

**Order of Worship: Sunday, April 23, 2023**  
**8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Services of Worship**  
**3rd Sunday of Easter/Creation Care Sunday**

**Welcome** Rev. Becky Rokitowski, Associate Pastor

**Prelude** *Meditation on 'How Great Thou Art'* A. Zabel  
**Lighting of the Candles** Acolytes

**Call to Worship** Charlotte Keaton and Congregation

“O Lord, our Lord, the majesty of your name fills the earth!

Your glory is higher than the heavens.”

We gather to praise you! We gather to celebrate you! We gather to worship you!

**“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth...”.**

**And God saw that it was very good.**

**All praise, honor, majesty and power belongs to our Creating God! Amen**

“Copyright © 2013 Joan Stott – ‘The Timeless Psalms’ RCL Psalms Year C. Used with permission.”

**Creation Hymn Medley** *Morning Has Broken* UMH 145, vs. 1 and 3  
*This Is My Father’s World* UMH 144

**Affirmation of Faith** *A Statement of Faith of the UCC* UMH 881  
**Gloria Patri** UMH 70

**Passing of the Peace**

**Pastoral Prayer/The Lord’s Prayer** Rev. Dr. Latricia Scriven

**Anthem (11:00)** *For the Beauty of the Earth* J. Rutter Covenant Chancel Choir

**Children’s Chat** Jessie Perry

**The Offering**

**Offering Prayer** Rev. Rokitowski

**Offertory** *Tend* M. Gentile/E. Rose/J. Early Lily Griesheimer, soloist

(Words and Music: Michaela Gentile, Emmy Rose, Jessie Early ©Bethel Worship Publishing]

Capitol CMG Paragon|Jessie Parker Early Music|Bethel Music Publishing. All rights reserved.

CCLI License #1208300)

**Doxology** UMH 95

**Prayer of Thanksgiving** Yvonne Brownlie

“For the Beauty of Creation” Katherine Smith Matheny

**Scripture** Matthew 22: 37-39 (NIV) Charlotte Keaton

|                                 |  |                         |
|---------------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| <b>Sermon</b>                   | How Has God Equipped Us for Creation Care? | Cara Fleischer          |
| <b>Baptism</b>                  |  | Madilyn Michelle Ward   |
| <b>Reception of New Members</b> |  |                         |
| <b>Closing Hymn</b>             | <i>Hymn of Promise</i>                     | UMH 707                 |
| <b>Sending Forth</b>            |  | Rev. Dr. Scriven        |
| <b>Postlude</b>                 | <i>I Sing the Mighty Power of God</i>      | setting by J. Evanovich |

“Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #M-733024. All rights reserved.”

**Statement of Faith of Creation Care S.G.  
(developed from the Cape Town Commitment (Laussane Movement, 2011))**

- 1. Creation care as the stewardship of God’s creation, a biblical command and an integral part of Christian discipleship.**
- 2. The love and care of all creation not as mere sentimental affection, pantheistic worship or a result of looming environmental threats – but a logical outworking of our love for God to whom it belongs.**
- 3. The duty and power of the Church to disciple its members to love and responsibly steward all of creation.**
- 4. The broken relationship between mankind and the rest of creation as a result of our sin.**
- 5. The need for repentance of our failure to be good stewards and our role in the continued destruction, waste and pollution of the world that God has entrusted to us.**
- 6. The environmental crisis as a direct and pressing threat to the lives and wellbeing of God’s creation, including humans.**
- 7. The need for the Church to act urgently and boldly to respond to the environmental crisis in order to alleviate suffering, halt destruction and loss of life, and bring healing to the land.**
- 8. The hope that we have in the renewal and perfection of all creation upon the return of Jesus Christ**