

# Sunrise Presbyterian Church

Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Sunday, November 9th, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. Rev. Jessica Crane Munoz

\*Please rise in body/spirit as you are able.

III Prelude

Announcements Pastor Jessica

Liturgist: Joe Hoseck

Come, Thou Fount Kim Peachy arr. Jan Sanborn

Let us worship God: Reading of *The Peace of Wild Things*<sup>i</sup> Written by Wendell

Berry

Call to Worship: (responsive)

Pastor Jessica

Leader: There is a place where each bird's beauty

All: Shimmers upon waters that give rest and food.

Leader: There is a place where tomorrow's burdens

All: Bear no weight upon the possibilities of today.

Leader: There is a place where still waters

All: Are ready to nourish parched hearts.

Leader: There is a place where God's peace

All: Seeks our lying down.

Leader: There is a place

All: And that place is God's creation.

Leader: There is a place

All: And that place is here.

## \* **☐** Hymn # 714

#### God of the Fertile Fields

vs. 1-3

Liturgist

\* Call to Confession

While despair and fear can be valid parts of the human experience, we too often lose today in the past's despair and fear for our future. God desires for us to find the peace and mercy of Christ *right now* so that all we imagine going forward can be grounded in grace and its dreams for justice. Let us open our hearts to this mercy in prayer.

# \* Prayer of Confession (in unison):

Liturgist

Creating God, you made the wild spaces of forests and oceans, mountains and plains. You made our own hearts. Creation sings your praise with its every breath. Trees sway to the melody of your breeze. Waves crash and roll in the power of your pull. We are not so faithful. Rather than join creation's praise, we silence it. We lay waste to the work of your hands in hopes that our hands will have too much to hold.

Have mercy upon us. By your Spirit, guide our wild hearts back to you that they may become wilderness spaces for rest and delight, not spaces torn apart for false gain. Amen.

\*Assurance of Pardon Liturgist

Leader The grace and mercy of Jesus Christ is like a day-blind star, present even

when we cannot see it, always waiting with light. Let us declare this good news together: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

#### \* ☐ Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen. Amen.

\*Passing of the Peace

Leader: May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. All: And also with you.

Prayer of Illumination (non-responsive, please be seated)

Liturgist

Dear God, our unbelievable creator, we are surrounded by the awesomeness of all that you have made. You made the light that guides our paths and warms our bodies and spirits out of nothing. How unbelievable is that?!

As we explore your presence in the world and in our lives, shine your light that we may understand your Word for us. Show us your power and creativity in fresh ways, so that we may find new hope and live more faithfully for you. Amen.

Children's Message

When 2 or more are present

1. Introduce the game: Believable or Unbelievable

Today, we will play a game called "Believable or Unbelievable." I will show/tell you something about nature, and you will have to tell me whether it is true (believable) or untrue (unbelievable). Again if you think the fact/picture is a real thing, you will shout out "believable" and if you think it is made up, you will shout out "unbelievable."

# 3. Connect to the Scripture

In our scripture for today, we will hear God talking to Job. It's part of God's test of Job about God's power in the world. Job's life seems to be falling apart, and lots of bad things are happening to him and those he loves, and God is reminding Job who (God) has the awesome power to handle the great and terrible stuff.

# \* ☐ Hymn # 15

## For The Fruit of All Creation

Scripture<sup>ii</sup> - introduction to today's texts

Job 38:1-42:2, Selected verses

Pastor Jessica

Introduction to the Accra Confessioniii

Pastor Jessica

## 

## For the Beauty of the Earth

Scripture Job 38:1-15<sup>iv</sup> Adapted from the CEB version

Confession Accra Confession 5 & 6, adapted<sup>v</sup>

☐ Hymn # 713 (seated) Touch the Earth Gently vs. 1, 2, 4

Scripture Job 38:16-20,25-35<sup>vi</sup> Adapted from the CEB version

Confession Accra Confession 17<sup>vii</sup>

☐ Hymn # 761 (seated) Called as Partners in Christ's Service vs. 1-2

Scripture Job 38:36-41, 39:1-8, 26-30, 42:1-2<sup>viii</sup> Adapted from the *Message Bible* 

Confession Accra Confession 20<sup>ix</sup>

Invitation to Offering

Family of God, the earth is the Lord's and everything in it. In gratitude for God's abundant provision . . . In thanksgiving for God's inconceivable creativity . . . and in awe of God's entrusting of us to nurture the expansive beauty all around us, let us pause to set aside a portion of our time, talent, and treasure for the furthering of God's dreams.

Offering trays are not passed in the sanctuary. However, we recognize the importance of blessings and giving through the offertory portion of our service. If you wish to make a financial gift, an offering tray is located at the entrance to the sanctuary. Financial gifts may also be made through the church website.



Liturgist

III Offertory Music

For the Fruit of All Creation arr. Jane Holstein

Kim Peachy

## \* □ Doxology

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

Liturgist

Generous Creator, since the beginning you have blessed us with a creation whose beauty inspires wonder and reveals the graces of your own heart. May the gifts we return in thanksgiving uphold this beauty from devastation and preserve the wild spaces where the peace of Christ and solace of the Spirit are so often found. Amen.

#### Communion

**Sharing of Joys and Concerns** 

#### **Great Thanksgiving**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Leader: It is indeed right, for you made us, and before us, you made the world we

inhabit. All that is spectacular, all that is plain have their origin in you; all that is

lovely, all who are loving point to you as their fulfilment.

And grateful as we are for the world we know and the universe beyond our understanding, we particularly praise you, whom eternity cannot contain, for coming to the earth and entering time in Jesus Christ. For his life which informs our living, for his compassion that changes our hearts, for his wisdom that informs our understanding of others, for his dying and rising, we praise you.

So we gladly join our voices, O God, and with heavenly choirs and the faithful of every time and place, we sing to the glory of your name:

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord. God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

 $\square$  Hymn # 544 (remain seated) Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name. Bless the Lord, my soul who leads me into life. (2x)

#### Words of Institution

**P** Distribution of the Elements

This is an open table. All who seek and believe in our Lord Jesus Christ are welcome. Please proceed down the main aisle from the back pews forward.

The ushers are happy to serve at their seats any who are unable to come forward for communion.

Pastor Jessica

Leader: Eternal God, from age to age, you have made yourself known to us. You have reached out to us so often, so persistently. We know of your love for us from so many sources, allowing us to entrust you with the needs of our hearts. So we do, not as distant followers held at arm's length, but as your beloved children.

All: So we pray to you this morning with our concerns. For world affairs beyond our control, we pray for your mercy. Keep us mindful of the people of Ukraine & Russia, who continue to endure grinding war. For the people of Israel and Gaza, we pray for peace, knowing that you alone are the source of shalom, peaceable kingdom. For those in harm's way, we pray for protection.

Leader: We pray for needs closer to home, for our own community. As autumn days give way to the cold of coming winter, we ask that you would open our eyes to the needs that are present here. May we see those whose names are known to you and offer compassion and goodwill. We pray for victims of violence. We pray for all who practice the healing arts, for their endurance and for their wellbeing.

All: We pray as well for ourselves, for our own material and spiritual needs. Where people suffer from illness and affliction, grant your healing touch, bringing wholeness. For any in our midst who suffer from mental and emotional illness, or addiction, give us understanding and compassion. For those who are lonely, may we be a place of friendship, and a warm haven where love is shared.

Leader: We make these and all of our prayers in the name of Christ, who taught us to pray together:

The Lord's Prayer (sung): Our Father, which 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. Amen.

\* 🎝 Hymn # 643 Now Thank We All our God

Sending Out God's People into the World

\*Benediction

Postlude (seated) Brethren, We Have Met to Worship

Jan Sanborn

Kim Peachy

<sup>\*</sup>Please rise in body/spirit as you are able.

# **Sunrise Presbyterian Church**

<u>sunrisepresbyteriangf@gmail.com</u> <u>www.sunrisegreatfalls.net</u>

406-453-2031 or Pastor Jessica cell: 908-300-4286 Office Hours: 8:30-12:30 Monday-Thursday

Symbols within the bulletin are to assist folks attending our worship service who respond better to social cues when they are visualized. We want everyone to feel comfortable and confident when they attend worship. A = prayer, A = prayer, A = prayer = music to listen to, A = prayer = calebration of a sacrament, A = prayer = clapping is appropriate. Bold text indicates places for congregational participation.



Sunday, November 23 from 1-4 p.m.

Volunteers Arrive at 12:20 for setup and instructions







Register Online @ <u>sunrisegreatfalls.net</u> \$10 per participant

The Christmas tree you see every year in the Nartex is the Deacons tree.

The tree we have now was purchased with Memorial funds in memory of Neva Jackson.

The Deacons want to start a new tradition at Sunrise by naming the Deacon tree, "The Remember Tree." We ask all the people of Sunrise to bring an ornament to hang on the tree to remember a loved one that has passed. Bring your ornament and hang it on our tree during advent season. We ask that you put the name of the person you are remembering on the ornament in some manner. After Christmas please take your ornament home and hopefully bring it back again next Christmas Season.

**Ember Woods, Chair of Deacons** 

# **Calendar of Events**

November Deacons: Pam Chigbrow & Sandy Lambert			
Nov 9-12		9 – 11 am	In Person Fish Volunteer Days
Nov 9	Sun	9:30 am	Worship with Communion
		10:30 am	Fellowship
		10:45 am	Sunday School
Nov 11	Tue	All Day	Happy Veterans Day!
		1:00 pm	Finance Meeting
Nov 13	Thu	6:00 pm	Third Space Gathering
Nov 16	Sun	9:30 am	Worship with message by Carol Stilli
		10:30 am	Fellowship
		10:45 am	Sunday School
Nov 18	Tue	5:30 pm	Session (One Week Early)
Nov 19	Wed	6:00 pm	Faith-Life, Outreach & Mission Committee
Nov 20	Thu	10:00 am	Adult Bible Study
		6:00 pm	Third Space Gathering
Nov 23	Sun	9:30 am	Worship
		10:30 am	Fellowship
		10:45 am	Sunday School
		1-4 pm	Kids Craft Event (Fellowship Hall)
Nov 24-30	Mon – Sun		Jessica is out of the Office
Nov 26	Wed	1:00 pm	Newsletter Assembly
Nov 27	Thu	All Day	Happy Thanksgiving (Office Closed)
			No Third Space Gathering
Nov 29	Sat	10am-12p	Advent and Christmas decorating, set up with meal
			provided at noon for volunteers
Nov 30	Sun	9:30 am	Worship with Rev. Tim Lanham: Hanging of the Greens
		10:30 am	Fellowship (NO SUNDAY SCHOOL)
December Deacons: Janette Forsyth & Tana Harp			
Dec 3	Wed	6:00 pm	Worship Committee
Dec 4	Thu	10:00 am	Adult Bible Study
		6:00 pm	Third Space Gathering

If you are donating cans to our can shed, please make sure the bags are tied shut! Also, pill bottle donations do not go in the can shed! Please drop off the pill bottles at the church directly. You can bring them when you come to worship, or during the week when the church office is open. All pill bottles will be thrown away unless brought to the correct drop-off point.

Thank You - Eric





When despair for the world grows in me and I wake in the night at the least sound in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be, I go and lie down where the wood drake rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds. I come into the peace of wild things who do not tax their lives with forethought of grief. I come into the presence of still water. And I feel above me the day-blind stars waiting with their light. For a time I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.

"Job's world has come crashing down. Back in Chapter 2, Job's patience in suffering screeched to a halt, with Job challenging God to account for Job's suffering and for the injustice he witnessed across all of creation. Job 38 marks the beginning of God's response. Today's passages come from two divine speeches. The form of the speeches is a barrage of rhetorical questions (pretty sassy ones sometimes) intended to highlight Job's lack of understanding of God's authority and intimate relationship with the world. They have been adapted slightly for readability in worship.

in 1989, the World Alliance of Reformed Churches (the WARC) met in Seoul, Korea and were called upon to covenant together to seek a faithful response to "threats to life in our age, for the sake of the whole creation, the future of all humanity and especially for the children and young people of the planet."

For more than a decade, global partners in this organization evaluated threats, considered faithful action, and worked to commit to a process of education and confession regarding ecological destruction and its correlating economic injustices.

In 2004, with increasing calls from the WARC partners in the global South who bear the brunt of creation's harm and unjust economic practices, the WARC gathered in Accra, Ghana and came to a consensus regarding the problematic nature of the global economy and the havoc it wreaks upon both creation and the poor.

While the document was not a doctrinal confessional stance, the assembly produced the Accra Confession, a response in our Reformed and confessional heritage, to take a faithful stance regarding all God has entrusted to us to steward: the care of the most vulnerable among us and the beauty of the earth.

Today, we echo these words in liturgy and song to remember the ancient call to touch the earth lightly so that all may know God's blessings.

iv Job 38:1-15 (adapted from CEB version)

Then the Lord answered Job from the whirlwind:

Where were you when I laid the earth's foundations? Who set its measurements? Who stretched a measuring tape on it? On what were its footings sunk; who laid its cornerstone, while the morning stars sang in unison and all the divine beings shouted? Who enclosed the Sea behind doors when it burst forth from the womb. when I made the clouds its garment, the dense clouds its wrap, when I imposed my limit for it, put on a bar and doors and said, "You may come this far, no farther; here your proud waves stop"? In your lifetime have you commanded the morning, informed the dawn of its place so it would take hold of earth by its edges and shake the sin right out of it? Do you turn it over like clay for a seal, so it stands out like a colorful garment?

VWe have heard that creation continues to groan, in bondage, waiting for its liberation (Rom 8.22). We are challenged by the cries of the people who suffer and by the woundedness of creation itself. We see a dramatic convergence between the suffering of the people and the damage done to the rest of creation. The care of the earth is a matter of life and death.

Have you gone to the sea's sources,
 walked in the chamber of the deep?
 Have you surveyed earth's expanses?
 Tell me if you know everything about it.
 Where's the road to the place where light dwells;
 darkness, where's it located?
 Can you take it to its territory;

do you know the paths to its house?

Who cut a channel for the downpours and a way for blasts of thunder to bring water to uninhabited land, a desert with no human to saturate dry wasteland and make grass sprout?

From whose belly does ice come;
who gave birth to heaven's frost?
Water hardens like stone;
the surface of the deep thickens.
Can you bind Pleiades' chains
or loosen the reins of Orion?
Can you guide the stars
at their proper times,
lead the Bear with her cubs?
Do you know heaven's laws,
or can you impose its rule on earth?
Can you issue an order to the clouds
so their abundant waters cover you?
Can you send lightning so that it goes
and then says to you, "I'm here"?

vii We believe in God, Creator and Sustainer of all life, who calls us as partners in the creation and redemption of the world. We live under the promise that Jesus Christ came so that all might have life in fullness (Jn 10.10).

#### Guided and upheld by the Holy Spirit we open ourselves to the reality of our world.

viii Who do you think gave weather-wisdom to the heron, and storm-savvy to the rooster?

Does anyone know enough to number all the clouds or tip over the rain barrels of heaven

When the earth is cracked and dry, the ground baked hard as a brick?

Can you teach the lioness to stalk her prey and satisfy the appetite of her cubs
As they crouch in their den, waiting hungrily in their cave?
And who sets out food for the ravens when their young cry to God, fluttering about because they have no food?"

Do you know the month when mountain goats give birth? Have you ever watched a doe bear her fawn? Do you know how many months she is pregnant? Do you know the season of her delivery?

Who do you think set the wild donkey free, opened the corral gates and let him go? I gave him the whole wilderness to roam in, the rolling plains and wide-open places. He grazes freely through the hills, nibbling anything that's green.

Was it through your know-how that the hawk learned to fly, soaring effortlessly on thermal updrafts?

Did you command the eagle's flight, and teach her to build her nest in the heights,

Perfectly at home on the high cliff face, invulnerable on pinnacle and crag?

Job answered God:

I'm convinced: You can do anything and everything.

Nothing and no one can upset your plans."

<sup>ix</sup> We believe that God has made a covenant with all of creation (Gen 9.8-12). God has brought into being an earth community based on the vision of justice and peace. The covenant is a gift of grace that is not for sale in the marketplace (Is 55.1). It is an economy of grace for the household of all of creation.