

MESSAGE

OFFERING INVITATION – *Lord, We Have Come to the Lakeshore #333*

***Doxology #48** - 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 THANKSGIVING

 **COMMUNION** (insert)

***Closing Hymn:** *Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises* #499

BENEDICTION

Let us go from this place, casting the net of God's love wide.
May we live our lives with the compassion and care of the one who includes all, the one who breathed the creation into being and looked around and declared it good. Very, very good. Go in peace to do likewise.

Amen 🎵

Postlude

Bulletin Sources: Call to Worship, Gathering Prayer, Benediction & Communion Liturgy: *Written by Sally Johnson, United Methodist Creation Justice Movement.* Prayer of Confession: *Written by Dr. Geran Lorraine, United Methodist Creation Justice Movement*

**Please Stand*

Welcome! Our bathrooms are located downstairs.
We serve a short Coffee hour after the service.

*Come and
have breakfast*



art: 'The Great Catch' by John August Swanson



Mont Vernon Congregational Church

UCC - United Church of Christ

May 4, 2025 - Third Sunday of Easter

Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." (John 21:12)

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Invocation

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

CALL TO WORSHIP

God, you call us from the corners of the Earth.

From the cities and the prairies, from the ghettos and the tables of the wealthy.

God, you sing to us from the corners of the universe.

In the gentle ocean breeze, in the colors that burst forth from our landscapes, in the faces of children ravaged by war.

God, you speak to us from the corners of the Earth.

To the east, to the west, to the north and to the south, above us, below us, and within us, your voice rings clear.

Send your voice to sing in us, we pray, as we worship this day.

GATHERING PRAYER

God of love, we bring our very selves to worship. Our triumphs. Our failures. Our vulnerabilities. Our greatest joys and our deepest sorrows. In this time set apart, may we hear the voice of Jesus urging us to feed and be fed, to love and be loved. Amen.

*Response

Gather Us In

#511

First Reading

Psalm 30

STORY for ALL AGES

To-Do!

UNISON PRAYER for FORGIVENESS

For the times we have cast our nets in familiar waters, yet found no sustenance,

We remember the call to cast our nets on the other side, trusting in abundance.

For the times we have consumed without thought, taking more than we need,

We seek forgiveness and commit to living in harmony with the Earth and all its creatures.

For the times we have forgotten the wisdom of our ancestors who taught us to honor the land,

We ask for the strength to learn from Indigenous ways of knowing so that we might walk gently on this earth.

For the times when we have neglected the call to "feed my sheep," focusing only on our own needs,

We commit to nurturing all beings, recognizing our interconnectedness with the entire web of life.

For the moments when we have seen the Earth as a resource to exploit rather than a gift to cherish,

We pledge to protect and restore the lands, waters, and skies.

For the times when our actions have harmed the Earth, the waters, and all living beings,

We repent and turn toward sustainable and just practices that honor the sacredness of creation.

For the times when we have silenced the voices of Indigenous communities,

We vow to listen, learn, and stand in solidarity with those who protect Earth and its sacred ways.

In the face of systems that perpetuate inequality and injustice,

We commit to building new systems of care, reciprocity, and justice, guided by the wisdom of those who have come before us.

As we envision a future where all of creation is united in praise,

We dedicate ourselves to the work of food justice, ensuring that all beings have access to the nourishment they need to thrive.

For the times when we feel overwhelmed by the magnitude of the task before us,

We draw strength from Earth and trust its beings to help us.

Together, let us move forward with courage,

Committed to the flourishing of all life.

In the name of justice, abundance, and peace,

Amen.

... a Time of Silence ...

***What we need is here ... what we need is here...**

Scripture Reading - John 21:1-19

***Gloria Patri #110 – 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.

COMMUNION LITURGY

In the beginning breath poured forth and goodness was born... ... And all the creatures, in their own language, spoke their gratitude: **The whole world is full of your goodness and mercy. We give thanks today, tomorrow, and always.**

In the fullness of time, goodness was once again born...
... With all creation, we continue to say: **The whole world is full of your goodness and mercy. We give thanks today, tomorrow, and always.**

... O God, may we continue to welcome to the circle all who are in need and share in our awe and thanksgiving, saying: **The world is full of your goodness and mercy. We give thanks today, tomorrow, and always.**

Let us pray together:

Our Creator, who dwells in heaven and earth, sacred are all your names. May your circle of mercy and care be present this day and your will for all creation bring us into your light, even as we are held by your great love throughout time. Feed us today with the gifts of your goodness and bathe us in your mercy, as we offer acts of justice and love to all we meet. Help us to turn from all that leads us from your way and save us from all that destroys life. For this creation is yours, full of awe and beauty and mystery, today, tomorrow, and always, may it be so, Amen

SACRAMENT

PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

Almighty God, Creator of all things, God of sun and Earth, you created us with your breath. You are here with us. As we tilled the soil, you opened the seed. Your rain watered the ground; your sun drew jeweled corn and red tomatoes out of the rich soil. Your mercy showered blessing after blessing over the land, its humans, and living things. Creeks flowed into rivers; wetlands fed turtles and the water wolf. Healthy and fat bison, turkeys, elk, and alpaca graze under green and gold mountains. The potato grows fat; the cassava melts on the tongue; berries burst sweet juice in their clusters, Creator, Provider, we will care for this good Earth. In the name of Jesus who is the Christ, Amen.

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Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia. Re-joice and praise Him, al - le - lu - ia.
 For three long days the grave did its worst un - til its strength by God was dis-persed.
 The an - gel said to them, "Do not fear! You look for Je - sus who is not here.
 "Go spread the news: He's not in the grave; He has a - ris - en this world to save.
 Christ has a - ris - en; He sets us free; al - le - lu - ia, to Him prais-es be.

For our Re - deem - er burst from the tomb, e - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its
 He who gives life did death un - der - go; and in its con - quest His might did
 See for your-selves the tomb is all bare; on - ly the grave cloths are ly - ing
 Je - sus' re - deem - ing la - bors are done; e - ven the bat - tle with sin is
 Je - sus is liv - ing! Let us all sing; He reigns tri - um - phant, heav - en - ly

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