

First Congregational United Church of Christ
Sunday April 25, 2021
Noisy Offering



Steward: a person employed to manage another's property, especially a large house or estate; one entrusted with the caretaking of something belonging to another.



Hours: Mon - Thurs: 9:00am - 3:30 pm
CMA Hours: Tues & Thurs: 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

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Toby Jones, Pastor
Roger Waters, Music Minister
Lynette Webb, Childcare Supervisor

Leah Dice, Office Manager
Shelley Fisher, Music Minister
Larry Minch, Custodian

WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH FAMILY!

Pre-Service Music - "Where Do the Children Play?" by Cat Stevens

Tolling of the Bell

Prelude Music- "Come, Christians, Join to Sing" arr. Larry Shackley

Welcome

Opening Hymn - #40 - "For the Beauty of the Earth" (vs 1-3)

(1) 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. (2) For the wonder of each hour of the day and 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. (3) For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, friends on earth and friend above; for all gentle thoughts and mild, Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

1st Reading - Psalm 24: 1-2, & Psalm 8:1, 3-9- Offered by Betty Wadland

Music for Reflection

2nd Reading - Matthew 21:33-46

Morning Message - "Stewards of a Precarious Planet" offered by Toby Jones, Pastor

Sermon Hymn - #36 - "Thank You, God, for Water, Soil, and Air" (vs 1,3, & 5)

*(1) Thank you, God, for water, soil, and air, large gifts supporting everything that lives. Forgive our spoiling and abuse of them. Help us renew the face of the earth.
(3) Thank you, God, for priceless energy, stored in each atom, gathered from the sun. Forgive our greed and carelessness of power. Help us renew the face of the earth.
(5) Thank you, God, for making planet earth a home for us and ages yet unborn. Help us to share, consider, save, and store. Come and renew the face of the earth.*

Morning Offering

Offertory Music- "Willow, Show Me The Wind" by Jack Noble White
-offered by Vince Chew

The Doxology

Prayers for the Planet – led by Betty Wadland

O Lord, grant us the grace to grow deeper in our respect of and care for your Creation.

Lord, hear our prayer.

O Lord, help us to recognize the sacredness of all your creatures, as signs of your wondrous love.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Dear God, help us turn from the selfish consumption of resources meant for all and help us see the impacts of our choices on the poor and vulnerable.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Mother Earth, we pray for an end to the waste and desecration of your creation, so that access to the fruits of creation may be shared equally among all people

Lord, hear our prayer

And we pray that all communities and nations will find sustenance in the fruits of the earth and the water You have given us, gracious God.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Almighty God, You created the world and entrusted it to our care, so that, in obedience to You, the fruits of your creation might serve and sustain all people: Inspire us to use the riches of creation with wisdom, and to ensure that creation's blessings will be shared by all people everywhere, including those generations that will come after us.

Lord, hear our prayer. Amen.

Closing Hymn – #38 – “Touch the Earth Lightly” (vs 1-3)

(1) Touch the earth lightly, use the earth gently, nourish the life of the world in our care: gift of great wonder, ours to surrender, trust for the children tomorrow will bear. (2) We who endanger, who create hunger, agents of death for all creatures that live, we who would foster clouds of disaster- God of our planet, forestall and forgive! (3) Let there be greening, birth from the burning, water that blesses and air that is sweet, health in God's garden, hope in God's children, regeneration that peace will complete.

Charge & Benediction

Postlude- “Lord of the Dance” arr. By Larry Shackley

Weekly Schedule

Sunday 04/25	Mon 04/26	Tues 04/27	Wed 04/28	Thurs 04/29	Fri 04/30	Sat 05/01	Sunday 05/02
10:30 am In-Person & live-streamed Worship Noisy Offering Heifer International	5:15pm Church Council Mtg 6:00 pm Pantry	10:00 am <i>"Puzzling Over the Parables"</i> Study (Zoom & In-person) 11:00a-2:00p CMA Hours		11:00a-2:00p CMA Hours			10:30 am In-Person & live-streamed Worship

CMA Reminder: The church has started serving CMA clients on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 11:00 am and 2:00 pm. Please try to be extra mindful of these folks and their privacy during those times. As always, you are welcome to come to the church anytime you need, we just ask that if you see Leah in conversation with someone you don't know in the office, just wait over in Ransom Hall until she finishes. It will probably only be a minute or two. If you need to have a conversation with Toby or Leah during those hours, it might be best to call ahead to check the schedule. Thank you for your understanding and patience while we adjust to this new and vital ministry!

Prayer Requests

Prayers	Virginia Scharschmidt, recuperating in rehab from a broken hip, prayers for a speedy recovery	Charlie Johnson, Bruce & Joyce Herbert's 16 year old grandson, brain Surgery on April 9th
	Jim Pletz, Alice Pletz-Miller's brother, is suffering from health issues from Parkinson's disease & had a fall in Feb. and tore his rotator cuff.	Michael Fifelski- In the Intensive Care Unit at Henry Ford Hospital, waiting for a liver transplant (Lani Ochs)
	Steve Libert- on the death of his sister Pam	MaryAnn Ogden, breast cancer surgery on April 6th.

The church prayer list is here to help us support each other during both times of joy and times of difficulty. If you or your loved one could benefit from prayers and well wishes, please be sure to complete the prayer request form on our website. Also, please be sure to let Toby know!

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