



"A Community Of Many Faithing Communities Where All Belong!"

Living Waters Contemplative Life Center | Divine Intervention Ministry to the Homeless
Tippecanoe just.good.food Garden | Food Justice Site PCUSA
Arts and Science Literacy Camps for Children

Welcome To Worship

April 17, 2022

9:30 a.m.

Second Sunday of Easter



Welcome to this time of being with God and each other.

TODAY'S WORSHIP
Second Sunday of Easter

Preparing to Worship...



“Breathing and Praising”

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- ✧ **Prelude: Zo Trembley**
- ✧ **Welcome and community news**
- ✧ **Readying Ourselves for Worship**

***Surely God is in this place, Holy Ground!***  
***Surely God is in this place,***  
***Holy Ground!***

- ✧ **A Poem to Center Ourselves in this Moment-**

***“In Praise of the Earth”***  
**by John O’Donohue**

*Let us bless  
The imagination of the Earth,  
That knew early the patience  
To harness the mind of time,  
Waited for the seas to warm,  
Ready to welcome the emergence  
Of things dreaming of voyaging  
Among the stillness of land.*

*And how light knew to nurse  
The growth until the face of the Earth  
Brightened beneath a vision of color.*

*When the ages of ice came  
And sealed the Earth inside  
An endless coma of cold,  
The heart of the Earth held hope,  
Storing fragments of memory,  
Ready for the return of the sun.*

*Let us thank the Earth  
That offers ground for home  
And holds our feet firm  
To walk in space open  
To infinite galaxies.*

*Let us salute the silence  
And certainty of mountains:  
Their sublime stillness,  
Their dream-filled hearts.*

*The wonder of a garden  
Trusting the first warmth of spring  
Until its black infinity of cells  
Becomes charged with dream;*

*Then the silent, slow nurture  
Of the seed's self, coaxing it  
To trust the act of death.*

*The humility of the Earth  
That transfigures all  
That has fallen  
Of outlived growth.*

*The kindness of the Earth,  
Opening to receive  
Our worn forms  
Into the final stillness.*

*Let us ask forgiveness of the Earth  
For all our sins against her:  
For our violence and poisonings  
Of her beauty.*

*Let us remember within us  
The ancient clay,  
Holding the memory of seasons,  
The passion of the wind,  
The fluency of water,  
The warmth of fire,  
The quiver-touch of the sun  
And shadowed sureness of the moon.*

*That we may awaken,  
To live to the full  
The dream of the Earth  
Who chose us to emerge  
And incarnate its hidden night  
In mind, spirit, and light.*



Photo by Corrigan Eckert <https://linktr.ee/corriganeckert>

✧ **Becoming Present to God and Each Other...Our Check-in:**  
How Are You as You Arrive...how is it with your spirit?

~ **The Joy of Passing the Peace** ~



✧ **And the Children Will Lead the Way: Kids' Time**



## ✧Gathering as God's People: Our Theme

Throughout Eastertide, as we move toward Pentecost, we will be exploring the concept of “Both/And”. This may sound vague or confusing, but in the coming weeks, the Bible Wisdom Teachings provide us opportunities to consider the breadth and depth of experience in fresh ways; expanding our awareness beyond dualistic thinking and finding approaches that engage a fuller reality rather than solely looking through the lenses of either/or.

Richard Rohr explains, “The dualistic mind is essentially binary, either/or thinking. It knows by comparison, opposition, and differentiation. It uses descriptive words like good/evil, pretty/ugly, smart/stupid, not realizing there may be a hundred degrees between the two ends of each spectrum. Dualistic thinking works well for the sake of simplification and conversation, but not for the sake of truth or the immense subtlety of actual personal experience. Most of us settle for quick and easy answers instead of any deep perception, which we leave to poets, philosophers, and prophets. *Yet depth and breadth of perception should be the primary arena for all authentic religion.* How else could we possibly search for God?”

We are living in a world that conveys the messages of extremes – extremes regarding politics and ideologies, opinions, beliefs, behaviors – and we walk the difficult path of the highs and lows of our own daily lives. Reflecting on the range of thoughts, feelings, needs, and realities that wash over us calls for a practice of acknowledgement and acceptance. This week we begin with “Breathing and Praising.” What does it mean to praise when we are painfully aware of all the suffering around us? And how do we breathe through our doubts?

Through the image on the front page of our bulletin, we see what is above is reflected on the water, and we know that water also envelops a world below. The overlapping circles that illustrate the “both/and” create a Venn diagram in which “both/and” live together simultaneously. We see this when spring begins to bloom, as shoots poke through old leaf cover on the ground - both realities are evident: new life among decay. How do we take in the range of thoughts and feelings, joys and struggles, isolation, and connection that we each are experiencing?

Richard Rohr states further, “We need the dualistic mind to function in practical life, however, and to do our work as a teacher, a nurse, a scientist, or an engineer. It’s helpful and fully necessary as far as it goes, but it just doesn’t go far enough. The dualistic mind cannot process things like infinity, mystery, God, grace, suffering, sexuality, death, or love; this is exactly why most people stumble over these very issues. The dualistic mind pulls everything down into some kind of tit-for-tat system of false choices and too-simple contraries, which is largely what “fast food religion” teaches, usually without even knowing it. Without the contemplative and converted mind—honest and humble perception—much religion is frankly dangerous.”

May we spend the coming weeks together as a community, seeking a more expansive understanding and considering practices that build in us the capacity to embrace the possibilities within and around us.

✧ **Gathering Hymn** “For the Beauty of the Earth” #14

✧ **Opening Ourselves to God’s Grace**

**All: In every detail of this day**

**let me be fully alive**

**to the words I speak, and those I hear,**

**and to the eloquence of the silence where no words are spoken.**

**Let me be fully alive**

**to every instant,**

**to the pulse of God at the heart of all things.**

**Let us see this day as a gift from God.**

✧ **Sharing our Innermost Lives with God**

Holy One, open us to the wisdom woven throughout your creation. Reveal to us what will most benefit this hurting world for the good of future generations and all your creatures. Help us to become instruments of a new creation, founded on the covenant of your love. Amen.



I invite us now into a few minutes of quiet. Our gathered community enables us to become even more aware of the Divine presence. Enter the sacred awareness of God's accompaniment as you seek understanding and connection.



✧ **Short period of silent reflection**

Holy Spirit, may we hear your precious word for us today. May we grow in wisdom, strength, and love as we open our ears, our minds, and our hearts to the transformative message you have in store for each of us. Amen.

✧ **Bible Wisdom Teachings**

Psalm 150

✧ **Reflection Questions**

In the midst of life's struggles, am I awake to the beauty and joy around me? Do I notice all there is to be grateful for even as I recognize pain and suffering?

John 20:19-31

✧ **Reflection Questions**

Can I acknowledge doubt while embracing the mystery? How might I make space for the unknowable in my life?

One: May we hear anew the origin stories of our faith and draw from the roots of our tradition.

All: **Thanks be to our God.**



✧**Hymn:** “Praise Ye the Lord (Psalm 150) #633

✧**Sharing Our Wisdom**

✧**Affirming Our Faith with Intention...Our Prayer**

All:

**We are striving to be...  
Relevant and Responsive,  
Open and Affirming,  
Engaged and Engaging.  
Informal and Radically Traditional.**

**Welcoming All.**

**Honoring The Sacred Masculine and The**

**Sacred Feminine,  
Embracing The Mystic Within,  
We Are Of One Spirit....  
not necessarily of one mind.  
Mission bound.  
Educationally engaged.  
Children and Teens show us “the way”.**

**Elders honored.  
Visitors Expected.  
Full of gratitude and seeking grace!**



## ✧A Moment of Quiet for Everyone



## ✧Community Prayers and the Pastoral Prayer

Loving God, we lift up in prayer all the people and situations that were named by this beloved community today. We are grateful that you also know all that we carry in our hearts and have not put into words because these also long for your presence and attention.

God, our creator,  
You made all things in Your wisdom,  
and in Your love, You save us.

We pray for the whole creation.

We pray for one another, we pray for our communities, we pray for our leaders and for our world.

Show your steadfast love, comfort the weary, protect those in harm's way, and reveal to us the ways that we can help and heal this broken world. Build in us the capacity to attend to one another as you would have us do.

And now we lift our voices together in prayer:

## **Lord's Prayer**

**Indwelling God,  
infused throughout all existence,  
we honor you with many names.**

**Your realm is within the human heart.  
We accept life for all that it can be,  
on earth as throughout all creation.**

**May we continue to draw sustenance from this earth,  
and may we receive forgiveness equal to our own.**

**May we ever move from separation toward union,  
to live in grace, with love in our hearts,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

## **✧Benediction**

Let us embrace the work and wonder of this day  
with fresh commitment.

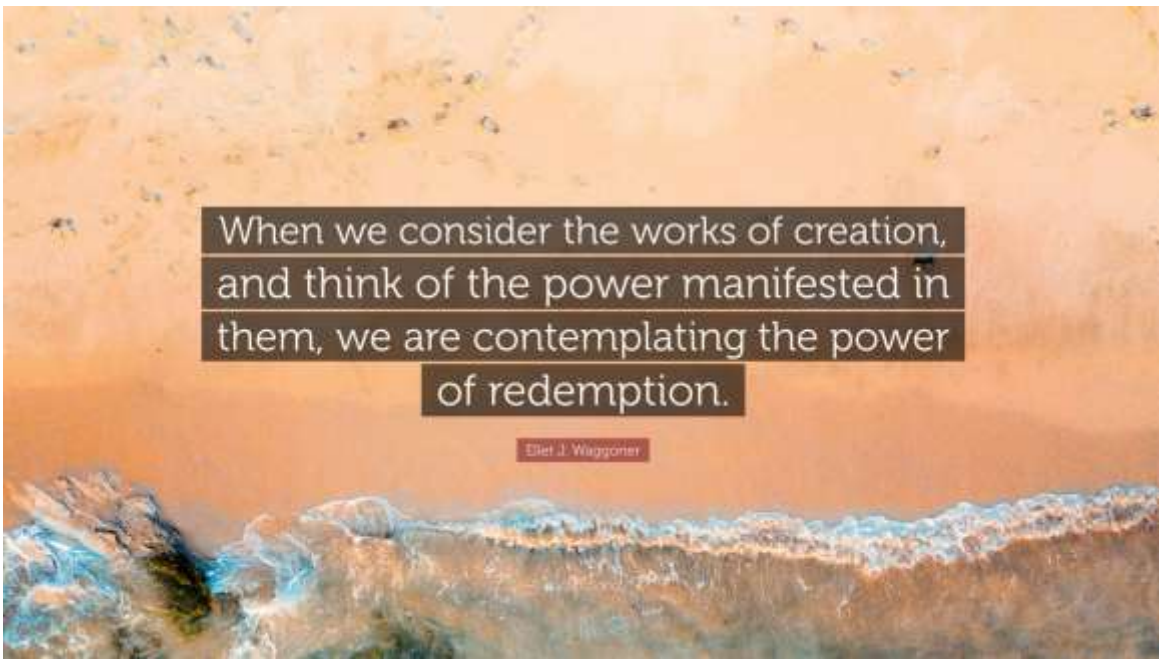
May we go forward together  
in the power of the love of God  
in the company of Jesus Christ  
and by the leading of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*Now that the worship has ended, may the service truly begin.*

**✧Our Response...Holy One, now we your servants go in peace. Your word  
lives on in us.**

Postlude: Zo Trembley





When we consider the works of creation,  
and think of the power manifested in  
them, we are contemplating the power  
of redemption.

Eliet J. Waggoner

*Hear this service presented on TippeTalk podcast, link on our website & Facebook.*

<http://www.tippechurch.org/>