



"The earth is the LORD'S and all that is in it, the world,
and those who live in it; for he has founded it on the seas,
and established it on the rivers."

Psalm 24:1

Sudbury United Methodist Church

Second Sunday of Easter
April 23, 2017

Before worship, please feel free to greet those around you. Concerns or celebrations to be included in today's prayers may be recorded on cards in the pew pockets and passed to the ushers during the second hymn. During the prelude, let us prepare silently to worship God.

**indicates worshippers may stand, as they are able*

Welcome

Prelude

***Call to Worship:** (Common Worship: Times and Seasons, *Church of England, 21st cent.*)

Liturgist: Let us ask the God of creation to send a blessing upon us.

People: Upon the rich earth send a blessing, O Lord.

Liturgist: Let the earth be fruitful and its resources be hallowed.

People: We ask in faith: Hear us, good Lord.

***Opening Hymn:** UMH # 147 – “All Things Bright and Beautiful”

***Opening Prayer:** (*David Adam, England, 20th cent., alt.*)

God of all creation,

**we thank you that you have given us a world rich in resources,
and made us stewards of your mysteries.**

Help us to act responsibly,

**not wasting or destroying what we do not need,
not polluting the earth, or sea, or sky,
that we may act with love towards all things,
and so reflect the great love that you have for the world.**

Be with us, Lord God, Creator of all,

**to strengthen us on our journey,
to guide us in all our doings,
that we may share in the love and care for your world. Amen.**

A Reading from the Old Testament: Genesis 2:4-9, 15-23

This reading is found on page 2 in the Old Testament.

Children's Time: “The Lorax”

Special Music

A Reading from the Scriptures: Romans 8:12-25

This reading is found on page 158 in the New Testament.

Sermon: “Christianity in the Time of a Changing Climate”

Craig Altemose

***Hymn of Response:** UMH # 92 – “For the Beauty of the Earth”

A Time of Fellowship

Greeting Our Guests

Concerns and Celebrations

The Pastoral Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread.

**And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Stewardship Moment

The Offertory

***Doxology:** UMH # 90 - “Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones” (*verse 4, alt.*)

**O friends in gladness, let us sing anthems eternal echoing: Alleluia! Alleluia!
To God the Sovereign, God the Son, and God the Spirit, Three-in-One:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

***Prayer of Thanksgiving**

***Hymn of Commitment:** UMH # 378 – “Amazing Grace”

***Dismissal with Blessing**

Postlude

Reconciling & Welcoming Statement: The United Methodist Church is a community of believers and seekers, with differences in age, class, nationality, race, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, abilities, and limitations. We at SUMC recognize that there are attitudes, concerning these diverse characteristics, which violate the integrity of individuals and deny the richness of God's creation. Therefore we affirm our welcome to all people into our community of faith. We are committed to be a fellowship in which all persons feel a part of our family, enabling them to grow in their faith, to be fed by our fellowship, and to contribute their talents to the life of the church in its worship, programs, and outreach. We call the church and society to be sensitive to all persons and to advocate programs which attempt to ensure justice for all.

Sudbury United Methodist Church

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STEPHEN MINISTRY



We are a Stephen Ministry
Congregation



We are a Reconciling and Welcoming
Congregation

Sudbury United Methodist Church

April 23, 2017

Welcome, Guests!

Are you visiting today? Please accept our sincere welcome. If you can take a few moments after worship, please linger in the narthex to meet our pastor and some of our church's leaders. We also invite you, as time permits, for coffee and conversation in the fellowship hall on the south end of our facility. We hope you enjoy your visit and invite you to come again soon!

Earth Day Highlighted in Worship Today

Today we welcome Craig Altemose from A Better Future. Mr. Altemose joins members of the Social Justice Commission in leading worship while Pastor Joel concludes a week of vacation. Craig Altemose is the founding Executive Director of Better Future Project (BFP), which supports campus climate leaders on 10 campuses in Massachusetts and supports the 350 Massachusetts for a Better Future volunteer network with hundreds of engaged volunteers in 14+ chapters around the state. Craig holds a B.A. in International Relations from Eckerd College, an M.P.P. from the John F. Kennedy School of Government, and a J.D. from Harvard Law School. Raised Presbyterian but Quaker by marriage, Craig will help articulate the challenges we are facing with climate change and raise the question of what the Christian response is. After worship, Mr. Altemose will continue the conversation in the O'Reilly Room. Please bring your questions and comments!

Is There Child Care During Worship?

Infants and toddlers are welcome in worship. Parents with young children may also visit our Family Room with visual and aural access to the sanctuary. Each Sunday, a pair of CORI-ed volunteers cares for kids age two and younger. Stairs in the northwest corner of the narthex lead up to a cozy room furnished with sofas, toys, and children's books.

Where Is the Rest Room?

A unisex rest room is located in the southeast corner of the narthex, behind the back row of pews on the pulpit side of the sanctuary. Another rest room is located beyond the door near the pulpit.

Do You Need Hearing Assistance?

Individual hearing assistance units are available. An usher will happily show you how to use one.

Do You Prefer Large Print Materials?

Special copies of *The United Methodist Hymnal* and *The Faith We Sing* are available in the narthex. Please speak to an usher for assistance.

An Update from the Staff-Parish Relations Committee

Interviews for Sudbury UMC's Christian formation roles – Director of Christian Education, Youth, and Adults – begin this week and may extend into May. Please hold these important meetings in prayer.

Women's Fellowship Meets Tomorrow Evening

Men and Women are invited to our April 24 meeting featuring a slide show of South Africa presented by Bill Hoke. He and his wife, Elsa, travelled from Cape Town to Robben Island, took two safaris and then returned to Cape Town and home. You will be inspired! Please join us at 7:00 p.m. on Monday at church.

Celebrate Mothers at the Pathways Shelter

Please join the Outreach Commission for a Mother's Day celebration to honor the moms at the Pathways Shelter in Framingham. Handmade Mother's Day cards will be delivered, delicious food served, and fun will be had! The party is scheduled for Saturday afternoon, May 13, from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m. RSVP to christykirkdds@gmail.com if you plan to attend. We look forward to a fun afternoon with you

Opening Ourselves to Grace

John McKinney and Jim Empfield are back to lead a new class for adults. This course is for people who want to better understand how God's grace empowers our lives for healthier and more vibrant living. Each class will include a video of clergy and laity sharing their experiences with God's grace. John Wesley's pilgrimage of faith and his understanding of grace as Prevenient, Justifying, and Sanctifying will be highlighted. Interested? Please hold the 11:00 o'clock hour on following Sundays: April 30, May 7, May 28, and June 4. We look forward to sharing our journey as Christians.

Apply Now for Scholarships from the New England Conference

Each year the New England Conference Scholarship Committee seeks applications from adults and recent high school graduates who are pursuing an undergraduate degree at any accredited two- or four-year college, university, or technical school. The application deadline for 2017-18 is May 31, 2017. To apply online, go to <http://www.neumc.org/!zGQ4tcEl8gmquG5f9SamuXV0Ya1IXAnF8-jdd0kTcu5sh5z3wZzadZM5VbaYJZQmg>

The Sudbury Savoyards

Come and enjoy The Sudbury Savoyards presentation of The Mikado, a fast-paced show full of farce and fun. Visit <http://www.sudburysavoyards.org/tickets/index.html> to order tickets. Performances take place on April 23 at 2:00 p.m.; April 28 at 8:00 p.m.; and April 29 at 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. at the Maynard High School's auditorium, 1 Tiger Drive, Maynard, MA, 01754

Are You Looking for a Mid-Week Bible Study?

Please join Sudbury UMC's Thursday Bible study group. Each week's focus text is the coming Sunday's preaching passage. Meetings begin at 10:00 a.m. at Panera Bread, 21 Andrew Avenue in Wayland's Town Center. Bring a Bible and a few dollars for something to sip.

Please Recycle Your Bulletin

Plan to leave your bulletin here? Use the blue bins near the sanctuary entrances to recycle it.

We All Need Somebody to Lean On

Stephen Ministers offer a listening, supportive, and confidential presence. Each Sunday after worship concludes a Stephen Minister is available to listen and to pray with you in the O'Reilly Room. If you are facing a transition and would like to meet with a Stephen Minister weekly, please contact Pastor Joel. No concern is too big or too small.