

Clifton Presbyterian Church (PCUSA)
Loving God ~ Loving One Another ~ Loving the World



Louis Maniquet on Unsplash

April 21, 2024
9:45 Prayer & Care
10:00 AM Worship

Fourth Sunday of Easter

WE GATHER TOGETHER TO WORSHIP GOD

*Words in **BOLD** indicate the congregation reading together. Words of the worship leader are in PLAIN type. An asterisk * indicates that the congregation may stand, as able.*

Gathering Song **GtG 243** **Be Not Afraid**
Be not afraid; sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!
Be not afraid; sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!

Time of Prayer and Care

Prelude

*Opening Sentences

One: The heavens declare the glory of God.

All: The skies proclaim God's handiwork.

One: The plants and trees show God's presence.

All: Let us join with creation in praising God.

*Hymn PH #288

I Sing the Mighty Power of God *vv 1, 3*

**I sing the mighty power of God
that made the mountains rise,
that spread the flowing seas abroad
and built the lofty skies.**

**I sing the wisdom that ordained
the sun to rule the day.**

**The moon shines full at God's command,
and all the stars obey.**

**There's not a plant or flower below
but makes thy glories known.
And clouds arise, and tempests blow,
by order from thy throne,
while all that borrows life from thee
is ever in thy care,
and everywhere that we can be,
thou, God, art present there.**

Call to Confession

Beloved, we are made in the divine image, and God called us good. Yet we go our own way, causing harm to ourselves, to one another, and to the planet. Confident in the mercy of the One who made us and saved us, let us confess our sin to God and one another. Join me in the prayer of confession:

Prayer of Confession

All: 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 this earth, make us signs of your grace, through Christ, our light and life we pray. Amen.

Assurance of God's Grace

One: In the waters of baptism, God pours out mercy and blessing. Now that you are forgiven, and be at peace as you share this blessing with others and care for this good earth, that all creation may declare God's glory.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Sing Praise PH 123

Sing We to Our God Above *v. 4*

**Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
praise eternal as God's love; Alleluia!**

**Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!**

The Peace of Christ

One: Christ is our peace, the neverending, abiding, enduring peace we now share with each other, for Christ is alive and Lord of all. May the peace of our risen Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

*Those in the sanctuary are invited to greet those around you.
Those on zoom are invited to offer greetings in the chat.*

Offering our Gifts to God

*For those who would like to make a physical offering, the offering plates are available in the middle of the sanctuary.
Donations can also be made online. www.cliftonpc.org*

One: The whole world is God's world. All that we have is a gift from our Creator. In gratitude for these gifts that we are given, and for the Giver, let us return to God the fruits of our labor, and offer to God the fullness of our lives. Let us pray.

Prayer of Dedication

One: Let us pray.

All: Almighty God, we give thanks for all your gifts of grace. Receive these tokens of our lives, and use them for the building of your new creation, where all may have life in abundance. In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

Prayer for Illumination

Come and Fill Our Hearts

Come and fill our hearts with your peace.

You alone, O Lord, are holy.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia!

First Reading Genesis 2:4b-9 (CEB)

On the day the LORD God made earth and sky—⁵ before any wild plants appeared on the earth, and before any field crops grew, because the LORD God hadn't yet sent rain on the earth and there was still no human being to farm the fertile land,⁶ though a stream rose from the earth and watered all of the fertile land—⁷ the LORD God formed the human from the topsoil of the fertile land and blew life's breath into his nostrils. The human came to life.⁸ The LORD God planted a garden in Eden in the east and put there the human he had formed.⁹ In the fertile land, the LORD God grew every beautiful tree with edible fruit, and also he grew the tree of life in the middle of the garden and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

One: God be in our listening, God be in our understanding.

All: Amen.

Anthem

Second Reading Revelation 22:1-2 (CEB)

¹Then the angel showed me the river of life-giving water, shining like crystal, flowing from the throne of God and the Lamb ² through the middle of the city's main street. On each side of the river is the tree of life, which produces twelve crops of fruit, bearing its fruit each month. The tree's leaves are for the healing of the nations.

One: For the Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God among us,
for the Word of God within us,

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Resurrection People Care for God's Good Earth *Diane Walton Hendricks*

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD AND ARE SENT TO THE WORLD

Hymn PH #272

God of the Sparrow *v. 1-3*
God of the sparrow
God of the whale
God of the swirling stars
How does the creature say Awe
How does the creature say Praise

God of the earthquake
God of the storm
God of the trumpet blast
How does the creature cry Woe
How does the creature cry Save

God of the rainbow
God of the cross
God of the empty grave
How does the creature say Grace
How does the creature say Thanks

Presentation for Baptism

Elder Ashley Bybee

Profession of Faith: The Apostle's Creed

One: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the

dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Thanksgiving Over the Water

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise...

Baptism and Laying on of Hands

Welcome

Prayers of the People 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; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Minute for Mission

Minute for Leadership

Ringling of the Bell

Charge and Benediction

**Benediction Response PH 111 Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing
Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!
Now is the triumph of our King!
To all the world glad news we bring:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Thank you for joining us for worship this morning.
We can be reached at office@cliftonpc.org*

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from One License #A- 721138 and CCLI License 20618208.

Thanks to those leading us in worship

Hosts: Barbara Brown and Pat Swanson
Liturgist: Jen Basham
Technical Team: Mark Lorey
Sanctuary Flowers: The Trkula Family
Mission Elder: Mark Reimers

CPC STAFF

Rev. Dr. Diane Walton Hendricks, Pastor
John Kim, Music Director
Hannah Harris, Lead Vocalist
Debbie Kilpatrick, Office Administrator
Amy McConaghie, Preschool Director
Rev. Dr. Lynn Stanton-Hoyle, Pastor Emerita