

Lewinsville

Presbyterian Church



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

April 24, 2022

Earth Care Sunday

11:00 a.m.



"I was a stranger and you welcomed me."

--MATT. 25:35

WELCOME. We're glad to gather together as a community of faith today. No matter where you are on the journey of faith, you are welcome here, to join in worship and service. All are invited to a time of refreshment and conversation immediately following worship in St. Andrews Hall (down the steps outside the sanctuary, and to the left).

In order to provide a safe, loving, and welcoming environment for our youngest, unvaccinated congregants, as well as immune-compromised congregants, we ask that you wear a mask while inside the sanctuary for a service. Thank you so much for your cooperation.

Please turn off all cellular phones and watch alarms during worship. Please refrain from using flash photography during the worship service.

Leadership at Lewinsville

Ruling Elders

Clerk of Session: Linda Bender

Ruth Baxley
Bruce Douglass
David Gunter
Cathy Saunders

Pat Buss
Phil Church
Phil Cooke
Carol Kaffenberger

Treasurer: Janet Gale
John Day
Siobhan Grayson
Nate Jones
Kelly Sexton

Deacons/*Denotes Stephen Leader

Gary Eames (co-chair)
Emily Foster (co-chair)
Charlie Mendenhall
Rachel Russell

Andrew Borene
Sharon Gamble (secretary)
Suzanne Parisi
Roberta Wolfe

Banafshe Aghvami
Diane Alden
Janet Kohlenberger

Pat Matheson*

Karen Siple*

HEARING ASSISTANCE devices are available from the ushers or the audio/video console at the rear of the sanctuary.

PILLOWS are available in the coat room, just outside the narthex, to help make the pew more comfortable during worship. Feel free to borrow a pillow and return it after worship.

MISS A WORSHIP SERVICE? Sermons are posted every week on our website, www.lewinsville.org.

INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT LEWINSVILLE CHURCH? – Visit the web page www.lewinsville.org or call the church office.

NOTES FOR WORSHIP:

GG – Glory to God The Presbyterian Hymnal
Renew! - Renew! Hymnal (grey)

OT - Pew Bible Old Testament
NT - Pew Bible New Testament

THE LEWINSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Earth Care Sunday

April 24, 2022

* *If you are able, please stand*

†† *Latecomers seated*

GATHERING

WELCOME

PRELUDE

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Adapted from Genesis 1

Let us remember what our God has done!

God created the world out of a formless void.

Let us remember what our God has done!

God made every animal and plant, bird and fish.

Let us remember what our God has done!

God created all people in the image of God.

Let us remember what our God has done!

God has made us caretakers of the earth.

Let us live our lives in faithful response to the living God.

Let us worship God!

* HYMN

For the Beauty of the Earth

GG 14

DIX

††

CALL TO CONFESSION

from Psalm 80

Silence

**Gracious God, O Shepherd of Israel, Lord God of hosts,
we confess that we have turned away from you:
neglecting the welfare of your creation,**

trampling so easily on the creatures and the plants you have made,
taking from your creation what we cannot give back.
We have failed to help our neighbors who are in need;
we have failed to practice peace-making, even within our own families;
we have failed to tend the vines you have planted in our own lives.
Forgive us and lead us to a more gracious, more generous life.
In your compassion, return us to your way of love, justice, and peace.
Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be
saved. Through Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

- * RESPONSE *Let the Whole Creation Cry* GG 679, vs. 1
Let the whole creation cry, "Glory to the Lord on high."
Heaven and earth, awake and sing, "Praise to our almighty King."
Praise God, angel hosts above, ever bright and fair in love;
sun and moon, uplift your voice night and stars, in God rejoice!
SALZBURG

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, hear and believe the good news that comes from God.
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

- * RESPONSE *Let the Whole Creation Cry* GG 679, vs. 2
Men and women, young and old, raise the anthem loud and bold;
join with children's songs of praise; worship God through length of days.
From the north to southern pole let the mighty chorus roll:
"Holy, holy, holy One, glory be to God alone!"
SALZBURG

* THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Greet those around you, saying "Peace be with you" or "The Peace of Christ"
If you prefer not to shake hands in greeting while passing the Peace of Christ,
you may choose to make eye contact and greet others in another personal way.

THE WORD

CHILDREN'S MEDITATION

Following the Children's Meditation, children age 4 through grade 2 are invited to meet Allison Lineberger in the Narthex for Sermon Stories. Children will return to the Sanctuary for worship with their parents following the sermon.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 1:26-31

OT p. 1

Matthew 25:14-30

NT p. 28

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

A Sacred Trust

The Rev. Dr. Scott Ramsey

* HYMN

The Climate is Changing

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

ST. DENIO

**The climate is changing! Creation cries out!
Your people face flooding and fire and drought.
We see the great heat waves and storms at their worst.
We pray for the poor, Lord — for they suffer first.**

**We pray for the animals here in our midst
who cannot defend their own right to exist.
We pray for the mountains and forests and seas
that bear the harsh footprint of our human greed.**

**We thank you for people who treasure the earth,
whose faith has long taught them its beauty and worth.
We thank you as well for the children and youth
who look to the future and speak out the truth.**

**We thank you for leaders, courageous and brave,
who know that the earth is worth fighting to save,**

**who care about justice and what they should do,
who care for planet and work hard for you.**

**You love this good earth, and you sent us your Son!
May we love our neighbors — there's work to be done.
May we, by your Spirit, do all in our power
to care for your earth in this critical hour.**

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

From A Brief Statement of Faith (PCUSA)

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image - male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.

But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation.

Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage.

Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

The Tree of Life

K. Lee Scott

*There in God's garden stands the Tree of wisdom,
whose leaves hold forth the healing of the nations.*

*Tree of all knowledge, Tree of all compassion,
Tree of all beauty.*

*Its name is Jesus, name that says, 'Our Savior!'
There on its branches see the scars of suffering;
see where the tendrils of our human selfhood
feed on its life-blood.*

*Thorns not its own are tangled in its foliage;
our greed has starved it; our despite has choked it.
Yet look, it lives! Its grief has not destroyed it,
nor fire consumed it.*

*See how its branches reach to us in welcome;
hear what the voice says, 'Come to me, ye weary!
Give me your sickness, give me all your sorrow.
I will give blessing.'*

*This is my ending, this is my resurrection;
Into your hands, Lord, I commit my spirit.
This have I searched for; now I can possess it.
This ground is holy.*

*All heav'n is singing,
"Thanks to Christ whose Passion offers in mercy healing, strength, and pardon.
Peoples and nations, take it, take it freely!"
Amen! My Master!*

* RESPONSE

All Creatures of Our God and King

GG 15, vs.1

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**All creatures of our God and King,
Life up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
O brother sun with golden beam,
O sister moon with silver gleam,
Sing praises!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

FOLLOWING CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

SENDING

* HYMN

Christ is Alive!

GG 246

TRURO

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

* DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

* Today's Call to Worship is adapted from

<https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/5102/worship-elements-june-7-2020>.

* Today's prayer of confession is adapted from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 1*, by Kimberly Bracken Long (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press).

Today's Offering: Click the "Make a Gift" button to give online at www.lewinsville.org. To give via text message, text 703-270-0451 with the amount you would like to contribute, then follow instructions.

From the 175th Anniversary Notebook - Landscaping in 1898 is as close as Lewinsville's history gets to today's Earth Care movement, but it seems environmental care was alive and well with at least one member as far back as 1898. That was the year when Central Union Mission of Washington sent a group of its workers to Lewinsville for a week-long series of "testimonial meetings." Lewinsville member Anna Moxley, organizer of the event, concluded at the end of the week that the grounds surrounding the church were in dire need of attention. She arranged with former elder Miles Munson for the donation of a number of trees from Munson Nurseries. When Rev. Franklin Gillespie published his history for the 100th anniversary in 1946, he noted that many of the Munson trees were still flourishing.

175 Years! A Shared Journey of Faith – 1846-2021

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 24, 2022

The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God by the **Lewinsville Earth Care Team** in appreciation and celebration of God's creation.

The native flowering shrubs (Clethra alnifolia "Sixteen Candles," dwarf summersweet) in the Narthex are given by the **Lewinsville Earth Care Team** in celebration of the 150th anniversary of Arbor Day on April 29, 2022. The shrubs will be planted by the Lewinsville Youth Fellowship along the walkway to the old handicapped entrance on the east side of Heritage Hall.

BLOOD DRIVE, TODAY, 7:45 AM – 12:15 PM, Bloodmobile in Large Parking Lot

Our blood drive is **TODAY**. INOVA Blood Services will be accepting donations via their bloodmobile. The bloodmobile will be parked in the church's main parking lot near the Music entrance. Check in at the INOVA Tent. All INOVA Blood Services personnel will be wearing masks and **donors will be required to bring and wear their own masks**. Please bring a photo I.D. when you come to donate. Walk-ins are accepted.

Evan Ayars Performs, 4/27 Holy Happy Hour! 6:15 pm

HOLY HAPPY HOUR! EVAN AYARS PERFORMS ART SONG – WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 6:15 PM

Evan Ayars will perform Art Song to celebrate Spring and Earth Care for Lewinsville's "Holy Happy Hour!" Concert Series on April 27 at 6:15 pm. This 30-45 minute program will be followed by wine, cheese, and fellowship in St. Andrews Hall. This event is free and open to the public and a free will offering to support the music department will be taken.

LEGAL TOOLS FOR CAREGIVERS OF THE ELDERLY – WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 7-8PM AT

CHESTERBROOK RESIDENCES - JSSA (Jewish Social Service Agency) monthly caregiver support group will host this special educational event! Valerie Geiger, Elder Law Attorney, will provide information for family caregivers about where to turn when making health care decisions for a loved one. This event is free; refreshments will be served. Space is limited and RSVPs are appreciated. Contact Rita Evrony, LCSW, 703 896-7910 or revrony@jssa.org

OPEN MIC NIGHT! FRIDAY, APRIL 29, 7:00PM

An Open Mic Night will be held in the new upstairs area of the church on Friday, April 29, at 7:00 pm. Please contact John Nothafft at jnothafft@lewinsville.org to sign up and perform!

LOST SHEEP PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY – will meet in Room 102A (across from the Chapel) on Monday morning, May 2nd between 10:00am-12:00pm. Interested knitters/crocheters of all skill levels are welcome. Beginners and drops-in are most welcome! Please join us for as long as your time permits. Points-of-contact: Carol Kaffenberger (703-407-6311); Janet Jacewicz (703-231-4973)

SATURDAY, APRIL 30, MAY 7, 14, AND 21, 9:300-NOON - THE REFORMED POLITICAL TRADITION AND THE CURRENT CRISIS OF DEMOCRATIC POLITICS - Complete Virtual Event. No charge, but a donation is welcome. Instructor: R. Bruce Douglass, former director of the Reformed Institute of Metropolitan Washington and emeritus member of the political theory faculty of the Department of Government, Georgetown University. The course is designed to examine critically the relevance of certain key ideas in the Reformed Protestant political tradition (from Calvin to Wolterstorff) to the current crisis of democratic politics, with primary emphasis on developments in the industrialized nations. Participants will be encouraged (but not required) to do a modest set of readings, most of which will be available online. If you can find a copy of Karl Barth's "The Christian Community and the Civil Community," which is reprinted in a volume of his essays called COMMUNITY, STATE AND CHURCH, please do so. [CLICK HERE](#) to register.

BUILDING DEDICATION WORSHIP SERVICE - Plan to join us on Sunday afternoon, **May 15, at 3:00 p.m.** for a special Building Dedication Worship Service. The Lewinsville community will gather to celebrate the completion of the major renovation project that has been

undertaken by this congregation. We will dedicate the facility to the ministry of Jesus Christ, and ask God to inspire us to deepen our commitment to God's mission in our community and world. Former pastors and staff will be joining us for this special service, as well as our partners in the overall construction process. A reception will follow the worship service, hosted by participants in the Summer Mission Project. You're not going to want to miss this!

DEDICATION CHOIR MAY 15

Lewinsville's Music Ministry is looking for extra singers for our Dedication service on May 15 at 3:00 pm. Please contact jnothaft@lewinsville.org if you'd like to join the choir for the celebratory service.

MINISTERS
PASTOR
ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR CHRISTIAN FORMATION
STATED SUPPLY PASTOR FOR CARE MINISTRIES

DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES
CHILDREN'S MUSIC SPECIALIST

The Entire Congregation of Lewinsville Church
The Rev. Dr. Scott Ramsey
The Rev. Layne B. Brubaker
The Rev. Jen Dunfee

Allison Lineberger

John Nothaft
Evan Ayars

ACTIVE IN TODAY'S SERVICE:

MUSIC MINISTRY	Pick-up Choir
LAY READER	Linda Bender
DUTY ELDER	Kelly Sexton
DUTY DEACON	Jsnry Kohlenberger
AUDIO/VISUAL MINISTRY	Rob Ransom and Carlos Claros

CLERK OF SESSION
TREASURER

Linda Bender
Janet Gale

MISSION CO-WORKERS

Brian and Helen Chapaitis, Wycliffe Bible Translators, Jerico, VT
Andrew and Ellen Collins, Interserve (USA), Chiang Mai, Thailand
Frank Dimmock, The Outreach Foundation (Africa specialist), Decatur, GA

CHURCH STAFF

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS MINISTRY
CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR
FINANCIAL MANAGER
CHURCH OFFICE MANAGER
FACILITIES MANAGER
PASTOR EMERITUS

Diana Villarreal
Bob Clark
Jeanne Melone
Sandy Albrecht
Steven Kirkland
The Reverend Gary G. Pinder



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A program of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

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