

Sunday, May 2, 2021
4th Sunday in Easter

Prelude –

Welcome/Announcements

Call to Worship

Leader: Consider the sun, the moon, and the stars.

All: God's power is on display in the heavens.

Leader: Look at the wildflowers in the fields.

All: They reflect the beautiful, creative heart of God.

Leader: Pay attention to the sparrows.

All: God cares for the smallest creatures.

Leader: Listen to the sounds of the wind and the surf.

All: All of nature sings God's praises.

Opening Song -

Indescribable

Confession

**Lord, we have sinned, and have harmed our relationship
with you, with each other, and with your good creation.**

**We selfishly hoard resources
that you intend for us to share.**

**We trample across your land
and claim it as our own.**

**We take what we want
with little regard for what others need.**

Lord, forgive us.

**Teach us to value the natural world as your good creation,
and to care for it in ways that honor our Creator. Amen.**

(Moment of silence)

Leader: Lord hear our prayer.

Assurance of Pardon

Passing of the Peace

First Lesson

Genesis 2:4-15 (NRSV)

These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created. In the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens, when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up—for the LORD God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground— then the LORD God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. Out of the

ground the LORD God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. A river flows out of Eden to water the garden, and from there it divides and becomes four branches. The name of the first is Pishon; it is the one that flows around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold; and the gold of that land is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there. The name of the second river is Gihon; it is the one that flows around the whole land of Cush. The name of the third river is Tigris, which flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates. The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.

Sermon Song -

In the Garden

Second Lesson

Ezekiel 34:1-6 (NRSV)

The word of the LORD came to me: Mortal, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel: prophesy, and say to them—to the shepherds: Thus says the Lord God: Ah, you shepherds of Israel who have been feeding yourselves! Should not shepherds feed the sheep? You eat the fat, you clothe yourselves with the wool, you slaughter the fatlings; but you do not feed the sheep. You have not strengthened the weak, you have not healed the sick, you have not bound up the injured, you have not brought back the strayed, you have not sought the lost, but with force and harshness you have ruled them. So, they were scattered, because there was no shepherd; and scattered, they became food for all the wild animals. My sheep were scattered, they wandered over all the mountains and on every high hill; my sheep were scattered over all the face of the earth, with no one to search or seek for them.

Sermon:

A Week or Thirty Years Too Late

Offering –instrumental

Communion

Music during Communion

There Is A Redeemer

Prayer of Response

Final Song –

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Benediction

Postlude