## WELCOME TO...

## The Presbyterian Church of Saint David October 14, 2012

Early Morning Service in the Season of Creation

And God said,

"Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures..."



Introduction to Theme: Here, on "Day 5", the focus is on the waters of creation and the inhabitants of sky and sea. What are the waters of creation and the life they spawn and what is the Living Water that nourishes both body and soul? (Silence to consider our response)

Hymn: God of the sparrow verses 1-2

Prayer: Almighty God, You created the heavens and the earth,
The sun, moon and stars. Teach us to discern your hand
In all your works and to serve you. With awe and reverence we look at your creation, and praise you for all that it speaks of your love and grace, goodness and mercy. (we continue in prayer)

## Ponder the scriptures: Genesis 1: 20-23

20 And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." 21 So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. 22 God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." 23 And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

Hymn: God of the sparrow verses 3-4 307

Prayer of Confession: O God, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen: You place us in your creation, and you command us to care for it. Your works declare glory and splendour, and you call us to praise and reverence. Where we have degraded or destroyed earth's bounty, forgive us. Where we have taken beauty and majesty for granted, have mercy upon us. Where we have become estranged from the creatures with whom we share this planet, \grant us your peace. Renew us in the waters of baptism, refresh us with the winds of your spirit, and sustain us with the bread of life and quench our thirst with the living water. In the name of Jesus Christ, and for the sake of the new creation, we pray. Amen.

Earth Day Prayer of Confession. Copyright 2005 Ken Carter.

Hymn: God of the sparrow verses 5-6 307

John 4: 4-14 4 But he had to go through Samaria. 5 So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. 6 Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. 7 A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." 8 (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) 9 The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) 10 Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." 11 The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? 12 Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" 13 Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, 14 but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life."

Quiet reflection and conversation

Hymn: This is my Father's world 328

Invitation: "This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord. It is made ready for those who love God and for those who want to love God more. So, come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who have not been here long, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, because it is Christ who invites you. It is our Lord's will that those who want to find God should meet God here."

(from Invitation from 'a Celtic Eucharist')

Hymn: "Eat this bread" <u>527</u>
Are you ready to accept this gracious invitation? We are ready! Jesus said: "I am the bread of life. All who come to me shall not hunger, and all who

believe in me shall never be thirsty. We are hungry and thirsty. O Lamb of God, we come! We remember that on the night of betrayal and desertion, Jesus took his authority as the Christ and offered the bread in thanksgiving and said... People: "Take, eat. This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance In the same way, and by the same authority, Jesus offered the cup in thanksgiving and said, People: "Take, drink. This is my blood of the new covenant which is poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it in remembrance of me."

"Behold the Lamb of God"

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Come, Holy Spirit. Come. Open our eyes to the mystery of Christ's presence in these ordinary things in these our ordinary lives. May they be for us the very essence of the living Christ in our midst. Through the broken bread . . . We participate in the Body of Christ. Through the cup of blessing... We participate in the new life Christ gives. These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God! Come, for all things are ready!

## Communion

Hymn: May the Lord bless

Dismissal: Let us pray for a productive faith. O Lord, increase our faith that it may bear fruit in our lives. Let it bind us fast to other Christians. Let us receive the Divine word that challenges us Lord help us strive wholeheartedly under the promptings of our faith to work in building a world ruled by love. Help us walk steadfast towards the blessed future that you promise to all who possess a growing faith in you. Go in peace and confidence in the Lord. Thanks be to God.