



LEADER

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

April 21, 2024
4th Sunday of Easter
Earth Day Celebration

9:30 a.m.
Liturgist: Helen Griffin

Welcome!
We're glad you are here to worship with us,
whether in-person or virtually on Zoom or YouTube.

Gathering the People of God

WELCOME

Please register your attendance with your mobile device by scanning the QR code to the right or by going to www.upctempe.org/fellowship, and completing the form.

Rev. Ken Moe



The love of God be with you!
⌘ **And also with you!**

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayers may be texted to the above number,
or call and leave a message.

(480) 256-8216

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

CENTERING TIME & LIGHTING OF CANDLES

"Come Ye Thankful People Come"
BY GEORGE J. ELVEY

Ted Gibson
Pianist

We use this time to center our spirits, bring our attention to God within our breath, and remember that we are connected to all things through the Body of Christ.

Candles remind us of the light of God's love that exists within each human being and every created thing. The candles on the communion table represent the light of community. The single candle near the pulpit is the paschal candle, the light of Christ that shines on and in the world, and the darkness cannot overcome it.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

The heavens declare the glory of God.

‡ **The firmament proclaims God's handiwork.**

The plants and the trees show God's presence.

‡ **Let us join with creation in praising God.**

The earth is the Creator's and all that is in it,

‡ **The world and all those who live in it.**

God has founded it on the seas,

‡ **And established it on the rivers.**

Let us worship God.

***PASSING THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you.

‡ **And also with you.**

***HYMN**

"We Give Thanks to You, Dear Earth"

#115

From Inclusive Hymns for Liberating Christians

We give thanks to you, dear Earth,
For your gifts so rich and rare,
For new life you bring to birth,
Teaching us your tender care.
May we nurture you each day;
Christ Sophia guides our way.

Lovely Earth, you glory fills
Laughing brooks and flowering trees,
Soaring birds o'er golden hills,
Dancing deer so wild and free.
May we nurture you each day;
Christ Sophia guides our way.

All your life deep value holds;
Smallest ants teach Wisdom's way;
Working hard they share all loads,
Equal partners every day.
May we join them as we say;
Christ Sophia guides our way.

Hear, O Earth, our solemn vow
To conserve your sacred life,
Caring for your future now,
So your wonders will survive.
May we nurture you each day;
Christ Sophia guides our way.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**‡ God of life, you created us in your image
to care for one another and for all creation.
Forgive us for turning away from you,
ignoring the needs of our neighbors,
and the cries of the earth.
As the sun brings light and warmth to the earth,
make us signs of your grace, through Christ,
our light and life we pray.**

Moment for silent reflection and confession.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

***RESPONSE TO GRACE** *“Touch the Earth Lightly”* #713
(v. 4)

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.

Listening for God’s Word

MOMENT JUST FOR THE CHILDREN

Helen Griffin

Children are always welcome in worship. We know they’ll make some noise during the service—we understand and welcome their participation in their own way.

Parents, if needed, at any time during the service you may take your children into the narthex to stretch their legs or to our special children’s corner in the rear of the sanctuary. We do offer childcare upon request—please speak to the Elder in Charge in the Narthex.

ANTHEM

"A Gaelic Blessing"
JOHN RUTTER

Chancel Choir

Deep peace of the running wave to you.
Deep peace of the flowing air to you.
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you.
Deep peace of the shining stars to you.
Deep peace of the gentle night to you.
Moon and stars pour their healing light on you.
Deep peace of Christ, of Christ the light of the world, to you.
Deep peace of Christ to you.

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING¹

SCRIPTURE READING

Revelation 22.1-4
Job 38.1-18

NT pg. 260
OT pg. 484

Word of wisdom,
word of grace.
⌘ **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

"Comprehending the Earth"

Rev. Ken Moe

Responding to God's Word

***RESPONSE**

"Eternal Father Strong to Save"
(vv. 4)

#8

O Trinity of love and power,
all travelers guard in dangers hour;
from rock and tempest, fire and foe,
protect them where so e'er they go;
thus evermore shall rise to thee
glad praise from air and land and sea.

MINUTE FOR MISSION

"PW Birthday Offering"

Suzanne Niemann

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Send prayer requests by texting or leaving a message at (480) 256-8216.

Blessed God, whose love calls the creation into covenant with you,
and who puts in our hands responsibility
for the care of the earth and its creatures,
we pray for all to whom you have given life and being.

‡ Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace.

For the well-being of the earth, for its resources of water, air, light and soil,
that they may be tended for the good of all creatures.

‡ Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace.

For the waters of the earth, for their careful use and conservation,
that we may have the will and ability to keep them clean and pure.

‡ Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace.

For the mineral and energy resources of the planet, may we learn sustainable consumption and
sound care of the environment from which they come.

‡ Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace.

For the animals of the earth, wild and domestic, large and small, may they know the harmony
of relationship that sustains all life.

‡ Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace.

Gracious God, grant that your people may have in them
the same mind that was in Christ Jesus.

Guide us into harmony of relationship
through the use of all that you have given.

May the Holy Spirit empower us to be the caretakers the earth needs.

‡ Amen.

PRAYER OF JESUS (Modern)

**‡ Our Creator in Heaven,
blessed be your name.**

**Your kin-dom come, your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Keep us from temptation,
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kin-dom, the power, and the glory,
are yours now and forever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING¹

*Offerings may be dropped into the offering plate as it is passed, mailed to or
dropped off at the church office, or given through our website at
www.upctempe.org/donate (scan QR code).*



OFFERTORY

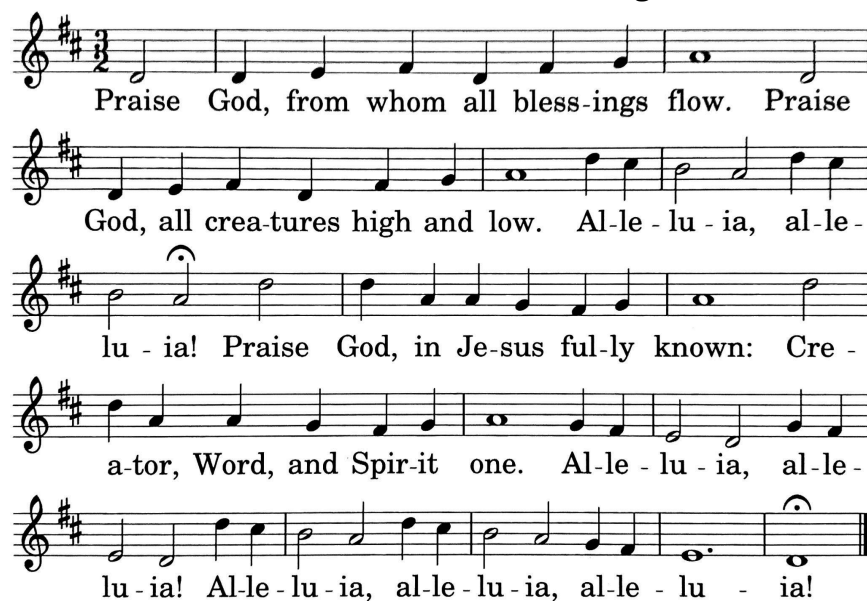
"Earth and All Stars"
DAVID JOHNSON, ARR. MICHAEL BURKHARDT

Jon Sywassink
Organist

*DOXOLOGY

"Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"

#609



Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise
God, all creatures high and low. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le -
lu - ia! Praise God, in Je-sus ful-ly known: Cre -
a-tor, Word, and Spir-it one. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le -
lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia!

The New Century Hymnal (United Church of Christ), #778, text originally written by Thomas Ken (1672, 1709), adapted by William B. Abernethy (1995), ©1995 The Pilgrim Press.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION¹

Sent Out in Jesus' Name

INVITATION TO COMMUNITY

*HYMN

"Christ-Sophia Now We Bless"

#114

From Inclusive Hymns for Liberating Christians

Christ Sophia now we bless;
Songs of joy our thanks profess.
We rejoice in every grace,
beauty glowing in each face,
Fragrant flowers and golden grain,
Singing birds, refreshing rain;
All these gifts our souls inspire,
Lighting our creative fire.

Chris Sofia come in light,
Touching earth with beauty bright;
Valleys gush forth crystal streams;

Rocky canyons blush with dreams;
Grazing cattle, mountain goats,
Friendly squirrels and sprightly colts,
Living beings great and small,
Wisdom made and keeps them all.

Christ Sophia fills the earth
With abundant love and mirth.
Chariot clouds on angel wings,
Gladness to all hearts they bring.
Caring friends who gather near
Share our laughter, hopes, and tears.
For those gifts so rich and free,
May we ever grateful be.

Christ Sophia stirs our hearts
With a vision to impart,
All creation fed and full,
Freed from every stifling rule,
Men and women sharing power,
Partners for all gifts to flower.
For this world our spirits pray;
Christ Sophia lights the way.

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

***POSTLUDE**

"Let the Whole Creation Cry"
ARR. MICHAEL BURKHARDT

Jon Sywassink,
Organist

***The postlude is a time of reflection on how God has been
present to us during worship,
and is present to us in our daily lives.***

*Remember you are the light of the world!
Let your light shine!*

**Sign up for our Weekly Update email at
www.upctempe.org/email**

Today's Worship Leaders

Head Usher	Kathy Wagner
Ushers	Kathy Wagner, Nancy Franz
Worship Techs	Chris Trella, Bianca Osorio
Trustee on Duty	Dan Maloney
Deacon of the Month	Jeanette Miller
Sanctuary Readiness	Larry Seubert

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¹ Adapted from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year B, Volume 1* (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2014), 122ff..

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

DEACON HONORARY PLANT: *Given this day by Kathy Wagner celebrating Earth Day.*

MEMORIAL BOOK: *To the Glory of God and in remembrance of Carolyn Norrid, a memorial perpetuated in the Organ Fund by Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Greenhow, November 1985.*

The World: Prayers for peace around the world, especially in places of war, famine, strife.

All elected leaders: The President of the United States, members of the U.S. Congress and Senate, governors, county officials, mayors, and city council members, that they may all work toward peace for our cities, nation, and world.

Continued Prayers: Cathy Richardson, John Griffin, Vicki Jacobs; The Rev. Erin Tamayo; Bill Ranes; Dennis Gilliland; Betsy Youngs; Carl and Barbara Smith; Jim Phillips; Rob, Chet Henry's brother; Beckie Burke; Diane Watkins.

Homebound: Helen Alderson, Joanna Fancher, Jack Armstrong

Birthdays this coming week: Sara Hershauer, Linda Collins, Tabb Forster, Suzanne Niemann

*If your birthday is missing, please contact the church office
to let us know the date so we can celebrate with you!*

Elders: Alan Sweeney, Lawn Griffiths, Molly Winkler

Deacons: Nancy Martin, Jim Niemann, Laura Green, Jeanette Miller

Trustees: Carol Rickel, Cheri Hardy, Dan Maloney

Presbytery: Salt River (Pima), Scottsdale, their pastor, CRE Charlotte Faford.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

CHILDREN'S BIBLE TIME (Sundays, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm, Rm 2): Bible Time explores lessons to be learned from Old and New Testament scriptures through music, hands-on activities, and stories. All children grades K-4 are welcome.

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP (Sundays, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm, Youth Room): We have a great group of youth in grades 6-12 who are excited for our upcoming events. Be on the lookout for monthly service projects as part of our regular Sunday fellowship. All middle schoolers (6th-8th grades) and high schoolers (9th-10th grades) are invited to join us on Sunday mornings after worship at 11 am! If you have questions or would like more info, contact Ted Gibson, Christian Education director, at tedgibson@upctempe.org.

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (Sundays, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm, Sanctuary):

- **Apr. 21 - "Rhythms of the God-Life: Romans to Revelations"** - led by Rev. Dr. Brad Munroe, PGC Presbytery Pastor
- **Apr. 28 - May 19 - "Theology in Popular Songs: 1970s"** - led by Rev. Ken Moe

LECTIO DIVINA BIBLE STUDY (Wednesdays, 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m., Zoom): Join us as we read, reflect upon, and study the scripture readings for each upcoming Sunday in the Revised Common Lectionary. With Advent we begin a new liturgical year – Year B of the Revised Common Lectionary. A list is available for download: List Form (www.upctempe.org/rcl).

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you have an announcement for our weekly emails and bulletin, submit it to the church office no later than Wednesday of each week. Send it to upc@upctempe.org.

Note: All Zoom meetings may be accessed online via the links provided, or by calling (602) 753-0140 and entering the Meeting ID (the numbers in the weblinks below) and the password, "139." Long distance rates may apply.

XERISCAPE PROJECT -Plan approved! Grant application in! Fundraising going well! "Caring for Creation—A Call to Action" - We have raised \$76,109.59 toward our goal of \$100,000 to fill the gap between costs and grant/rebate money. Thank you to all who have donated so far! Let's reach our goal by Earth Day, April 22.

Methods of Giving:

- A check made out to UPC with xeriscape on the memo line—turn into the office or offering plate.
- On our website upctempe.org. Go to the donation menu.

- If you are interested in making a charitable distribution from your IRA, you will need the Employer Identification Number (EIN). UPC's number is 86-0170564.
- If you would like to make a pledge, follow this link: www.upctempe.org/caringforcreation.
- Avoid capital gains taxes. Sell stocks through your financial advisor with the proceeds going directly to the church.

BRING YOUR OWN CUPS: In keeping with University Presbyterian Church's theme, "Caring For Creation - A Call to Action," Congregational Involvement and Outreach Committee is calling on church-goers to bring their own ceramic cups or other drink containers on Sunday mornings for their coffee and cold drinks. Then they would take the empty containers home with them to wash. It is only optional. Otherwise, beverages will be served as they have been. The goal is to save paper from the landfill, cut costs of cups and be more environmentally responsible.

PROJECT CONNECT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED (Tuesday, Apr 23, 7:00 am - 5:00 pm): Please consider volunteering for Project Connect, an event to be held on our campus. This is the third year that UPC has hosted Project Connect, an all-day event to provide services for those who are experiencing homelessness. Faye and Larry Gardner, and Dan Abbott are coordinating UPC's volunteers. Please see Faye after worship to volunteer for a two-hour time slot. Thank you.

RISE SHINE BREAD: We have delivered 4,874 mini-loaves and 3,925 full-sized loaves of bread to those in need. Thanks to the UPC bakers and please invite your friends to become a baker. Please contact Andrea White at info@riseshinebread.org or (480) 580-3021. Here is a link to a video you can view! <https://youtu.be/Go5llLjTuw>.

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP PAD (www.upctempe.org/fellowship, or scan the QR code):

If you are attending worship either on Zoom or YouTube, remember to complete the online Fellowship Pad and include your prayer requests. Also, please include any new contact info (phone, email, etc.) and check the "New contact info" box. ***If your contact info has not changed, you do not need to include your address or phone number.***



UPC WEEKLY CALENDAR

*Find Zoom links and calendar updates at
www.upctempe.org/events.*

*Subscribe to the Weekly Update for Zoom links:
www.upctempe.org/email*

Sun., Apr 21

9:30 am	Sunday Worship (S, Z, YouTube)
11:00 am	Adult Christian Education
11:00 am	Children's Bible Time (Rm 2)
11:00 am	Youth Fellowship (Rm 9)

Mon., Apr 22*Earth Day*

6:30 pm

PW Kayenta Circle (MR)

8:30 pm

AA Meeting (Rm 7)

Tue., Apr 23

7:00 am - 5:00 pm

Project Connect (Campus, Parking lot)

7:00 pm

Stated Session (S, Z)

Wed., Apr 24

9:00 am

Lectio Divina Bible Study (Z)

12:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Peruvian Association (Rental - FH, K)

3:45 pm

Worship Planning Team (Z)

5:15 pm

Wednesday Church Dinner (FH, K)

6:00 pm

Bell Choir Practice (S)

7:00 pm

Chancel Choir Rehearsal (CH)

Thu., Apr 25

8:00 am

TOPS (MR, Rm 7)

1:00 pm

PW Online Bible Study (Z)

6:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Wicked Pitch (Rental - S)

Fri., Apr 26

3:00 pm

I-HELP (FH, K) Meal: UPC

7:00 pm

Friday Night Book Club (Z)

8:30 pm

A.A. Meeting (Rm 7)

Sat., Apr 27

7:00 am

I-HELP Departs

10:00 am

Migrant Trail Walk Organizing Committee (Z)

Sun., Apr 28

9:30 am

Sunday Worship (S, Z, YouTube)

11:00 am

Adult Christian Education

11:00 am

Children's Bible Time (Rm 2)

11:00 am

Youth Fellowship (Rm 9)

Location/Room References:

(CH)-Choir Room (CR)-Conference Room/Office (COR/Rm7)-Community Room
 (FH)-Fellowship Hall (MG) Memorial Garden (HSR)-High School Room
 (MSR)-Middle School Room (K)-Fellowship Hall Kitchen
 (L)-Lounge (MR)-Meeting Room (PO)-Pastor's Office
 (Rm#)-Room Number Indicated (S)-Sanctuary
 (Z)-On Zoom (See Weekly Update or UPC Calendar for links)



Open and Affirming to All, Glorifying God, Growing in Love

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www.upctempe.org • e-mail: upc@upctempe.org

Office Hours: Tue-Fri, 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

(Office is remote on Fridays)

Ministers

Temporary Pastoral Supply
Pastor
Administrative Assistant
Director of Music & Christian Education
Organist/Accompanist
Clerk of Session
Treasurer/Bookkeeper
Attendance Secretaries
Custodian

Every Member

Rev, Ken Moe
The Rev. Dr. Eric O. Ledermann
Lori Saager
Ted Gibson
Jon Sywassink
Brigitta Kuiper
Andrea White
Sharlan Pierce, Jeanette Miller
Carrie Miter

Pastor's Office Hours:

*Available by appointment Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays
Contact the church office or the pastor to schedule,
or go to www.upctempe.org/pastorschedule.*