

# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF BUCKLAND

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Church Phone: 625-9440 Pastor's Phone: (413) 634-5451

Rev. Richard T. Fournier, Pastor

Sandy Carter - Organist

**EARTH DAY 2020 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and Worship**

**April 26, 2020**

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A Communal Reflection: (contributed by Sandy)

**"Knowing that you love the earth changes you, activates you to defend and protect and celebrate. But when you feel that the earth loves you in return, that feeling transforms the relationship from a one-way street into a sacred bond."** by Robin Wall Kimmerer

**OPENING FANFARE** - Melissa Griffin on trumpet

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CALL TO WORSHIP:** (from the New Zealand Prayer Book)

Rich: God of all the earth, you have given us the heritage of this good and fertile land;

Pat: **grant that we may so respect and use it that others may thank us for what we leave to them. Amen**

**HYMN** "For the Beauty of the Earth"

Everyone will be muted except Sandy who will play two verses, so you can sing along while she plays or just listen.

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.

For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night,  
Hill and vale, and tree, and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light  
Lord of all, to Thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

**UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION** - Rich

The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof. O God, enlarge within us the sense of fellowship with all living things, our brothers and sisters, and the animals to whom You gave the earth as their home in common with us. We remember with sorrow and shame that we have exercised our

dominion too often with cruelty so that the voice of the earth, which should have gone up to You in song, has been a groan of pain. May we realize that they live not for us alone, but for themselves and for You, and that they love the sweetness of life. (Basil the Great (329-379 C.E.))

**FIRST SCRIPTURE** - Floyd JOB 12: 7-10

## COMMUNITY MOMENT

### PRAYER REQUESTS

#### PASTORAL PRAYER AND 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen."

**PRAYER RESPONSE** - Cyndie "Hear Our Prayer, O Lord"

**OFFERTORY** Please send your checks made payable to the Mary Lyon Church, to Mary Lyon Church, PO Box 87, Buckland, MA 01338. All donations are greatly appreciated and needed!

**SCRIPTURE READING** - Janet Isaiah 55: 10-13

**MESSAGE** "Caring for Our Mother Earth" – Rich Fournier

**MUSICAL SELECTION** - Bruce "This Land Is Your Land"

### BENEDICTION

**"God Be with You 'til We Meet Again"** - Doug

### TIME OF FELLOWSHIP

