

The UMC of New City Hybrid Worship

April 26, 2026

4th Sunday of Easter; Earth Day Sunday

Welcome

Pastor Amanda

Prelude

Dr. Diana Hughes

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 hands 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.

**Opening Hymn #62 (UMH) *All Creatures of Our God and King; words by Francis of Assisi* verses 1-5

1. **All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing, O praise ye! Alleluia! O brother sun with golden beam, O sister moon with silver gleam!**

Refrain: O praise ye! O praise ye! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

2. **O brother wind, air, clouds, and rain, by which all creatures ye sustain, O praise ye! Alleluia! Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice, ye lights of evening, find a voice! (Refrain)**
3. **O sister water, flowing clear, make music for thy Lord to hear, Alleluia! Alleluia! O brother fire who lights the night, providing warmth, enhancing sight, (Refrain)**
4. **Dear mother earth, who day by day unfoldest blessings on our way, Alleluia! Alleluia! The flowers and fruits that in thee grow, let them God's glory also show! (Refrain)**
5. **All ye who are of tender heart, forgiving others, take your part, O praise ye! Alleluia! Ye who long pain and sorrow bear, praise God and on him cast your care! (Refrain)**

Unison Prayer

O Lord, we need time to retreat, to relax, to recharge. We need to feed ourselves with peace and with hope. Life is too full of stresses and troubles. We ask you to help us find balance in our own lives, balancing work and play, balancing responsibility and rest. Nevertheless, Lord, we know that you need us to be your heart, mind, brain, arms and legs. Please give us the strength to act on your behalf. Help us make this world a better place for all your precious living creatures. Amen.

Children's Message

Balance in Our Lives

Jeannine Alexandro

1st Scripture Reading

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

Dr. Winsome Downie Rainford

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing, a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace.

2nd Scripture Reading

Matthew 5:40-42; 7:15-18; 5:14-16

And if anyone wants to sue you and take your coat, give your cloak as well; and if anyone forces you to go one mile, go also the second mile. Give to everyone who begs from you, and do not refuse anyone who wants to borrow from you. . . Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thorns, or figs from thistles? In the same way, every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. . You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

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

Message

Checks and Balances

Jeannine Alexandro

Hymn #593

Here I Am, Lord; words by Jeannine Alexandro 2007

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
Pastoral Prayer

Mihea Kim, Esq.

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.

****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. Help us to use them with wisdom and love to protect your beautiful creation. Amen.

****Hymn #92 (UMH)**

For the Beauty of the Earth; words by Folliot S. Pierpoint

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 Forth**

Jeannine Alexandro

****Choral Benediction #2238 (TFWS)**

In the Midst of New Dimensions; by Julian B. Rush

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

Please join us for food and fellowship.



Thank you to Jeannine Alexandro, and the rest of our Church & Society Committee, for leading during today's service!

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.com or call (845) 634-1758.

Our youngest worshippers (Pre-K through 6th grade) are invited to our "Children's Church Table" after the Children's Message.

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 ALL, including LGBTQ+ individuals and families.

Our Mission Statement is "Serving God through Serving the 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 from the ushers.

*Jazz Concert Fundraiser TONIGHT with Albert Ahlf
and his Ahlfabet Singers! 7:30pm in Fellowship Hall.
\$20 per person*

QR Code for



online giving

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