possibilities of spring.

Leader: Life shows itself in every corner of the earth.

People: God is our Creator, who continues to create in the rhythm of life we call the seasons.

Leader: Come let us enter into the Spirit of God’s creative moments.

Come let us sow the seeds of new life.

Come let us worship.

Opening Prayer: (unison)

Gracious God, open our eyes that we may see the abundance of your creative love in all that surrounds and sustains us. Enable us to become people of hope and life, who plant the seeds of your earthly garden for the benefit of all. Help us to be gardeners and caregivers for the earth that is home for all life. Fill us with your gentle love that we may walk tenderly on the earth, cooperating with your intention of abundant love and life. Amen.

Sacrament of Baptism

Learning with Children

We Listen to What the Spirit is Saying to Us

Prayer: Gathering 2015 Pentecost 2 Year A page 68 Richard Bott used with permission. (Some parts have been adapted.)

Earth

Hymn: MV 135 “Called by Earth and Sky” vs 3

(used with permission from Pat Mayberry)

Refrain:

Called by earth and sky, promise of hope held high. This is our sacred living trust, treasure of life sanctified, called by earth and sky.

Verse 3:

Precious these mountains, ancient sands; vast fragile land.
Seeds of our wakening, rooted and strong, Creation's faithful song.

Refrain**Prayer:**

"In the beginning, before there was anything—
Before there was beginning itself—
God said—

"Let there be . . ."

And there was!
Earth. Rock. Soil.

Granite and shale,

Quartz and lodestone.

Molten lava.

Sheets and blocks,

Pebbles and sand.

And God said, "This is great!"

It was great

It is great!"

Scripture: Genesis 1: 9-10a (page 1 in Pew Bibles)

Reflection:**Action Steps:**

Recycle

Repurpose

Plants, our new best friend

Prayer: (unison)

God of all creation,

You are wonderful!

You are the solid foundation

We build our lives upon.

You are the soil

In which we grow.

You are our God,

We are your creation!

Alleluia!

Sea (Water)

Hymn: MV135 vs 1 "Called by Earth and Sky"

Refrain:

Called by earth and sky, promise of hope held high. This is our sacred living trust, treasure of life sanctified, called by earth and sky.

Verse 1:

Precious these waters, endless seas, deep ocean's dream, waters of healing, rivers of rain, the wash of love again.

Refrain**Prayer**

In the beginning, before there was anything—
Before there was beginning itself—
God said—

"Let there be. . ."

And there was!
Water, standing and flowing.
Boiling and bubbling.
Calming and stormy.

The birthplace of all life.

The element that fills our bodies

And refreshed our souls.

And God said, “This is great!”

It was great.

It is great!

Scripture: Genesis 1: 10b (page 1 in Pew Bibles)

Reflection:

Action Steps:

Make every drop count

Cool wash and hang to dry

Prayer: (unison)

God of all creation,

You are wonderful!

Your grace showers on creation,

Like the rain falls on us

Sometimes like a mist that surrounds.

Sometimes like a torrent that soaks.

Sometimes like a river that carries us away.

Thank you for your grace.

Thank you for that love.

Thank you, God of All!

Alleluia!

Sky (Air)

Hymn: MV135 “Called by Earth and Sky” vs 2

Refrain:

Called by earth and sky, promise of hope held high. This is our sacred living trust, treasure of life sanctified, called by earth and sky.

Verse 2:

Precious this gift, the air we breathe; wind born and free. Breath of the spirit, blow through this place, our gathering and our grace.

Refrain

Prayer:

In the beginning before there was anything—

Before there was beginning itself—

God said—

“Let there be . . .”

And there was!

Air. Wind. Breath.

Oxygen and nitrogen,

And all of the gases

Life needs.

Air that sits.

Wind that moves.

Breath of life!

And God said, “This is great!”

It was great.

It is great!

Scripture: Genesis 1: 1-2, 30d (page 1 in Pew Bibles)

Reflection

Action Steps:

Reduce energy use

Change the way you think about transportation

Insulate your home

High efficiency appliances

Prayer: (unison)

God of all creation,

You are wonderful!

In the air that we breathe,

Move us.

In the breath that moves the world,

Give new life to all creation!

In the Spirit, alive in all, alive with all—

Help creation be

All you want it to be!

Alleluia!

We Respond to God's Word

Offering Ourselves For The Work And Witness Of The Church

Gift of Music: Solo, Peter A. "The Holy City"

Music by Stephen Adams; words by Frederick E. Weatherly

Minute for Mission

Offertory

***Offering Hymn No. 538:** "For the Gift of Creation"

***Offering Prayer:** (hands extended, palms facing upwards) (unison)

National Council of Churches Earth Day Sunday 2002 "Caring for Creation:

Making the World Safe for Children." Used with permission

Generous God, you have blessed us with the resources to share the good news of your love for all creation. We dedicate these gifts and pray that they may bring healing, wholeness, and hope to the world, that future generations may also know your graciousness and love. Amen.

Prayers of the People: Earth Day resource: St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Medina, Washington used with permission

We give you thanks and praise, O God of creation, for the grandeur of all that you have made, saying

We thank you, God.

For the richness of the good Earth that brings forth fruits and flowers, a pleasure to taste and a joy to behold,

We thank you, God.

For the healing waters of creation, which bring pleasure and health, purity and life,

We thank you, God.

For the soaring birds of the air, the crawling creatures on the Earth, the gliding fishes in the seas, for all creatures great and small with whom we share this precious web of life,

We thank you, God.

For the invigorating sunlight of day, the deepening mystery of night, the wonder of the stars, and the call of the unknown in the universe,

We thank you, God.

From heedless misuse and dishonoring of the wonders of your hand,

Good Lord deliver us.

From squandering resources, abusing our companion species, and polluting the habitat we all share,

Good Lord deliver us.

From the folly of imagining ourselves free from the fate of your whole creation,

Good Lord deliver us.

For the courage and wisdom to confess how little we have cared for your gifts,

Strengthen us, O Spirit.

For the conviction that you have called us to love and restore the Earth,

Strengthen us, O Spirit.

For the determination to continue our stewardship anew,

Strengthen us, O Spirit.

O merciful Creator, your hand is open wide to the needs of every living creature: Make us always thankful for your loving *wisdom*; and grant that we may be faithful stewards of your good gifts; through Jesus Christ who taught us to pray . . . **Lord's Prayer.**

We Depart to Serve with Joy

***Hymn:** 420VU "Go to the World"

***Commissioning Benediction**

***Choral Amen:** 974 VU Amens

Postlude

The action steps are courtesy via the Climate Change office.

THANK YOU

We extend a warm welcome to **Valerie L.** as our music director today. Thank you for sharing your light and gifts with us!

Join us for hospitality, served in the Church Hall after worship.

LOOKING AHEAD

Apr 24 Weight Watchers, 6:15 pm in the Gym.

C.R.O.W. playgroup, 9:00 am in the Gym.

Book Club, 7:00 pm in the Parlour.

Apr 25 New Horizons, 7:00 pm in the Parlour.

Four Rivers Presbytery Meeting

Apr 26 C.R.O.W. playgroup, 9:00 am in the Gym.

Bible Study, Wednesdays, 9:30 am in the Upper Room.

Apr 30 New Horizons will be hosting a Spring Brunch after the morning service. Please join us and support sending children to camp, free will offering, all proceeds to camperships. Menu...Wife Saver Casserole, Blueberry French Toast, Fruit Salad, Tea, Coffee, Juice.

May 6 Financial Review day

May 7 Anniversary Sunday

Ham and Bean Supper, more information to follow.

WORSHIP PARTICIPATION

In order to enhance engagement and participation in worship Trinity United offers:

- Welcome to Newcomers: please sign our guest book (at the entrance to the worship space) so that we have a record of your presence among us.
- Pew cards with special requests that may be put on offering collection plate.

- Hearing loop aids are available at the audio-visual desk in the worship space or as directed by the ushers.
- A scent-free building.
- An unattended child-friendly nursery space and a quiet room overlooking worship space, both equipped with audio to worship; ushers can offer direction.
- Accessible washroom adjacent to worship space.
- Colour-coded emergency plan for safe evacuation.

"**Our Model for Membership - time for a change?**" is a study document from General Council Theology and Inter-church Inter-faith Committee, seeking responses by June 2017. Please pick up a copy at the Botham Table. Rev Arlyce will announce a discussion date for after Easter.

TRINITY AND COMMUNITY NOTES

Christian Community Team,

Membership and Welcoming: Member? Adherent? Certificate of Transfer? If you have been participating in the life of Trinity United Church for some time, perhaps you would consider making Trinity your home church. We can help you understand what this means for you, and how it can happen. Please give prayerful consideration to this invitation and speak with Rev. Arlyce for clarification and additional information.

Outreach: Chimo Elementary School Parent Council would like to provide a "Spring Dinner" for the students on Wednesday, April 26th. They are looking for help in serving the children. The meal will be served during the school day. There will be two shifts for helpers to volunteer - 9 am - 12:30 pm and 10:30 am - 2:30 pm. What a great way for us to serve the students a delicious meal and show how much they are our neighbours! Imagine - excited children, lots of chit-chat, laughter and fun, full tummies - a good excuse to enjoy just because someone cares. If you are interested in helping, please put

your name and phone number on the list in the church foyer. We know this is a big event and help would be very much appreciated.

Meat Pies, Made with Special Care by Trinity Cooks, available after service this morning in the kitchen, \$3.00 each. Fundraiser in support of the life and work of Trinity.

Stewardship Team,

- groups using the facilities are asked to book the space that they want to use, arrange their own setups and return furniture to the original position.
- PARKING and drop off zone in front of the church entrance is being expanded so that people who need to be close to the entrance can find space. Please keep this consideration in mind.

It's time to think Spring! The Stewardship Team announces the *Annual Geranium Sale*. Order forms are available today. Delivery in late May.

ANNUAL LEAVE

Rev. Arlyce will be on leave April 26 - May 2. For pastoral concerns please contact the church office.

FOUR RIVERS PRESBYTERY

Bethel United Church, "All You Can Eat" Pancake Breakfast, celebrating Maplefest, April 29, 8:00 - 11:00 am. Pancakes, sausage, local maple syrup. Adults \$10, children 6-12 \$5 (under 6 free).

Prayer Concerns, please include in your prayers: Trinity United Church, Bowmanville (Bay of Quinte Conference Prayer Cycle); those serving in information technology (U. C. Pray For Our Church).

“Soul Keeping: Caring for the Most Important Part of You” is being offered on Wednesdays, beginning on April 26 in Elgin-Portland P.C. Contact Rev. Takouhi before April 25 if you are interested in joining group. Study guide is \$12, pay as you are able. See details posted on poster door by minister’s study.

COMMUNITY NOTES

St. Philip Neri Church, Toledo, Fish Fry, April 23, 4:00 - 6:30 pm at the Royal Canadian Legion Toledo. Adults \$13, children 12 and under \$7., haddock fish, pork for non fish lovers. Take out available.

Westminster Presbyterian Church, ‘community dinner’ today after their worship service. The next dinners will be May 28th and in September.