

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

Earth Day Sunday

April 26, 2020



Video Introduction by Pastor Vida

<https://youtu.be/vjhLC2e6l4k>

2020 is the 50th anniversary of the first Earth Day, which is celebrated on April 22 every year. We have designated this Sunday, as Earth Day Sunday. This “Worship at Home” service begins with a Thanksgiving for Water and Baptism accompanied by video scenes along MacKay Creek which runs through Murdo Frazier Park to the north and west of our church location. (Check out the links on the last page, to learn more about the Mackay Creek Watershed). In addition to hymns sung by Sonja Koruga, we have also included a hymn sung by National Bishop Susan to commemorate Earth Day. This year also marks the 41st Christian Commemoration of the Shoah - the name given by the Jewish people for the annihilation of six million Jews by the Nazis during the Second World War. We have included a video link to a prayer to mark this occasion in the Intercessory prayers.

We gather each week to worship and pray on the traditional territory of the Coast Salish Peoples. For thousands of years they have walked on the land and paddled the waters of the Salish Sea. We are grateful to the Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations for their stewardship of these lands and adjoining waters throughout the ages.

Thanksgiving for the Sanctified Waters of Creation

<https://youtu.be/4JZBS8oqfOM>

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + one God,
the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, and the light of our salvation.

Just as God's work of creation never ends,
so the gifts received in baptism are renewed every day.
Let us give thanks together for the life given in baptism. (pause)

We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life:
for water to bathe in, water to drink,
for waters to play in and waters that inspire wonder,
for water that gives life to our planet.

We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life.

We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of this place:
for water from our tap, for rain and snow,
for the waters of the Capilano River and Mackay Creek, for the waters of Burrard Inlet and the Strait of Georgia.

We are grateful for the people of the Tsleil Waututh, Squamish and Musqueam Nations who paddled and fished these waters and continue to protect them today ... so that herring and clams and whales are returning to the Inlet.

We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of this place.

We give you thanks for your salvation through water:
for delivering Noah and his family through the floodwaters,
for leading your people Israel through the sea into freedom,
for preserving your prophet Elijah through the time of drought,
for quenching the Samaritan woman's thirst with living water.

We give you thanks for your salvation through water.

We give you thanks for the life of all the baptized,
for all who are godparents and baptismal sponsors,
for all children and grandchildren, and great grandchildren,
for our siblings in Christ, whom we know but with whom we cannot gather
and all those whom we have never seen, but to whom we are bound.

We give you thanks for the life of all the baptized.

We give you thanks for life in Christ through your Holy Spirit:
for our entry into Jesus' death through these waters,
for our new birth into a life of freedom and service, to love and care for the earth you have made,

for our calling to be your people, sent out for the life of the world.

We give you thanks, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. Amen.

Gathering Hymn:

Creator God you Made the Earth – Sung by Sonja Koruga to the tune of #ELW 502 The King of Love My Shepherd Is

<https://youtu.be/ejoy3IOTTFI>

Creator God, You Made the Earth

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

ST. COLUMBA
Ancient Irish Melody



1. Cre - a - tor God, you made the earth, A gift be - yond com - par - ing!
2. You gave your gift of Sab - bath rest, Your pat - tern for cre - a - tion.
3. You give us Christ, who re - con - ciled The things of earth and hea - ven.
4. Be - cause we've turned a - way from you, This world still needs your heal - ing.
5. God, by your Spi - rit, may we be Com - mun - i - ties of car - ing,



You called it good, you gave it worth, You placed it in our car - ing.
You give us times to heal, to bless, To join in cel - e - bra - tion.
In Christ you call each one your child! What won - drous love you've giv - en.
Cre - a - tion longs to be made new Through Christ, your love re - veal - ing.
That as we're healed, your world may see The hope that we are shar - ing.

Tune: Irish melody

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Prayer on Earth day Sunday (written by our National Bishop, Susan Johnson)

Creator of All, on this Earth Sunday,
we praise you for the beauty and wonder of all that you have made.
We confess the ways that we have abused or taken for granted this good gift.
God of living and loving,
Help us to reconnect with your creation and with each other.
We pray for the greening of our earth and of our lives.
In your holy name we pray. **Amen.**

First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Today's reading is the conclusion of Peter's sermon preached following the giving of the Holy Spirit to the apostles on the day of Pentecost. The center of his preaching is the bold declaration that God has made the crucified Jesus both Lord and Christ.

^{14a}Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd], ³⁶“Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

³⁷Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” ³⁸Peter said to them, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” ⁴⁰And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” ⁴¹So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: 116:1-4, 12-19

¹I love the LORD, who has heard my voice,
and listened to my supplication,

²for the LORD has given ear to me
whenever I called.

³The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me;
I came to grief and sorrow.

⁴Then I called upon the name of the LORD:
“O LORD, I pray you, save my life.”

¹²How shall I repay the LORD
for all the good things God has done for me?

¹³I will lift the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the LORD.

¹⁴I will fulfill my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all God's people.

¹⁵Precious in your sight, O LORD,
is the death of your servants.

¹⁶O LORD, truly I am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

¹⁷I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call upon the name of the LORD.

¹⁸I will fulfill my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all God's people,

¹⁹in the courts of the LORD's house,
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-23

The imagery of exile is used to help the readers of this letter understand that they are strangers in a strange land. Christians no longer belong to this age. Through the death of Christ we belong to God, so that our focus, faith, and hope are no longer on such things as silver or gold.

¹⁷If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

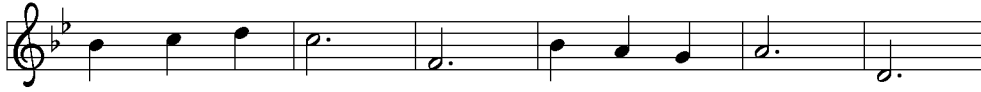
²²Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God. Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God

Hymn - Touch the Earth Lightly ELW #739, sung by Our National Bishop, Susan Johnson

<https://www.facebook.com/CanadianLutherans/videos/229137115011421/>

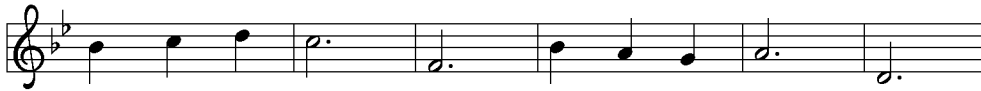
Touch the Earth Lightly



1 Touch the earth light - ly, use the earth gent - ly,
2 We who en - dan - ger, who cre - ate hun - ger,
3 Let there be green - ing, birth from the burn - ing,
4 God of all liv - ing, God of all lov - ing,



nour - ish the life of the world in our care:
a - gents of death for all crea - tures that live,
wa - ter that bless - es, and air that is sweet,
God of the seed - ling, the snow, and the sun,



gift of great won - der, ours to sur - rend - er,
we who would fos - ter clouds of dis - as - ter—
health in God's gar - den, hope in God's chil - dren,
teach us, de - flect us, Christ re - con - nect us,



trust for the chil - dren to - mor - row will bear.
God of our plan - et, fore - stall and for - give!
re - gen - er - a - tion that peace will com - plete.
us - ing us gent - ly, and mak - ing us one.

Text: Shirley Erena Murray, b. 1931

Music: TENDERNESS, Colin Gibson, b. 1933

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Gospel: Luke 24:13-35

<https://youtu.be/UjxzeqHTZOo>

In today's gospel we meet two disciples walking to Emmaus, overcome with sadness, loss, and disappointment. They had hoped Jesus, who was crucified, would be the one to redeem Israel! Yet the risen Christ walks with them and then opens their eyes in the breaking of the bread. To paraphrase Irenaeus, one of the church fathers, the disciples recognize that their companion on the road "is the Son of the One who fashioned the world. He is his Word, through whom the tree bears fruit, through whom the streams flow and through whom the earth brings forth first the shoot, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear." Although we cannot gather around Christ's Table, whenever we break bread together, whenever we share a meal with loved ones or friends we are reminded of the goodness of creation and our responsibility to care for it.

This is the gospel according to Luke the 24th Chapter
Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³Now on that same day [when Jesus had appeared to Mary Magdalene,] two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" ¹⁹He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²²Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." ²⁵Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" ²⁷Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" ³³That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Prayer after the Gospel

O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Hymn of the Day – That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright ELW #384 Sung by Sonja Koruga

<https://youtu.be/zc9ULbpf704>

That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright



1 That Eas - ter day with joy was bright; the
2 O Je - sus, king of gen - tle - ness, with
3 O Christ, you are the Lord of all in
4 All praise, O ris - en Lord, we give to



sun shone out with fair - er light when, to their long - ing
con - stant love our hearts pos - sess; to you our lips will
this our Eas - ter fes - ti - val, for you will be our
you, once dead, but now a - live! To God the Fa - ther



eyes re - stored, the a - pos - tles saw their ris - en Lord!
ev - er raise the trib - ute of our grate - ful praise.
strength and shield from ev - 'ry weap - on death can wield.
e - qual praise, and God the Spir - it, now we raise!

Text: Latin hymn, 5th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

Affirmation of Faith

<https://youtu.be/BU3pCx3il5s> - This video includes the Prayers of Intercession, the Our Father and Final Blessing, too.

We belong to the Creator in whose image we are all made.

In God we are breathing, in God we are living, in God we share the life of all creation.

We belong to Jesus Christ, the true icon of God and of humanity.

In him God is breathing, in him God is living, through him we are reconciled.

We belong to the Holy Spirit, who gives us new life and strengthens our faith.

In the Spirit love is breathing, in the Spirit truth is living, the breath of God always moves us.

We belong to the Holy Trinity, who is one in all and Three-in-One.

In God we are all made, in Christ we are all saved, in the Spirit we are all united.

Prayers of the Church - (adapted from Prayers written by Pastor Rick Pryce, Nova Scotia)

Celebrating the victory of love over death, we offer our prayers to God.

[Short pause]

God who comes in bread, you sustain life through the most basic of foods. Show us your risen presence in the basics of life. Make our hearts burn within us.

God of Easter, **Hear our prayer.**

God who comes in wine, you enrich life in community and celebration. Show us how to live as a community even as we struggle with our current realities. Make our hearts burn within us.

God of Easter, **Hear our prayer.**

God who speaks to us through Creation, we give you thanks and praise, for the grandeur of all that you have made, for the healing waters of the earth, which bring pleasure and health, purity and life; for the soaring birds of the air, the crawling creatures on the Earth, the gliding fish in the seas, for all creatures great and small with whom we share this precious web of life. Deliver us from squandering resources, abusing our companion species, and polluting the habitat we all share. Give us the conviction that that you have called us to love and restore the Earth, the

courage to confess how little we have cared for your gifts and strengthen us to begin our stewardship anew. Make our hearts burn within us. =

God of Easter, **Hear our prayer.**

God who comes in story, you remind us who we are through familiar words, and through the unfamiliar drama of our lives. Open our hearts to the story you are telling us, the story of which we are a part, the story you are composing for the sake of creation. Make our hearts burn within us.

God of Easter, **Hear our prayer.**

God who comes to us in sadness, your presence is promised most profoundly when we are hurting, when we are overwhelmed, when we see no way through. Reassure us that you do walk with us in our difficult days; give us faith when we lose hope. Make our hearts burn within us.

God of Easter, **Hear our prayer.**

God who comes to us in illness, we remember those who are sick, those whose health is compromised, those who are facing death. We also remember those who are serving them in their pain and isolation. *Names of those who are of special concern may be offered* _____

Make our hearts burn within us, even now.

God of Easter, **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for the family, friends, schools, hospitals, care-workers, law enforcement agencies & personnel, communities and congregations that have been experiencing so much shock, loss, grief & pain this week following the harrowing events in Nova Scotia.

(Short pause)

May we all support each other as we embrace the ministry of healing to which you call us. Make our hearts burn within us.

God of Easter, **Hear our prayer.**

Take a few moments now to listen and view the Commemorative Prayer for both the victims and the survivors of the Holocaust. <https://vimeo.com/406184450> - *after you have finished viewing return to this link to conclude the prayers* - <https://youtu.be/BU3pCx3il5s>

Gracious and Merciful Creator, we commend all these prayers trusting in your goodness through Jesus Christ, our Risen and Living Saviour, who taught us to pray...

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.

Blessing

The Blessing of God,
Creator, Redeemer and Spirit of new life,
be with us and all creation, now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Song - This Joyful Eastertide #391 Sung by Sonja Koruga

<https://youtu.be/Z6CVclJyDc>

This Joyful Eastertide



1 This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide, a - way with sin and
2 My flesh in hope shall rest and for a sea - son
3 Death's flood has lost its chill since Je - sus crossed the



sor - - row! My love, the Cru - ci - fied, has
slum - - ber till trump from east to west shall
riv - - er. Lov - er of souls, from ill my



sprung to life this mor - - row.
wake the dead in num - - ber.
pass - ing soul de - liv - - er.

Refrain



Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst his three-day pris - on, our



faith had been in vain. But now has Christ a - ris - en, a -



ris - en, a - ris - en, a - ris - en.

Text: George R. Woodward, 1848–1934
Music: VRUECHTEN, Dutch folk tune, 17th cent.

Dismissal

Go in peace, give thanks and care for the earth. **Thanks be to God.**



This service would not have been possible without the contributions of our music minister, Sonja Koruga and Al Jaugelis for his technical assistance.

Announcements

Book Study on Prayer via Zoom

Pastor Vida had planned to lead a Book Study on Prayer in the Post Easter Season before the pandemic swept aside all scheduled events.

The good news is that the book study can still go ahead with the help of digital technology. The study group could meet online via the Zoom app for 3 consecutive weeks on Tuesdays at 1:30PM

Proposed dates: May 12, 19 and 26.

The Book: [Prayer for People Who Don't Believe in God](#), by Vance Morgan.

More info by searching for the Title at - <https://www.woodlakebooks.com/>

Hard copy about \$16.00; Kindle or e-book about \$10.00

If you are interested please let Pastor Vida know by phoning the office or sending her a short email at pastorgd@shaw.ca If you don't have the Zoom app, it is very simple to download, and Pastor Vida will send you instructions after you indicate your interest.

Worship Committee Meeting via Zoom: Tues. April 28, 7:30PM

Learn about the Mackay Creek Watershed

Watershed: is a drainage basin - an area of land which serves as a funnel collecting water from many smaller feeder funnels into a tributary which ultimately delivers the water to the ocean.

- Gloria Dei is situated in the MacKay Creek watershed. Everything that happens in the watershed affects everything downstream, including Burrard Inlet
- Mackay Creek originates at about 2800ft on the southwest slope of Grouse Mountain
- The stream itself is home to coho, chum pink cutthroat, steelhead and Rainbow trout
- The watershed functions a wildlife corridor and is classified as a Western Hemlock Zone
- Its status is endangered due to impacts of urbanization and the loss of estuary
- Learn more at the North Shore Streamkeepers - <https://www.nssk.ca/what-we-do/>
- For children – learn about a grandmother who walked around Lake Superior to raise awareness about the importance of water and the song her grandson asked her to sing - http://www.motherearthwaterwalk.com/?attachment_id=2244
http://www.motherearthwaterwalk.com/?attachment_id=2244

Don't forget to 'like' our page on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GDLCNV to stay up to date on everything that is happening.

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

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Administrator: Shelley Meglaughlin
Church office is open Tuesday to Friday 9:00am to 1:30pm

Music Director: Sonja Koruga

Church Council Chair: Candace Strom

Vice Chair: Ken Parkinson

Church Council Members: Shelley Meglaughlin, Maureen Kerfoot,
Gail Berger, Kathleen Stoll

