

Good Shepherd & Earth Sunday

9:30 a.m. | April 21, 2024

Today's Worship Participants

Rev. W. Robert Martin III and Rev. Kyle Otterbein, *pastors*

Rev. Dr. Robert Traer, *guest speaker*

Patti Benson, *worship leader*

Austen Wilson, *director of music ministries*

Abby Chen, *organist and accompanist*

Resound! Handbells | Laura Kastens, *assistant director of handbell ministries*

Lisa Shileny, *flute*

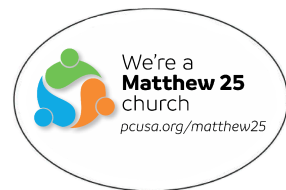
Clarinet Ensemble | Wes Habley, *interim director*

3rd-6th Grade Handbells | Pat Penn, *director*



The Flowers on the Chancel are given by Mary Schmidt and the Schmidt-Rundell family for Amy Schmidt-Rundell's 50th birthday on April 20.

Today's **Bulletin Cover**, "Beauty of Creation," is from the Lewis and Clark Window, by Rowan and Irene LeCompte, displayed in the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. From Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, Tennessee. Original source: Wikimedia.org.



Sunday School & Learning Academy Classes

- For today's Sunday School, members and friends of St. Andrew are encouraged to participate in the intergenerational Earth Sunday clean-up activities organized by Children's, Family, and Student ministries.
- For those not participating in clean-up activities, the Rev. Dr. Robert Traer will be continuing his discussion of *Finding Grace in Nature* in the Conference Room off the Sanctuary (Room #128).

Today's Guest Preacher, **the Rev. Dr. Robert Traer** holds a Ph.D. from the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, California, a J.D. from the School of Law of the University of California at Davis, and a D.Min. from the Divinity School of the University of Chicago. He is a Climate Ambassador for Iowa City and author of the university textbook *Doing Environmental Ethics* (Routledge, third edition, 2020) and many other works. You can learn more about him at <https://rtraer.com>.



Hymns + Songs | Pages are listed for the printed bulletin

Numbers (#) are listed for music in the *Lift Up Your Hearts* (red) hymnal

Bold Print | Speak or sing together in unison.

✧ Please rise in body or in spirit.



New Guest Connection

Good Shepherd & Earth Sunday

9:30 a.m. | April 21, 2024

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church | Iowa City, Iowa

Thought for Reflection

“God has provided us with two books — the book of Nature and the Bible.”

– Oxford Mathematician **John Lennox** (1943-), paraphrasing Francis Bacon (1561-1626)

Welcome + Announcements

Prelude | *Down by the Riverside*, arr. by K. Argiotis

✠ **Call to Gather** | *adapted from liturgies by Creation Justice Ministries*

Scripture tells us that “creation waits with eager longing for the children of God to be revealed.”

Creation is waiting for us.

To open our eyes to the devastation in our world.

Creation is waiting for us.

To put the needs of the most vulnerable above the greed of the powerful.

Creation is waiting for us.

To move from doing what is easy to doing what is necessary and right.

Creation is waiting for us.

To prioritize the needs of community over the convenience of self.

Creation is waiting for us.

To remove the pollution from our seas, land, air, bodies and hearts.

Creation is waiting for us.

In all these things and more, creation waits for us to assume our roles as its servants and protectors.

With God’s help, we will answer creation’s call. Amen.

✠ **Gathering Hymn** | “Touch the Earth Lightly,” pg. 7 | *Choir only on verse 1*

✠ **Prayer of Confession & Promise of Ever-Present Grace** | *adapted from liturgies by Creation Justice Ministries*

Scripture tells us that “the earth is God’s, and everything in it,
the world and all who live in it.”

With that in mind, let us turn to God together in prayer:

Creator God, thank you for the many good gifts you have given us —

so much beauty and abundance in creation all around us.
And yet we hear creation groaning,
and we have heavy hearts because we know
so much of creation's pain is due to our actions.
Forgive us for polluting the environment through our selfish deeds,
without considering the impacts on people and creation.
Help us fulfill Jesus' call to love our neighbors and take action to look out for one another.
Oh, God, help us not to throw away opportunities to care for your creation.
We pray for the global church,
for all the communities and people affected by pollution and environmental degradation,
that you may keep them close to you.
Help us to restore and care for this beautiful earth you blessed us with.

Time for Silent Confession

The God of Creation hears our prayers,
and calls us to make this church a site of redemption, resilience, and hospitality.
As Christ shepherds us,
may we serve as shepherds and stewards for the world around us.
May we never forget that the earth is God's and everything in it.

✕ **Musical Response** | "Christ Has Risen, Alleluia"

*Let us sing praise to him with endless joy;
death's fearful sting he has come to destroy.
Our sin forgiving, alleluia!
Jesus is living, alleluia!*

✕ **Sharing of Christ's Peace & Compassion**

And now, as a visible sign
of what it means to live together
in the care and context
of Christ's community,
let us extend Christ's
peace and compassion
to those around us!
The peace of Christ be with you all!
And also with you!

Epistle Reading | 1 John 3:16-24

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

Special Music | *O Sing to the Lord*

Time for Young Disciples

✕ **Hymn** | “Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us,” pg. 8 (*hymnal*, #330)

Gospel Reading | John 10:11-18

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

The Prompting | *Finding Grace in Nature* | The Rev. Dr. Robert Traer

Offering Our Time, Treasure, and Talents

Growing to Serve | Earth Sunday Activities

Offertory | *The Lord's My Shepherd*, arr. by Alex Guebert

✕ **Response to Our Offerings** | “Doxology”

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures high and low.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God, in Jesus fully known:

Creator, Word, and Spirit one.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Prayers of the People | *adapted from a prayer by Robert Traer*

Abba, God of Jesus,

may we heed the cry of the earth

and the cries of the poor.

May we live humbly so the soil will revive,

more species survive, and nature thrive.

May we overcome temptation and evil
by widening our compassion for life on earth.
May we mourn our abuse of the earth's biosphere
and repent of the harm we have done.
Abba, Spirit of the cosmos, Light and Love,
may your grace lead us home.

✠ **Hymn** | “Amazing Grace of Nature” | *music: John Newton; words: Robert Traer (vs. 1-4)*

*1 Amazing grace, in burning stars,
creating what life needs.
Exploding then to share their wealth,
by dying sowing seeds.*

*2 Amazing grace, when life begins,
cells too complex for chance.
Creating chlorophyll and photosynthesis,
evolving all the plants.*

*3 Amazing grace, sustainably,
creating soil and seeds.
And links between fungi and roots,
providing what each needs.*

*4 Amazing grace, with winter's chill,
leaves fall and insects hide.
The warmth of spring stirs life anew,
blossoms embrace the light.*

*5 When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.*

✠ **Benediction**

Postlude | *Amazing Grace*, by George Shearing


713 Touch the Earth Lightly

Capo 3: (G) (Dsus) (D) (Em) (Bsus) (Bm)
 B^b Fsus F Gm Dsus Dm



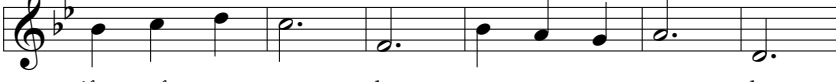
1 Touch the earth light - ly, use the earth gent - ly,
 2 We who en - dan - ger, who cre - ate hun - ger,
 3 Let there be green - ing, birth from the burn - ing,
 4 God of all liv - ing, God of all lov - ing,

(C) (D7) (G) (Am7) (Dsus) (D)
 E^b F7 B^b Cm7 Fsus F



nour - ish the life of the world in our care:
 a - gents of death for all crea - tures that live,
 wa - ter that bless - es and air that is sweet,
 God of the seed - ling, the snow, and the sun,

(G) (Dsus) (D) (Em) (Bsus) (Bm)
 B^b Fsus F Gm Dsus Dm



gift of great won - der, ours to sur - ren - der,
 we who would fos - ter clouds of di - sas - ter,
 health in God's gar - den, hope in God's chil - dren,
 teach us, de - flect us, Christ re - con - nect us,

(C) (G) (Em) (Am7) (D) (G) (G)
 E^b B^b Gm Cm7 F B^b B^b



trust for the chil - dren to - mor - row will bear.
 God of our plan - et, fore - stall and for - give!
 re - gen - er - a - tion that peace will com - plete.
 us - ing us gent - ly and mak - ing us one.

An Australian aboriginal saying opens this gentle hymn from New Zealand on the stewardship of creation. "Clouds of disaster" in the second stanza refers to the testing of nuclear devices then occurring in the Pacific Ocean, but the concern for all created things is timeless.

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

D A7 D

1 Sa - vior, like a shep-herd lead us; much we need your ten - der care.
 2 We are yours; in love be-friend us, be the guard-ian of our way.
 3 You have prom-ised to re-ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;
 4 Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor, ear - ly let us do your will;

A7 D

In your pleas - ant pas-tures feed us, for our use your fold pre-pare.
 Keep your flock, from sin de-fend us, seek us when we go a - stray.
 you have mer - cy to re-lieve us, grace to cleanse, and power to free.
 bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.

G D A7 D

Bless-ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have bought us, yours we are.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear your chil - dren when we pray.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.

G D A7 D

Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have bought us, yours we are.
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear your chil - dren when we pray.
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.

Words: *Hymns for the Young*, 1836; attr. Dorothy A. Thrupp, P.D.
 Music (BRADBURY 8.7.8.7 D): William B. Bradbury, P.D.

**FEEDING PEOPLE.
ENDING HUNGER.**

**St. Andrew's
Monthly Food Market**

**WHAT KIND OF
CHRISTIANITY**

A HISTORY OF
SLAVERY
AND ANTI-BLACK
RACISM IN THE
**PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

WILLIAM YOO

**CHURCH HISTORY:
PRESBYTERIANS**

A CLASS WITH TWILA FINKELSTEIN

AFTER WORSHIP
APRIL 28, MAY 5 & MAY 12

ETC MISSION TRIP FUNDRAISER

Trivia Night

**FRIDAY
APRIL 26** 140 GATHERING PL LANE
IOWA CITY, IA 52246

**DOORS OPEN AT : 6:45PM
TRIVIA STARTS AT : 7PM**

**MORE INFO:
mmoore@saintandrew-ic.org**

**NAMI Walks Johnson County
May 4 | Terry Trueblood Rec Area**

**THE
ARSENAL
DUO**

**Melodious Harmony
The Arsenal Duo: In Concert**

3 p.m. | May 4, 2024

**HUMANIZE
MY HOODIE**

DOCUMENTARY

SCREENING
7:30 p.m. | Sunday May 19, 2024

Flamy Grant

in concert

7:30 p.m. | Tuesday June 4
doors open @ 6:45 p.m.

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church
140 Gathering Place Lane, Iowa City

St. Andrew and the 25Live Children are hosting a...

Ronald McDonald House



WALK-A-THON!!



Thursday, April 25 | 4:30 - 5:30pm

St. Andrew's Upper Parking Lot

To
pledge



To
Register



St. Andrew's Statement of Inclusion

"Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God." - Romans 15:7

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church affirms the worth and dignity of all people. We are all created by God in God's image, and God found all of creation to be good. Just as Jesus welcomed everyone into fellowship, especially those marginalized by society, we welcome all people to our congregation regardless of race, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental ability, socioeconomic status, marital status, family structure, country of origin, or immigration status. All are welcome to participate fully in the life of St. Andrew: worship, service, baptism, communion, membership, ministry, and leadership. To this end, we affirm that the covenant of marriage should be extended to any two consenting adults who seek to enter a marriage based upon love, responsibility, mutual respect, and trust in God's grace. We acknowledge that the Presbyterian Book of Order allows for each pastor to follow their own conscience as to whether they will perform a particular marriage service.

We recognize that the Christian church has historically condemned and excluded LGBTQ+ persons from the community of faith, and we assert that such actions are incompatible with the gospel of Jesus. We also acknowledge, and deeply regret, that St. Andrew Presbyterian's actions have at times caused harm to our relationships with members of the LGBTQ+ community, including members of our own congregation. As we continue to grow as a congregation and discern our path forward in God's love and grace, we seek to rectify these past wrongs and pursue justice for those who have been and continue to be oppressed. We commit to continue to learn and work toward ensuring that St. Andrew is a safe place where all people are welcomed and loved.

Approved by the St. Andrew Session, June 2023

Pastoral, Ministry, and Administrative Staff & Church Elected Officers

Pastors

Rev. W. Robert Martin III, *lead pastor & head of staff* | rmartin@saintandrew-ic.org
Rev. Kyle Otterbein, *associate pastor* | kotterbein@saintandrew-ic.org
Rev. Mark Wilson Martin, *pastor emeritus*

Administrative Ministries

John Benson, *finance administrator* | finance@saintandrew-ic.org
Jeff Charis-Carlson, *director of communications and media ministries* | icharisc@saintandrew-ic.org
Amy Schmidt-Rundell, *mission outreach coordinator* | amysr@saintandrew-ic.org
Tim Patrick, *building & grounds coordinator* | building@saintandrew-ic.org

Children's, Family & Student Ministries

Matt Moore, *director of student ministries* | mmoore@saintandrew-ic.org
Thomas Hartley, *director of children's and family ministries* | thartley@saintandrew-ic.org
Nichole Hoffman, *children's ministries outreach coordinator* | nhoffman@saintandrew-ic.org
Sara Penn, *children's ministries activities coordinator* | spenn@saintandrew-ic.org

Music Ministries

Austen Wilson, *director of music ministries* | awilson@saintandrew-ic.org
Laura Kastens, *assistant director of handbell ministries* | lkastens@saintandrew-ic.org
Abby Chen, *organist & accompanist* | achen@saintandrew-ic.org
Pat Penn, *interim director of flute ensembles*
Wes Habley, *interim director of reed ensembles*

Elders

Class of 2024: Cade Benson, Jason Gehrs, Thomas Hartley, Sara Penn, Karen Raynor, and Rebecca Schuchert
Class of 2025: Helen Bryce, Don Burch, Eric Goers, Jon Swearingen, and Bruce Walker
Class of 2026: Aaron Gibson, Mary Hausler, Virginia Ibrahim-Olin, Josh Schilling, and Gregs Thomopoulos

Deacons

Class of 2024: Kathi Anderson, Katherine Habley, Cody Neddermeyer, Pam & Phil Karp, Jenny Wilcox, and Elizabeth Young
Class of 2025: Erika Law Tuttle, Pat Penn, Amy & Jason Schmidt-Rundell, Kathy & Dave Duys, and Dedi Walker
Class of 2026: Daniel Chappo, Jim Halverson, Scott Hoffman, Jamie Tanas & Mettie Thomopoulos

Finance Team

Class of 2024: Jason Schuchert, *treasurer* | Michelle DeGroot, *assistant treasurer*

Personnel Team (at large)

Class of 2024: Kent Short | **Class of 2025:** Lisa Shileny & Wes Habley | **Class of 2026:** Twila Finkelstein

Nominating Team (at large)

Class of 2024: Kyle Bernard, Nichole Hoffman, Lori Hudson & Emily Neddermeyer

Questions about Worship @ St. Andrew?

- **Welcome!** We are happy to have you join us today. If you would like more information about St. Andrew, please email office@saintandrew-ic.org.
- Our worship services begin **in-person and online at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings**, followed by Sunday School and Adult Christian Education offerings from September to April and a variety of After Worship activities from May to August. *The service usually begins with Welcome & Announcements a few minutes before 9:30 a.m.*
- All ages are welcome in our worship services. Worship materials for all ages are available in **The Maker's Toolbox** outside the north entrance to the Sanctuary.
- **Nursery care** (up to age 2) is provided in the Lower Level throughout the morning. Programming for children (through Kindergarten age) begins in the Lower Level after the **Time for Young Disciples** on most Sundays and after the **Sharing of Christ's Peace and Compassion** on Communion Sundays.
- Large print hymnals, bibles, and bulletins also are available outside the Sanctuary doors. A T-Coil hearing assist loop is also available for those with this feature on their hearing aids.

Reminder of Upcoming Events

- **Coffee with Leaders** | April 21
- **St. Andrew Food Market** | April 24
- **25Live Walk-a-Thon** | April 25
- **ETC Trivia Night** | April 26
- **Child-Led Worship Service** | April 28
- **At the Table** | May 2
- **ETC Night Games** | May 3
- **NAMI Walks Johnson County** | May 4
- **Melodious Harmony: Arsenal Duo** | May 4
- **Sunday Solace** | May 5
- **Guatemala Fundraiser** | May 5
- **Final Week of Sunday Classes** | May 12
- **Affirmation Milestones** | May 19
- **Coffee with Leaders** | May 19
- **Pancake Breakfast & Sensory Fair** | May 19
- **Humanize My Hoodie Screening** | May 19
- **Senior Moments Coffee** | May 21
- **St. Andrew Food Market** | May 22
- **Sunday Solace** | June 2
- **Flamy Grant Concert** | June 4
- **Congregational Meeting** | June 9
- **Stronghold** | June 9-14
- **Coffee with Leaders** | June 16
- **VBS** | June 17-21
- **Senior Moments Coffee** | June 18
- **High School Mission Trip** | July 21-26