



EARTHDAY.ORG'S founders created and organized the very first Earth Day on April 22, 1970. Since then, **EARTHDAY.ORG** has been mobilizing over 1 billion people annually on Earth Day, and every other day, to protect the planet.

From the website:

EARTHDAY.ORG is unwavering in our commitment to end plastics for the sake of human and planetary health, demanding a 60% reduction in the production of ALL plastics by 2040. *Planet vs. Plastics*, our theme for 2024, calls to advocate for widespread awareness on the health risk of plastics, rapidly phase out all single use plastics, urgently push for a strong UN Treaty on Plastic Pollution, and demand an end to fast fashion.

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“EARTH DAY”



***Pastor Steven Clark
Sunday, April 21, 2024
10:00 AM Divine Worship & Communion***

**ORDER OF WORSHIP
APRIL 21, 2024
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

***Psalm 104:1-13
(NRSVUE)***

*is the invitation for worshipers to rise in body or in spirit.

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

Gathering for Worship

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements and Stilling Silence

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

***Responsive Opening Prayer**

O Divine Voice,
You sing, and the universe comes into being;
O Divine Breath,
You breathe, and all things spring to life;
O Divine Word,
You call, and creation is sustained;
O Divine Flesh
You are born among us, and the Creator is clothed in creation;
O Divine Spirit,
You fill all that has been formed;
O Divine Life,
You are the pulse of all that was, and is, and will be, world without end. Amen.

***Opening Hymn:** *“For the Beauty of the Earth”*

RED #19

1 Bless the Lord, O my soul. O Lord my God, you are very great. You are clothed with honor and majesty, 2 wrapped in light as with a garment. You stretch out the heavens like a tent;

3 you set the beams of your chambers on the waters; you make the clouds your chariot; you ride on the wings of the wind; 4 you make the winds of your messengers, fire and flame your ministers.

5 You set the earth on its foundations, so that it shall never be shaken. 6 You cover it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains.

7 At your rebuke they flee; at the sound of your thunder they take to flight. 8 They rose up to the mountains, ran down to the valleys, to the place that you appointed for them. 9 You set a boundary that they may not pass, so that they might not again cover the earth.

10 You make springs gush forth in the valleys; they flow between the hills, 11 giving drink to every wild animal; the wild asses quench their thirst.

12 By the streams the birds of the air have their habitation; they sing among the branches. 13 From your lofty abode you water the mountains; the earth is satisfied with the fruit of your work.

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

**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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen**

*Closing Hymn *"This is My Father's World"* RED #21

*Benediction

Postlude

Today's liturgical color is *White* for *Fourth Sunday of Easter*.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR APRIL 21, 2024

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

Scholarship applications are now available. Please contact the church office via email: admin@sixmilerun.org. All applications should be completed and received no later than May 15, 2024.

COFFEE WITH PASTOR

Please sign up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board outside the Sanctuary.

2024 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN: Pledge Cards due today, April 21st

Everyone in our directory should have received a letter in the mail from our 2024 Stewardship Committee containing a pledge card. If you did not, please contact the church office. Please submit the information requested on the pledge card either by dropping it in the weekly offering plate, stopping by the church office, or emailing the administrator by April 21st. This will allow the consistory to begin organizing the ministry budget for 2024-25. Any questions can be directed to the committee: Pastor Steven, Mary Schmidt, Darryln Tarantino, or Jesus Johnson. Thank you!

DEACONS FUND

Our monthly Deacon's Fund offering will be today, April 21, 2024. This offering helps our church serve the needs of our community in times of crisis. Please consider giving to this important fund.

Call to Remember and Confess

Unison Prayer of Confession:

Eternal God, Creator of all that is, in You we live and move and have our being. You have placed us on earth and sustained us through the produce of the land and the cleanness of the air we breathe. And You have created us to tend and care for creation, and to ensure a just sharing of its resources. But we are part of a proud and hard-hearted people, who hoard what the earth provides, and loathe to share the fruits of our labors: we who live for today with little thought for tomorrow, who are afraid to let pain and suffering affect us. Incarnate God, You know us in our inner being. In Your grace You offer us forgiveness even before we have the chance to articulate our sorrow. Move us to repent and begin-again again, so that, by our respect and care for creation, all might know the depth of Your love for all You have made. Amen.

Silent Confession

Words of Assurance

Gloria: *"Halle, Halle, Halle"* RED #768

*Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!*

***Passing of The Peace** L: The peace of Christ be with you!
P: And also with you!
L: Share the peace of Christ with your neighbor!

***Hymn of Peace:** *"God is Love"*

*"Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God.
Beloved, let us love one another, for God is love."*

THE WORD OF GOD

Let us prepare for the Word of God as it comes to us in the reading of the Holy Scriptures. **Speak Lord, for Your servants are listening.**

Scriptures: Psalm 104:1-13 (see page 7)

Sermon: "Earth Day"

***Hymn of Mediation "Beautiful Savior"** RED #17

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

Call to Self- Offering

Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory

***Doxology:**

*Praise God from whom all blessing flow,
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen*

***Prayer of Dedication**

Gathering of Joys & Concerns

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Meaning of the Sacrament

Communion Hymn "Give Me a Clean Heart" RED #621

Prayer and Invitation

Words of Institution

(Partake of the bread saying): *The bread of heaven.*

(Partake of the cup saying): *The cup of salvation.*

The Thanksgiving

Siblings in Christ, since the Lord has now fed us at His Table, let us praise our God with heartfelt thanksgiving! Bless the Lord, O my soul,

and all that is within me, bless His holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,

and do not forget all His benefits -

who forgive all you iniquity,

who heals all your diseases,

who redeems your life from the Pit,

who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy.

The Lord is merciful and gracious,

slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

He does not deal with us according to our sins,

nor repay us according to our iniquities.

For as the heavens are high above the earth,

so great is His steadfast love toward those who fear Him;

as far as the east is from the west,

so far does He remove our transgressions from us.

As a father has compassion for his children,

so the Lord has compassion for those who fear Him,

who did not spare His own Son, but gave Him up for us all, and will also give us all things with Him.

Therefore shall my mouth and heart show forth the praise of the Lord, from this time forth, forevermore.