

April 21, 2024



- + As you are able, please stand.
- ℣ Prayer cards collected.
- Bold text spoken in unison.**

**CREATION CARE SUNDAY
GATHERING**

Prelude

In the Church
Henri Venanzi

Gabriel Pierne

Greeting

+ Call to Worship

We gather to worship, each stream feeding the growing chorus of creation.
Our voices rise, like babbling brooks, flowing falls, and roaring rivers.
In our daily courses, we encounter obstacles, divisions, and diversions.
Still, we are drawn toward the deep ocean of God's unconditional love.
All creation is singing the glory of God.
Let us join the chorus.

+ Hymn

Morning Has Broken

UMH #145

+ Prayer

by Rev. Laura Baumgartner

God of the prophets and the people, we hear your voice, calling to us through the ages, as the sound of water reaches our ears through the forest. We long to be part of your time of peace and justice, part of the efforts to listen and preserve. We anticipate that hard choices are coming for us and for your people around the world, times when you present us with opportunities to provide sustainably for all rather than excessively for just a few. Strengthen us with your wisdom and courage. Help us turn toward you again and again, individually, as a community, and as a witness for what you make possible through the power of your way. Amen.

+ The Peace of Christ

The Peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Our Life Together

(You are invited to fill out the attendance registers and prayer cards located in the pews.)

Marnos Lelesi

10:30 AM

Children are Welcome!
Hearing assist devices are available from the ushers.

Introduction to the Scripture Reading

Rev. Erika Gara

Preparing Our Hearts

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

UMH #140

♪ **Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

THE WORD

Prayer Before Reading

Becky Low

Holy God, as we quiet our hearts and minds and spirits to listen to your Word for us today, may we sense your Spirit's presence with us here and anywhere we find ourselves in Creation. May we see your creativity and give thanks. May we listen to the ways you call us to be better stewards of what you've entrusted us. We pray this in Jesus' name, **Amen.**

Reading

Haggai 1:15b-2:9

OT pp. 878-879

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Sacred Space Is Where You Are

Rev. Erika Gara

Music

All Things Bright and Beautiful
Sanctuary Choir

Eugene Englert

THANKSGIVING

℣ Offering Music

This Is My Father's World
Henri Venanzi

Franklin L. Sheppard

+ Doxology (Song of Praise)

♪ **Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

UMH #95

Prayers of the People / The Lord's Prayer

UMH #895

SENDING

✚ Hymn

Let All Things Now Living

TFWS #2008

✚ Benediction (Blessing)

Postlude

Toccata in C Minor
Henri Venanzi

L. Boellmann

*The Postlude is the concluding part of worship.
As you leave, please be considerate of those who wish to remain and listen.*

♪ We are a community of gratitude and prayer and share together in that responsibility. **Please take a moment to fill out the Attendance Register located at the end of the pew and pass it to your neighbor.** Joys and prayer concerns may be shared by filling out a Prayer Request card in worship and placing it in the offering plate. If you would like a caring card sent, please be sure to include the address on the back of the card.

Sharing in Worship Today:

Lead Pastor: Rev. Erika Gara

Director of Choral Music: Alan Wellman

Collaborative Artist: Henri Venanzi

A/V Technician: Jake Roman

Building Lock-up: Merlin Thimlar

Lay Leader: Marnos Lelesi

Reader: Becky Low

Chancel Design: Christie Kahler (flowers), Joe Gargaro

Ushers: Joe Gargaro, Charlie Quaife, Merlin Thimlar, Lietta Wagner



LAUMC Mission Statement

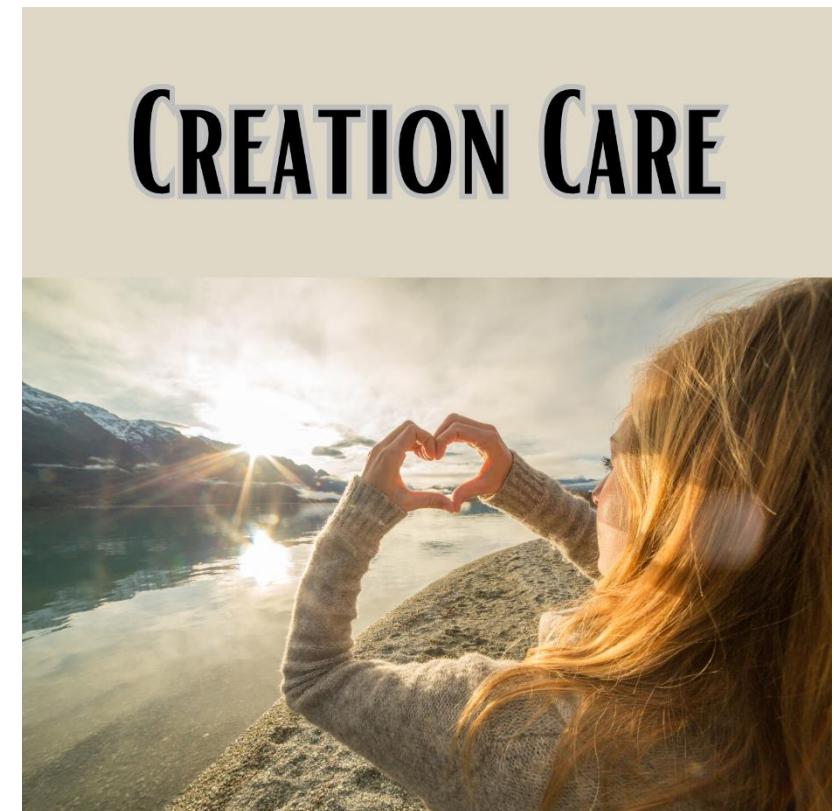
We are a church where God's grace is experienced through Jesus Christ and all people are welcome.

We are called to share the Good News, to grow in the image of Christ, to worship joyfully, and to manifest God's love toward one another and the world.

*Grounded in God's Love for the World
Celebrating the Dignity of Difference*



CREATION CARE



5950 EAST WILLOW STREET, LONG BEACH, CA 90815

PHONE: (562) 598-2451

EMAIL: OFFICE@LOSALTOSUMC.ORG

WEBSITE: WWW.LOSALTOSUMC.ORG