

Church of the Savior, UCC  
March 8, 2020 ~ Early Worship  
Second Sunday of Lent

*The change that is needed is not simply adaptation to a reduced supply of fuels or to some modification in our economic system...  
It is a radical change in our mode of consciousness.  
Father Thomas Berry*

**The Church Community Gathers**

Musical Meditation by pianist Carol Shane  
Ringing the Bell

Greeting L: Peace be with you! P: **And also with you!**

Call to Worship\*

Hear me four quarters of the world: I am a relative!

**Great Spirit, give us the strength to walk softly on the earth,**

Give us strength to live as relatives to all living things!

**Give us eyes to see and hearts to understand our earth neighbors that we may be like you;**

Look upon the faces of your children without number,

**Look with tenderness upon the faces of living things all over the earth,**

That they may walk the good road to the day of peace.

**Hear us four corners of the world:**

**We are relatives to all that is!**

Opening Hymn\* *We Are Not Our Own, vs.1-4* NCH #564

Opening Prayer from a Sioux Prayer found in *Earth Prayers*  
**Grandfather, Grandmother, Great Spirit, fill us with the Light. Give us hearts to understand and eyes to see, so we may walk the soft Earth as relatives to all that live.**

**The Church Community Reflects**

Old Testament Reading Genesis 9: 8-17  
Readings from Pope Francis and Father Thomas Berry  
Response from the writing of Wendell Berry

**We are holy creatures,  
living among other holy creatures,  
in a world that is holy.**

Gospel Reading Matthew  
22:36-40

A Reading from theologian Sally McFague

Repeat Response from the writing of Wendell Berry

Meditation

Holy Communion

**The Church Community Responds**

Prayers of the People

Sing: *Eternal Spirit of the Living Christ, vs. 1-2* NCH #520

Response: God of Grace... **Hear our prayers.**

Sing: *Eternal Spirit of the Living Christ, vs. 3* NCH #520

The Bringing of Tithes and Offerings

2<sup>nd</sup> Mile Gift for March: *One Great Hour of Sharing*

Offertory Music (*followed by silence*)

Prayer of Gratitude\*

Joys & Announcements

Earth Moment - *How to Be an Earthling in One Easy Step*

Closing Prayer\* **Life-giving Spirit, make us more open to the needs of our Earth neighbors. Help us to see that in caring for the well-being of Earth, we are also caring for ourselves & one another. Inspire us to live in ways that promote respect & compassion, justice & peace, for all people, all living things, and all of your wounded, yet wondrous creation. Amen.**

Closing Hymn\* *Touch the Earth Lightly* NCH #569

Benediction\*

Postlude\*

***Welcome to all! Go in peace to love and serve!***