

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Affirmation of Faith**

The Confession of 1967

**The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world
discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator
who made all things to serve the purpose of God's love.
God has created the world of space and time
to be the sphere of God's dealings with humankind.
In its beauty and vastness, sublimity and awfulness,
order and disorder, the world reflects to the eye of faith
the majesty and mystery of its Creator.**

***Hymn 365**

"God Reigns! Let Earth Rejoice!"

***The Charge**

Mark 12:28-31

Which commandment is the first of all?

**You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,
and with all your soul, and with all your mind,
and with all your strength.**

And the second is this:

**You shall love your neighbor as yourself.
There is no other commandment greater than these.**

***Blessing**

***Postlude**

"Recessional"

Handel

**The congregation is invited to stand.*

A hearing loop is active; set hearing aid to "T-coil."

Scripture passages are read from the New Revised Standard Version.
MONTREAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IS AN EARTH CARE CONGREGATION.

**MONTREAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
APRIL 28, 2019, 10:00 A.M.**

Morning Meditation

Georgia Harkness, 1954

*"Hope of the world, God's gift from highest heaven, bringing to hungry souls the bread of life:
still let thy Spirit unto us be given, to heal earth's wounds and end our bitter strife."*

Chimes of the Trinity

Ritual of Fellowship

Choral Introit

"Let the Whole Creation Cry" Ps 48/Brooke/Hintze

Let the whole creation cry, "Glory to the Lord on high." Heaven and earth awake and sing, "Praise to our almighty King." Praise God, angel hosts above, ever bright and fair in love; sun and moon, uplift your voice; night and stars, in God rejoice! Men and women, young and old, raise the anthems loud and bold; join with children's songs of praise; worship God through length of days. From the north and southern pole let the mighty chorus roll: "Holy, holy, holy One, glory be to God alone."

***Call to Worship**

from Psalm 118:19-24

Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.
This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.
**I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.**
This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it!

***Hymn 15**

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

Prayer of Confession (responsive) *followed by silent prayer*

God, Creator, Abba, you are the awesome God of the universe,
**vaster, more powerful than any mortal can imagine,
eternal beyond time and infinite beyond all dimensions.**

Yet you are invested in the worlds we inhabit:

**the cosmos, with its black holes and bright galaxies;
this planet of earth, air and water, and all of its creatures;
our world of societies and institutions and economies.**

What are human beings that you are mindful of us,
mortals that you care for us?

**You hold dominion lightly, allowing us to steward the earth
and inviting us to live in right relationship with you and creation.**

Hear us, loving God, as we lift up in silence our penitent prayers
for what we have done and for what we have left undone,
and for the ways in which as stewards we have been careless,
and as disciples we have been cowardly.

Kyrie Eleison 713

“Touch the Earth Lightly”

The first verse is sung by the cantor. The second is sung by the congregation:

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!

**God of all living, God of all loving,
God of the seedling, the snow and the sun,
teach us, deflect us, Christ reconnect us,
using us gently and making us one.**

Assurance of Pardon

***Response 582**

“Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines”

Gospel Reading

John 20:19-29

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Hymn 630

“Fairest Lord Jesus”

New Testament Reading

Revelation 1:4-8

Choral Anthem

“The Earth Belongs to God Alone”

Tice/Rowan

The earth belongs to God alone; hard clay, rich soil, fine sand. Give thanks wherever food is grown on borrowed holy land. All life belongs to God alone, in wilderness and fields. From fallow land, or plowed and sown, God gives the good it yields. Till God endows the earth once more with Eden’s state of grace, may we endeavor to restore all land as sacred space.

The Sermon

“Dominion Forever and Ever”

Keith Grogg

Prayers of the People

“Creator of the Stars of Night”

9th cent.

Creator of the stars of night, your people’s everlasting light, O Christ, redeemer of us all, we pray you, hear us when we call. To God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit, Three in One, praise, honor, might and glory be from age to age eternally. Amen.

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 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.

Offerings of Our Tithes and Gifts

Offertory

“How Lovely, Lord, How Lovely Is Your Abiding Place” MERLE’S TUNE

***Doxology 607**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore;

Praise Triune God, whom we adore! Amen.