



Presbytery Worship
February 18, 2023
A Service for the Care of Creation

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

For the Beauty of the Earth Linda Raney, Santa Fe First
Mark Hayes & John Carter

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 24)

Zeke Tapia, Elder, Taos First

One: The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof;

All: The world and those who dwell therein;

One: For God has founded it upon the seas,

All: and established it upon the rivers.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy Creator God:

Yours is the womb of life.

Yours is the fountain of living water.

Yours is the voice that breaks down walls.

Yours is the love that cannot be contained.

Today, we give thanks for this earth, our partner in your service.

Move us to hear your voice in the song of the sparrow,
to see your face reflected in the river.

Awaken us to your greatness through the winds of the storm,
and the scent of your grace on the morning dew.

Empower us to hear your prophets in the croaks of evening frogs,
to read your gospel in the webs of writing spiders.

In your great mercy you call us to care for your creation,
to uphold one another, and to love your world.

And so we offer ourselves to tend your creation

And to build relationship with one another

As we work to realize your kingdom.

Through Christ we pray. Amen.

HYMN #15

“All Creatures of our God and King”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Siobhan O’Connell-Croto, Pastor, Raton

All: Gracious Creator, we confess that too often, we have taken your creation for granted. We have abused the earth’s natural resources and polluted the land, water, and air. We admit that we have not fulfilled our calling to steward your earth and all that dwell therein.

Grant us new resolve to work with you in the renewal of creation. Empower us to speak and act in ways that preserve the integrity, stability, and beauty of the biotic community. Inspire us to value, protect, and share the good gifts of creation that you have provided in abundance.

In silence, let us humbly confess our complicity in degrading God’s creation...*(silence)*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (from Psalm 103)

One: For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is God’s steadfast love toward us; as far as the east is from the west, so far does God remove our transgressions from us. Friends, hear and believe the good news of the Gospel:

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, healed, and made whole!

PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

(The people may exchange with one another, in words and gesture, signs of peace and reconciliation)

ACT OF PRAISE *Sing Praise to God who Reigns Above #635, v. 1*

Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation

The God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation.

With healing balm my soul is filled, and every faithless murmur stilled.

To God all praise and glory!

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

ANTHEM

For the Beauty of the Earth
John Rutter

Chancel Choir, Santa Fe First

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Consuelo Ochoa de Walker, Santa Fe Westminster

One: Gracious God, may your Spirit awaken us to your Word so that we know your presence in the world. May we not only listen, but truly hear, and may what we hear lead us to act for your will to be done. Amen.

LECTURA ANTIGUO TESTAMENTO

Isaías 58:6-12

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Matthew 22:34-40

Sister Joan Brown, OSF

SERMON “Love, the Physical Structure of the Universe” Sister Joan Brown, OSF

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

HYMN #22 “God of the Sparrow”

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Joyce Haven, Elder, White Rock
(A New Creed from the United Church of Canada)

All: We are not alone. We live in God’s world.

We believe in God:

**who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the word made flesh, to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

We are called to be the church:

**to celebrate God’s presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.**

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

OFFERING Nelson Capitan, Elder, Laguna

*The offering from this service will go to local environmental organizations
EarthKeepers360 and New Mexico Interfaith Power and Light.*

OFFERTORY *For the Beauty of the Earth* Linda Raney, Santa Fe First
Wayne Wold

DOXOLOGY

**I’ve got joy like a fountain; I’ve got joy like a fountain;
I’ve got joy like a fountain in my soul!
I’ve got joy like a fountain; I’ve got joy like a fountain;
I’ve got joy like a fountain in my soul!**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION Nelson Capitan, Elder, Laguna

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Frank Yates, Pastor, ABQ, Shepherd of the Valley

COMMUNION Harry Eberts, Pastor, Santa Fe First
Hannah Scanlon, Chaplain, Menaul

Invitation to the Lord’s Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

One: The Lord be with you;

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts;

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God;

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...who forever sing to the glory of your name: (*Holy, Holy, Holy, #552*)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest!

Breaking the Bread

Communion of the People

Linda Raney, Santa Fe First

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness by Johannes Brahms

Prayer after Communion

SENDING

HYMN #23

"God You Spin the Whirling Planets"

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

Sister Joan Brown, OSF

POSTLUDE

Ev'ry Time I Feel the Spirit

Adolphus Hailstock

Linda Raney, Santa Fe First

Liturgy developed by the Earth Care Team of the Presbytery of Santa Fe.

Musicians:

Linda Raney, piano & organ; First Presbyterian Church of Santa Fe Chancel Choir, vocals

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