



Sanctuary & Zoom Worship Service
April 21, 2024 – 10:30AM
Earth Sunday

Welcome to United. Thank you for joining us for worship today.

Welcome and Announcements Pastor Andy

Prelude: *Down to the River to Pray* Joel Raney
April Kuhr, Piano

Land Acknowledgement Lauren Jenks

***Call to Worship:** Charlie Taron and Lauren Grosso
(Congregation reads **bold** text)

Creation is waiting for us impatiently.

To open our eyes to the devastation in our world.

Creation is waiting for us impatiently.

To put the needs of the most vulnerable above the greed of the powerful.

Creation is yelling at us.

To move from doing what is easy to doing what is necessary and right.

Creation is angry with us.

For polluting our seas, land, air, bodies, and hearts.

Creation is pleading with us.

To prioritize community health over our personal convenience.

Creation is waiting for us.

In all these things and more, creation waits for us to assume our roles as its servants and protectors.

With God's help, we will answer creation's call. Amen.

***Opening Hymn:** *Ocean is a Call to Worship* (p.) SANTA CRUZ
Philip Taron, Guitar; Charlie Taron and AnnElise Fishel, Vocals

Minute For Mission: Green Team Purpose Lauren Jenks

Passing of the Peace: May the Peace of Christ be with you. AnnElise Fishel
And also, with You.

Time on the Quilt: Vix Grosso
Don't be dismayed, plant the seed of hope.

Ocean Is a Call to Worship 12

Refrain

Unison
♩ = 40

D_{sus2} D6 D_{maj9} D6 G Em A_{sus4} A

O - cean is a call to wor - ship ev - ery morn - ing, eve - ning;

D_{sus2} D6 D_{maj9} D6 G A D_{sus4} D *Fine*

in its ris - ing, fall - ing, hear the Spir - it breath - ing.

D Dadd9 B_m B_{m7} G Em7 A A7

1. When your peo - ple scat - ter, bro - ken, bruised and bat - tered,
2. When our tem - ples tot - ter, Christ of wind and wa - ter,
3. When I'm lis - tening, walk - ing, pray - ing needs no talk - ing;

B_m B_{m/A} G_{maj7} A_{sus4} A7 *D.C.*

whis - per on the waves and call us home.
calm the earth and soothe our shat - tered nerves.
won - der at the depth and breadth of love.

WORDS and MUSIC: Daniel Charles Damon, 1990

SANTA CRUZ

6.6.9.Ref.

DEDICATION AND STEWARDSHIP

713 Touch the Earth Lightly

Capo 3: (G) (Dsus) (D) (Em) (Bsus) (Bm)
 B^b Fsus F Gm Dsus Dm



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,

(C) (D7) (G) (Am7) (Dsus) (D)
 E^b F7 B^b Cm7 Fsus F



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,

(G) (Dsus) (D) (Em) (Bsus) (Bm)
 B^b Fsus F Gm Dsus Dm



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

(C) (G) (Em) (Am7) (D) (G) (G)
 E^b B^b Gm Cm7 F B^b B^b



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.

An Australian aboriginal saying opens this gentle hymn from New Zealand on the stewardship of creation. "Clouds of disaster" in the second stanza refers to the testing of nuclear devices then occurring in the Pacific Ocean, but the concern for all created things is timeless.

WADE IN THE WATER

Spiritual

Refrain



Wade in the wa - ter, wade in the wa - ter chil - dren,



Wade in the wa - ter, God's a - goin' to trou - ble the wa - ter.

Verses

Cantor

All



- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| 1. See ___ that ___ host all dressed in white, | } God's a - goin' to |
| 2. See ___ that ___ band all dressed in red, | |
| 3. If you don't be - lieve I've been re - deemed, | |

Cantor



- | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1-3. trou - ble the wa - ter. | } 1. The lead - er ___ looks like the | |
| | | 2. Looks like the ___ band that ___ |
| | | 3. Just fol - low me down to ___ |

All

to Refrain



- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| 1. Is - rael - ite, | } God's a - goin' to trou - ble the wa - ter. |
| 2. Mo - ses led, | |
| 3. Jor - dan's stream. | |

Text: Traditional. Music: Spiritual.



Announcements for the Week of April 21, 2024

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

[Zoom links are in the Weekly E-blast or call the office]

SUNDAY: April 21st Earth Sunday

8:30 AM Worship service in the Chapel

10:30 AM Worship service in the Sanctuary and via Zoom

12:00 PM Kids Club at Squaxin Park

Monday, April 22nd

1:00 PM Book Study in Room 213 and via Zoom

4:00 PM Write Letters to Voters in the Chapel

Tuesday, April 23rd

5:30 PM Youth Group Meeting in Room 213

6:00 PM Green Team Meeting in the Fireside Room

6:00 PM Peace & Justice Event + Dinner in the Social hall

Wednesday, April 24th

10:45 AM Lively Lectionary in the Fireside Room – Note NEW TIME

12:15 PM “We Gotta Pray” 30 minute service in the Sanctuary

6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 25th

1:00 PM Thursdays Together in the Fireside Room

8:30 PM Centering Prayer via Zoom

SUNDAY: April 28th Break the Silence

8:30 AM Worship service in the Chapel

10:30 AM Worship service in the Sanctuary and via Zoom

PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Barb Boyd's son, James having surgery at Providence hospital on Monday, 4/22.

Eleanor van Noppen transferred to Mother Joseph's.

Val Karjala recovering from dental surgery.

Diane Charlesworth recovering at home.

Paul McCann recovering from shingles.

Keith Henderson for healing from pain.

Pat Sonnenstuhl, prior member at United, has passed away. Contact Olympia Unitarian Universalist Congregation for details.

Prayers for those with COVID and for their caregivers.

Ongoing Prayers: **Julie Clark, Janet Huntley, Karen LaFreniere, Tom Skjervold, Ellen Sweetin & Janet Tolman**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOTE: Please help us welcome **Rev. Andy CastroLang** as our sabbatical pastor, who will be working 2/3 time through June. **She will be available Sunday through Wednesday** and other times as circumstances require. How to contact Andy?

Cell #: 509-998-7204 and email: andy@theunitedchurches.org

◆ Kids Club Today

Today from Noon- 2pm, the Kid's Club will be heading to Squaxin Park to eat a picnic lunch and play on the playground. We will engage in a fun nature scavenger hunt and appreciate God's earth.

◆ "We Gotta Pray" at United on Wednesdays - Join Us!

"We Gotta Pray," our Wednesday prayer service continues to gather from 12:15 – 12:45 in the sanctuary. Our service is a time of quiet singing, silent prayer, and a guided "Loving-Kindness Meditation." In May and June, we will learn the practice of "Centering Prayer," (a form of Christian contemplative prayer, to center awareness on the presence of God), rather than the Loving-Kindness Meditation. For more information, please contact April Kuhr, (april@theunitedchurches.org) or visit this link. <https://www.contemplativeoutreach.org/download/method-of-centering-prayer-brochure/>.

◆ Break the Silence

On April 28, we will be observing Break the Silence Sunday with special services acknowledging the realities of sexual abuse and assault. Early in the 10:30 service, we will have a children's time on the quilt, where an age-appropriate conversation will be held with children attending the service. Parents may want to prepare their children before the service and may want to have children leave the service after children's time if they prefer them not to be exposed to words like rape and incest that they may not understand.



Both the cafe and traditional services will be designed to be a time of healing, offering support to survivors of sexual abuse. This is an emotional topic that can result in survivors being triggered. We have arranged for SafePlace volunteers to

be present in the event anyone needs to step away from the service. They will also have a table with information on resources available to survivors. We hope everyone attending will find the services uplifting and healing. Please be gentle with yourself and practice self-care as we confront this topic from a spiritual perspective.

◆ **United's Book Study Group**

The Study Group will be reading *Waking Up White* by Debbie Irving. **We will meet every two weeks on Monday at 1pm, in the Youth Room, 213 on the main floor at United.** If you'd like to join us, or have questions, email **Brenda Hatcher** at bwhatcher@comcast.net. You are also welcome to just show up! **Next meeting: April 22**



◆ **Write Letters to Voters**

Join us at United on **Monday, April 22**, in the Chapel from **4 - 6PM** for our second letter-writing event co-hosted by United Churches and Olympia Indivisible. We'll be writing letters to encourage inconsistent voters to vote in important upcoming elections. RSVP to olyvoteforward@gmail.com for this event. Invite your friends, too! Come with a paragraph about what inspires you to vote or how important it is to have your voice heard. Bring stamps or a donation for stamps if you can.

◆ **Educational Event and Dinner at United on Tue. April 23**

The Global Ministries Committee for the joint Pacific Northwest Conference of the United Church of Christ and the Northern Lights Conference of the Disciples of Christ will be hosting two partners representing two important peace, justice and human rights organizations in Colombia. United and Community for Interfaith Celebration are thrilled to be hosting an educational event with our guests in the Social Hall on **Tuesday, April 23rd**. Dinner will be provided (pizza and salad from Vic's) at **6 PM** and then the presentation will start at 6:30 PM. Please RSVP with **Brenda Hatcher** at bwhatcher@comcast.net

◆ **YWCA 'Let's Talk' Anti Oppression Workshops**

The YWCA near the church is holding a series of Anti Oppression Workshops. The last discussion topic is **Race and Class**.

- Attend **in person on Thursday, April 25**. Meet Peggy in the lower church parking lot at **5:45pm** and we'll walk to the YWCA, then back to our cars at 8:00pm. A ride will be provided if needed. Please buy a \$0 ticket at the Let's Talk link above to save a seat for in-person sessions! You will be guests of the Uprooting Racism Team. **Questions? Email** peggyLdreyfus@gmail.com

◆ **Looking for Greeters for the 10:30 Service**

Do you like meeting new people? Would you like to volunteer one day a month? Consider being a greeter at the 10:30am service. Contact Sue Poler if interested: jspoler@comcast.net

◆ **Security Grant Update**

We are making progress with the security grant projects. Bollards were installed in March. We're currently working on updating our security system and replacing our exterior doors. The last project we received funding for is training - specifically active shooter and external threats. **The security grant committee is looking for new volunteers to help with this process.** If you're interested in helping to craft policies or manuals, would like to be involved on our new security team or would like to learn more, please contact **Jennifer**: jennifer@theunitedchurches.org

◆ **Show Your Art at United**

Are you an artist and would you like to display your art or do you have a special collection that you would like shown in the Fireside Room? We're looking for someone to display their art from June to August. If you're interested, please contact **Jennifer**: jennifer@theunitedchurches.org to learn more.

◆ **SAVE THE DATE – Church Yard Sale!**

Saturday, August 17 from 9 am – 2 pm in the Upper Parking Lot! Clean out those closets and garages and put those treasures in a safe place! Volunteer for a few hours or the day – come socialize with each other and have fun while we raise money for the Building Renovation Fund! We will be doing heavy PR in the wider Olympia community, so we need lots of stuff. Organized by **Pat Andersen** (patandersenrn@gmail.com), **Deb Nickerson** (debranick@gmail.com), and **Elaine Lyford-Nojima** (elaineln@pacbell.net). Details to follow but for now – hold that date and find those treasures!

◆ **Scheduling Events at the Church**

As a reminder, please contact our new Facility/Maintenance Coordinator, **Jessica Babcock** rentals@theunitedchurches.org, if you'd like to schedule an event or use the building. For maintenance questions, you can email: jessica@theunitedchurches.org. If you have a group that already meets regularly, don't forget to send your announcements to **Severin**: media@theunitedchurches.org so they can be included in the Eblast. Please email Severin no later than Friday before the Eblast goes out on Monday.

◆ **Are you a UCC Member?**

The Pacific Northwest Conference of the United Church of Christ (PNCUCC) Annual Meeting 2024 will take place at Plymouth United Church of Christ in Seattle on **April 26-28**. PNCUCC is excited to host ministry partners from Colombia, welcome new congregations into the Conference and engage with our new General Minister & President of the UCC, the Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia A. Thompson! Registration is now open (see the Eblast for link).



Special Thanks to **Cheri Kelley** for sharing her beautiful gift of song and leading in worship at both services.

◆ **United's COVID Policy**

If you have any COVID symptoms such as fever, cough, or sore throat, please take care and join us for our Zoom service at 10:30am.

◆ **SAVE THE DATE**

April 23 – Columbian Delegation Dinner in the Social Hall at 6pm

April 28 – Breaking the Silence Sunday

June 29 – Olympia Pride Festival

June 30 – Pride Sunday & Oly Pride Parade

Aug 17 – Church Yard Sale

Aug 23-25 – Pilgrim Firs Retreat

Love. Hope. United.

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Office Hours: Monday – Thursday, 9 am – 3 pm

The office is CLOSED on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday