

The UMC of New City Hybrid Worship
April 14, 2024
Fourth Sunday of Easter; Earth Day Sunday

Welcome

Pastor Amanda

Prelude and Lighting of the Candles

Dr. Diana Hughes/Acolyte -- Ali Beddows

Call to Worship *(from Psalm 24)*

Norma Christian

Leader: The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it.

People: The world, and those who live in it;

Leader: For he has founded it on the seas,

People: And established it on the rivers.

Leader: Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place?

People: Those who have clean hand and pure hearts,

Leader: Who do not lift up their souls to what is false,

People: And do not swear deceitfully.

Leader: They will receive blessing from the Lord.

**Hymn #454 (UMH)

Open My Eyes, That I May See

1. **Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me; place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free. Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see. Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!**

2. **Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear; and while the wave-notes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear. Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see. Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!**

3. **Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere; open my heart and let me prepare love with thy children thus to share. Silently now I wait for thee, ready my God, thy will to see. Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!**

Unison Prayer:

Norma Christian

Oh, Lord, help us to open our eyes, ears, hearts, and minds that we might have the wisdom and courage to show your love in this troubled world. Amen.

Children's Message

That's a Lot of People

Jeannine Alexandro

First Scripture Reading

Leviticus 25:23

Winsome Downie Rainford

The land must not be sold permanently, for the land is mine, and you reside in my land as foreigners and strangers.

Second Scripture Reading

Revelation 11:18b

The time has come for judging the dead, and for rewarding your servants the prophets and your people who revere your name, both great and small--and for destroying those who destroy the earth.

Third Scripture Reading

Isaiah 32:3-4, 8

Then the eyes of those who have sight will not be closed, and the ears of those who have hearing will listen. The minds of the rash will have good judgment, and the tongues of stammerers will speak readily and distinctly. . . those who are noble plan noble things, and by noble things they stand.

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God. **People: Thanks be to God.**

Message *Four Precepts for Being Good Methodists in Our Perfect Little World* Jeannine Alexandro
(Precept: a general rule intended to regulate behavior or thought)

**Hymn *Here I Am, Lord* words by Jeannine Alexandro

1. I, the Lord of frog and tree, I have blessed the wild and free. All of life is joy to me. What has gone wrong? So much lost and more to lose. It is time, my people to choose. Who will give my hope to them? Whom shall I send?

(Refrain): Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you need me. I will hold life sacred in my heart.

2. I, the Lord, of ice and heat, I have felt my people's conceit. Using all, they disregard. They throw away. I who call the sun to rise, I will open all their eyes. I will show what's right to them. Whom shall I send? (Refrain)

3. I, the Lord, of frail and strong, I will change what has gone wrong. All that dwells on land and sea, my hand will save. Courage, wisdom, strength provide--all that's needed be supplied. I will give sweet life to them. Whom shall I send? (Refrain)

Prayer Requests and Praises

Mihea Kim

Pastoral Prayer

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Announcements

Maureen Gallagher

The Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Dr. Diana Hughes

Anthem

Look at the World (John Rutter)

Choir

(You are invited to consider the words as the choir sings.)

Look at the world: Everything all around us

Look at the world: and marvel everyday

Look at the world: So many joys and wonders

So many miracles along our way

*Praise to thee O lord for all creation
Give us thankful hearts that we may see
All the gifts we share and every blessing
All things come of thee*

Look at the earth: Bringing forth fruit and flower
Look at the sky: The sunshine and the rain
Look at the hills, look at the trees and mountains
Valley and flowing river field and plain

Praise to thee ...

Think of the spring, Think of the warmth of summer
Bringing the harvest before the winters cold
Everything grows, everything has a season
Til' it is gathered to the fathers fold

Praise to thee ...

Every good gift, all that we need and cherish
Comes from the lord in token of his love
We are his hands, stewards of all his bounty
His is the earth and his the heavens above

Praise to thee...

**Doxology #95 (UMH)

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host -- Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**Prayer of Dedication

Almighty God, bless these gifts, and use them to your glory, that your love will become our love of this perfect little world. Amen.

**Hymn #92 (UMH)

For the Beauty of the Earth

verses 1, 2, 5

- 1. 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.**
- 2. For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night, hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of night; Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.**
- 5. For thy church that evermore lifteth holy hands above, offering upon every shore her pure sacrifice of love; Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.**

**Blessing and Sending

Jeannine Alexandro

**Choral Benediction #2238 (TFWS)

In the Midst of New Dimensions

verses 1&5

1. **In the midst of new dimensions, in the face of changing ways, who will lead the pilgrim peoples wandering in their separate ways?**

(Refrain): God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar, we your people, ours the journey now and ever, now and ever, now and evermore.

5. **Should the threats of dire predictions cause us to withdraw in pain, may your blazing phoenix spirit resurrect the church again. (Refrain)**

Postlude

Dr. Diana Hughes

You are invited to join us for fellowship and refreshments.

Thank you to our Church & Society Committee for leading in worship today, and especially to Jeannine Alexandro for putting this service together and presenting the Message!

Thank you for joining us in worship today. You are always welcome here! To be added to our email list, ask questions, request pastoral care, or explore the possibility of membership, contact the church office at umcofnewcity@gmail.org or call (845) 634-1758.

Sunday School for children pre-k (potty trained) through 6th grade is held during the worship service, directly following the Children's Message.

For online giving, please visit our website at newcityumc.org

Our thrift shop, Angel's Attic, is open Saturdays 9am-2pm and Thursdays 10am-12pm.

We are a Reconciling Church; we fully love and accept LGBTQ+ individuals and families.

Our Mission Statement is "Serving God through Serving Our Community."

**Indicates to please stand, if you are comfortable doing so. 'UMH' = The United Methodist Hymnal (red); 'TFWS' = The Faith We Sing (black). Both are available by the ushers.

May you go in Christ's peace, assured of God's love.