

CELEBRATING THE SABBATH
Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 25, 2021 at 10 o'clock



I prayed for twenty years but received no answer 'til I prayed with my legs

Frederick Douglass

PRELUDE

Legende
From *24 Pièces en style libre*

Louis Vierne

SHARING OUR WELCOME VIRTUALLY

WE COME TO WORSHIP

The world belongs to God,
The earth and all its people.
How good it is, how wonderful,
To live together in unity.
Love and faith come together,
Justice and Peace join hands.
If Christ's disciples keep silent
These stones would shout aloud.
Open our lips, O God,
And our mouths shall proclaim your praise.

--From the Iona Abbey worship book

HYMN #56

For the Beauty of the Earth
Join as you are able!

[Click here to see hymn](#)

**For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies,
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.**

**For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light,
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.**

OPENING PRAYER

O God, author of life and sculptor of our souls, teach us to contemplate you in the beauty and majesty of our world, for all things speak of you in many and various voices. Awaken our thankfulness for every creature, for the renewal of spring, for the balance of nature. Give us the grace to understand ourselves to be spiritually joined to everything that is, in the wide mystery of your love. God of love, as we gather in worship, show us our place in this world as channels of your love. Amen.

A MOMENT FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Lauren Dube

SELECTION

Oh, Shenandoah
Charles Goodwin, Trumpet

arr. James M. Stevens

SCRIPTURE LESSON

[1 John 3:16-24](#)

Elizabeth Oman-Wilfrid

SERMON

Love One Another

Erica Avena

A TIME OF PRAYER

Earth as the Original Liturgy

Christine Valters Painter

From <https://www.theworkofthepeople.com/earth-as-the-original-liturgy>, used with permission

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

RESPONDING WITH OUR GIFTS

Offertory

Andante in D

Felix Mendelssohn

To Give an Online Offering Now: <http://www.whfirstchurch.org/donate/give>
Or Give by Text: Text *GIVE* to (860) 222-7870. Click [here](#) to watch a demo video.

Doxology, Words: Hymnal, No. 47; Tune: Hymnal, No. 46

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts: Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

HYMN #53

Morning Has Broken

Join as you are able!

**Morning has broken like the first morning,
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them springing fresh from the Word!**

**Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning
born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's recreation of the new day!**

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Lobe den Herren
"Praise to the Lord"

Johann Walther