

# FAIRFIELD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

April 14, 2024

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter

## WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

**Prelude**

*Many and Great*

Native American Tune

**Chiming of the Hour**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Introit**

*For the Beauty of the Earth*

arr. McChesney

**Call to Worship**

L: In the beginning, God created all things

**P: And God saw that it was good**

L: At our beginning, God created us from the dust, breathing life into us

**P: And God saw that it was very good**

L: God planted a garden in Eden and placed the newly formed humans there, and we have ventured far from the garden's gate over the centuries, often forgetting that we were created from nothingness.

**P: As people created to live in the garden, we long for the day when we can return again.**

## WE PRAISE GOD TOGETHER

**\*Hymn # 35**

*Morning Has Broken*

Bunessan

**Prayer of Confession**

Gracious God, from our first breath of life, you breathed into us; you are always looking out for us: finding us when we wander away, waiting for us when we are stubborn, loving us when we can't love ourselves, welcoming us when the world has turned us away, comforting us when we are hurting. We forget that we should live that way, too. We forget that what everyone needs most is a hand to hold, a place to belong, a word of hope. Forgive us, Lord and when we

forget, remind us, that we are all made in your image. (Silent prayer and reflection) Amen.

## Words of Assurance

L: Friends, in Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven!

**P: Thanks be to God!**

\*Gloria Patri #734

*"Glory Be to the Father"*

Greatorex

## Psalter Reading

Psalm 4

L: Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause;  
you set me free when I was in distress;  
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

**P: You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory;  
how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?**

L: Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful;  
the Lord will hear me when I call.

**P: Tremble, then, and do not sin;  
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.**

L: Offer the appointed sacrifices and put your trust in the Lord.

**P: Many are saying, "Who will show us any good?"  
Let the light of your face shine upon us, O Lord.**

L: You have put gladness in my heart,  
more than when grain and wine abound.

**P: In peace, I will lie down and sleep;  
for you alone, O Lord, make me rest secure.**

## Children's Message

Celeste Underdown

## Anthem

*Christ Hath a Garden (Traditional)*

Near

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

### Scripture Lesson

Genesis 2: 4-15

Pew Bible p. 2-Old Testament

**Sermon Series**                      Creation Care - Within A Garden

(A garden is the place of our beginning and a point of our survival. This is a place where the soil, the water, and the breath of life all come together, with various seeds feeding us as a community, healing our relationship with the land, and sustaining our physical bodies during our time on earth.)

**Message**                                      “The Living Soil”                                      Dr. Steve Starzer

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

**\*Hymn # 23**                      *All Creatures of Our God and King*                      Lasst Uns Erfreuen

**\*Affirmation of Faith**                      The Apostles’ Creed                      (inside Hymnbook)

**Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer**

**Offering**

*(Please sign and pass the Friendship Pads during this time)*

**Offertory**                                      *In the Garden*                                      arr. McChesney

**\*The Doxology #44**      *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

**\* Prayer of Dedication**

**\*Closing Hymn #51**                      *How Great Thou Art*

**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude**                                      *Voluntary on “Christ is Alive”*                                      arr. Matthew Cort

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\* Those who are able, please stand.