Worship to Celebrate Earth Day

Saturday, April 20, 2024 • 6:30 pm Piedmont Park

Welcome!

Tonight's worship service is a gift to our neighborhood in celebration of Earth Day, offered by All Saints' Episcopal church. We are an inclusive and vibrant congregation in midtown (located next to the Varsity), and we discern God's call to know, love, and serve our neighbors. If you would like to learn more about us, please speak with any of the clergy this evening, or visit us at www.allsaintsatlanta.org.

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GATHER

GATHERING MUSIC | What a wonderful world

Bob Thiele and George David Weiss

The people stand and sing.

SONG | I've got peace like a river

African American spiritual

- I've got peace like a river (3x) in my soul,
 I've got peace like a river (3x) in my soul.
- 2. I've got joy like a fountain...
- 3. I've got love like the ocean...

SONG | Down by the Riverside

- I'm gonna lay down my sword and shield, down by the riverside (3x)
 I'm gonna lay down my sword and shield, down by the riverside, to study war no more
 I ain't gonna study war no more, study no more, study war no more.
 I ain't gonna study war no more, study no more, study war no more.
- 2. I'm gonna make peace around the world...

GREETING and PEACE |

Leader The Peace of the Lord be always with you...

People And also with you.

Leader Let us share with one another a sign of God's peace.

SONG OF PRAISE | Halle, halle, hallelujah

Caribbean folk song

Halle, halle hallelujah.

PROCLAIM

READING | Psalm 121

The people are seated.

The people listen to a reading from the children and youth of All Saints'.

READING | The Creation Story

Genesis

The people echo: And God saw that it was good.

Reader This is the good news of God for all creation.

People Let us proclaim it through the word of our lives.

REFLECTION | The Rev. Dr. Andrew K. Barnett

SONG | As I went down in the river to pray

The people stand and sing.

As I went down in the river to pray, studying about that good ol' day And who shall wear the robe and crown?

Good Lord, show me the way

- 1. Oh mothers let's go down, let's go down don't you wanna go down Oh mothers let's go down, down in the river to pray.
- 2. Oh fathers...
- 3. Oh children...

PRAYER | Sarah Are

People God of Creation, create space in our hearts,

Leader Space for hope to grow like wild flowers.

People God of Creation, create space in our hearts, Leader Space for love to echo her joyful refrain.

People God of Creation, create space in our hearts,

Leader Space for your Word to saturate us like the rain.

People God of Creation, create space in our hearts,

Leader For you, your Word, your grace, and your church.

People God of Creation, create space in our hearts, Leader God of creation, create space in our hearts.

People Amen.

FEAST

SONG BEFORE COMMUNION | Spirit of the Living God

The people gather around the table as they sing.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. (2x)

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

WELCOME TO THE TABLE I

Celebrant God has gathered us together.

People It is Christ's love that makes us one.

Celebrant Here in bread and wine we will have a foretaste,

People Of the feast of justice and love that God intends for all people.

Celebrant In the beginning of all things, God birthed the world into being.

God's first word to all life was a Word of love. But human beings didn't mirror that love or share God's creation. We tried to rule over one another and became estranged. Through the ages, people and prophets, poets and lovers looked for the One who called them to freedom.

Proclaiming a way out of no way, hope for a hurting world.

God's cry for justice echoed through our lives.

And then, in Jesus, hope for the oppressed and freedom for all came into the world. Flesh of our flesh, God from before the beginning of time. Jesus healed the sick, fed the hungry and began God's kingdom on earth, that we might know that nothing is inevitable, anything is

possible.

At supper with his friends, Jesus set a table big enough for all people to find their place. Jesus took bread, gave thanks, and asked us to remember the dream of a world made whole. Jesus shared a cup of wine, remembering the blood of all those who die by others' power, a sign that even the least of the earth are never forgotten. We pray now to the God who loves us forever. That the Holy Spirit may be within these gifts of bread and wine and within us, empowering us to join in God's new world.

Celebrant May the Spirit's song of love become the song of our lives.

People May all creation know the God who creates, redeems, and sustains us. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER |

Leader Our God in heaven

People Our God at home in the air, soil, forests and oceans,

Leader Holy is your name

People By the care we take of your creation.

Leader Your kingdom come
People All that you see is good,

Leader Your will be done on earth, as it is in Heaven.

People Your will to cultivate and care.

Leader Give us this day our daily bread

People That all may have sufficient food to live life in fullness.

Leader And forgive us our sins

People Our greed, our exploitation, our lack of concern for other species and

for future generations,

Leader As we forgive those who sin against us
People By reconciliation with justice and peace.

Lead us not into temptation

People The temptation to equate dominion with exploitation,

Leader And deliver us from evil

People The evil of destroying your gift of creation,

LeaderFor yours is the kingdomPeopleYours, Lord, not ours,LeaderThe power and the gloryPeopleIn the cross and resurrection,

Leader For ever and ever

People You are the beginning and you are the end. Amen.

INVITATION to the TABLE

SHARE

SONG | Let us Break Bread Together on Our Knees

- Let us break bread together on our knees (2x)
 When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,
 Oh Lord, have mercy on me.
- 2. Let us drink wine together on our knees...
- 3. Let us praise God together on our knees...

SONG | For the Beauty of the Earth

Dix

- For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies,
 For the love which from our birth over and around us lies:
 Christ, our God, to thee we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise.
- For the wonder of each hour, of the day and of the nigh,
 Hill and vale and tree and flower; sun and moon and stars of light:
 Christ, our God, to thee we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise.
- 3. For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and minds delight,
 For the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight:
 Christ, our God, to thee we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise.
- 4. For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, Friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild: Christ, our God, to thee we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise.
- 5. For each perfect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n; For thyself, best gift divine, to our world so freely giv'n:
 Christ, our God, to thee we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise.

SENDING

BLESSING I

Leader May green be the grass you walk on,

May blue be the skies above you.

May pure be the joys that surround you, May true be the hearts that love you.

And may God's peace be with you now and always.

People Amen.

- We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord.
 We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord.
 And we pray that all unity may one day be restored.
 And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
 Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.
- 2. We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand. We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand. And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land. And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love, Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.
- 3. We will work with each other, we will work side by side. We will work with each other, we will work side by side. And we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride. And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love, Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.
- 4. We will care for creation as we live out each day.
 We will care for creation as we live out each day.
 And we'll strive for good stewardship
 And walk in God's way.
 And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
 Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

DISMISSAL I

Leader Go in peace, to treasure and tend the world that God made and loves.

People In the name of Christ. Amen.

POSTLUDE | Improvisation



If this was your first time here tonight, we hope you felt at home and at peace. We would love to know more about you and your journey. So that we can be in touch, please feel free to scan this QR code and share some contact information.



All Saints' Episcopal Church

is a parish in the Diocese of Atlanta

The Rt. Rev. Robert C. Wright, *Bishop*The Rt. Rev. Don A. Wimberly, *Assisting Bishop*

Rector

The Rev. Dr. Simon J. Mainwaring

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The Rev. Dr. Andrew K. Barnett, Senior Associate Rector for Program
The Rev. Karen P. Evans, Parish Priest Associate
The Rev. Dr. Jennifer M. McBride, Associate Rector for Formation
The Rev. Dr. Denni Moss, Priest Associate for Pastoral Care
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We're excited to get to know you, and to welcome you to this amazing community. You can use this QR code to help us stay in touch, or if you'd prefer pen and paper, you can fill out one of the visitor cards in the back of the pew and place it in the offering plate or hand it to a staff member.