



MARYLAND
presbyterian church

Creation Care Sunday | June 29, 2025

Welcome to worship at MPC. You are very welcome here!

Join by Zoom: www.bit.ly/WorshipMPC

Dial in at 1-301-715-8592, Meeting ID: 841-8910-2000#



Announcements

Worship Notes. The bulletin art today is “In Our Hands” by Lauren Wright Pittman. Hand-carved block printed with oil-based ink on paper. She writes, “In the beginning God filled the formless void with color, texture, light, flavor, time, and life. God scooped the clay and carefully molded it, breathing life into the nostrils of humanity. These are the images of a tender, imaginative God who loves Creation limitlessly. Following the Creation narrative, humanity quickly spirals into violence, corruption, and power-hunger toward the total destruction of Creation. God becomes deeply aggrieved and even regrets creating humanity (Gen 6:6). God decides it best to return all of Creation to the chaotic void, though God finds hope in Noah’s family. I’ve struggled with this narrative, but I find myself feeling a tremendous amount of compassion. I can only imagine how painful it is to watch the work of your hands devolve into brutality. In this image, God’s hands hold various animals and plant life, and are surrounded by the bands of the rainbow, shielding Creation from the swirling waters of chaotic destruction. I chose not to image humanity because the hands are at once God’s and ours. We must respond to God’s covenant by protecting and keeping the earth. It is our responsibility; it is our calling. God meets us where we are—utterly dependent and bound toward self-destruction—with a promise sealed with a bow bursting with the endless spectrum of colors light holds.”

Broadmead Communion. Pastor McKenna will be at Broadmead next Sunday, July 6th at 3pm in the Fireplace Room for communion and conversation. All are welcome.

MPC Leadership

Session

Carol Mason, Clerk
Joe Wright, Treasurer
Amy Wells
Darlene Gladney
Joy Appel Brown

Deacons

Lorraine Eakin
Allie Mason Hale
Linda Koch
Jane Pennington

ASL Interpreter

Rebecca Mitchell

Staff

Pastor, Rev. McKenna Wallen
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Music Minister, Cassidy Clairmont
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Liz Baer, Office Administrator
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GATHERING AND PREPARING

PRELUDE

Put Your Roots Down
Molly Hartwell

Put your roots down,
put your feet on the ground,
you can hear the earth sing if you listen.
Cause the sound of the river
as it moves across the stones
is the same sound as the blood in your body
as it moves across your bones.
Are you listening? Are you listening?

WELCOME

Beloved, you made it. You're here.
We made it. We're here.
Breathe in. Breathe out.
In this place, you are safe.
In this place, you are loved.
In this place, truth, justice, and grace lead us.
Here, we will rest. Here, we will worship God.
Breathe in. Breathe out.
Let us sing and sign and worship together.

***GATHERING HYMN**

1. All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
O brother sun with golden beam,
O sister moon with silver gleam,
sing praises! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
2. O brother wind with clouds and rain,
you nurture gifts of fruit and grain.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
O sister water, flowing clear,
make music for your Lord to hear.
Sing praises! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

All Creatures of Our God and King
Hymn #15, v. 1-3

3. O brother fire, so warm and bright,
chase off the shadows of the night.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Dear mother earth, who day by day
unfolds such blessings on our way,
sing praises! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

***OPENING PRAYER**

Adapted from the United Church of Canada

God of Creation. Let us be faithful stewards of your world, showing us ways to make a difference. God of the Incarnation. Equip us to work for change. God of Resurrection. Help us see new ways and new hope, planting in us the seeds of restoration and renewal. God of Creation, Incarnation, Resurrection, help us go gently in this world. **Amen.**

A MOMENT FOR TRUTH TELLING

We see what is happening around us,
and it is hard to imagine a way out of the spiral.

Awaken our longing for a better world.

The wounds, sin, and grief we carry from living in a hard world
threaten to overwhelm us.

Awaken our longing for a better world.

Let us not lose our grip on the hope you give us.

Let us not forget the call to try again when we fall short.

Let us not succumb to despair.

Move in us. Heal us. Forgive us.

Awaken our longing for a better world.

Quiet prayer. In Jesus' name, **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

After each prayer, we will respond... One: God in your love... **All: Receive our prayer.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our God, 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.

*ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

Kyrie

Emmylou Harris

Kýrie eléision, Kýrie, Kýrie

Kýrie eléision, Kýrie, Kýrie

For we all are bound together

In our sorrow and despair

Bless us in Thy mercy

O, hear our humble prayer

Kýrie eléision, Kýrie, Kýrie

Kýrie eléision, Kýrie, Kýrie

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

Response: And also with you!

LISTENING TO THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

I Love to Tell the Story

I love to tell the story.
T'will be my theme in glory,
to tell the old, old story
of Jesus and his love.

POETIC READING

East of Eden
Sarah Are Speed

I live somewhere east of Eden.
It is beautiful, but not complete.
There are children that play and
 laugh and sing,
music that moves me, sunsets that
 undo me.
The spring is green, the rain is sweet,
but this is not where we're meant to be.

And we know that, but we're quick
 to forget,
because well-intentioned people can
always slip.
But I don't want to forget.

I don't want to think
that daisies in the sidewalk are the
 same as a garden.
I don't want to believe
a cup of tap water's the same as
 the ocean.
I don't want to imagine
that this is the way,
that racism and climate change are just
 part of the day.

I don't want to forget that this
 somewhere-east-of-Eden
home that we've built
is not the place we are meant to be.
It's not the dream that we're meant
 to dream.

So every night as I fall asleep,
I pray, "God wake me up"—
a restoration plea.
"Don't let me confuse a little bit of rain
for your downpour of grace,
or a little bit of progress
for the end of the race."

And until heaven's on earth,
that's what I'll pray.
For I live somewhere east of Eden.
Don't let me forget.

HEBREW BIBLE READING

Exodus 3:7-12

Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. Now go, I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain."

The Word of God for the People of God! **Thanks be to God.**

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Congregational Sharing

SERMON HYMN

1. In the bulb there is a flower;
in the seed, an apple tree;
in cocoons, a hidden promise:
butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter
there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.
2. There's a song in every silence,
seeking word and melody;
there's a dawn in every darkness,
bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future;
what it holds, a mystery,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.

In the Bulb There Is a Flower

Hymn #250

3. In our end is our beginning;
in our time, infinity;
in our doubt there is believing;
in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection;
at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

ACTS OF RESISTANCE

In response to the Word, we share stories of resistance that bring us hope, and ways to join liberative action.

OFFERING & OFFERTORY

What a Wonderful World

Louis Armstrong

***DOXOLOGY and PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow!
Praise God, all creatures here below!
Praise God above ye heavenly host!
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***SENDING HYMN**

Are You Ready?

Are you ready? **Yes, we are.**
Are you ready? **We'll go far.**
Are you ready? **It's time to go.**
We'll follow Jesus down the dusty road.

Alleluia! **Amen.**

Alleluia! **Amen.**

Alleluia! **It's time to go.**

We'll follow Jesus down the dusty road.

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**