

South Church in Andover
United Church of Christ

Order of Worship

April 25, 2010

10:30 AM

Earth Week

Guest Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Jim Antal, President and Minister of the Massachusetts Conference of
the United Church of Christ

Fourth Sunday of Easter
Reception of New Members

MEDITATIONS:

***"The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,
the world, and those who live in it."***

(Psalm 24:1)

The supreme reality of our time is the vulnerability of our planet.

John F. Kennedy

I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

John 10:10b

PRELUDE

OPENING PSALM (118:24)

THIS is the day that the LORD has made!

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

WELCOME

Announcements

Exchange of Peace

The peace of Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

INTROIT

Praise to God, Your Praises Bring

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

O sing to the LORD a new song, for God has done marvelous things!

God's right hand and holy arm have brought victory.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody!

With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who dwell in it!

Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing for joy together.

*HYMN

For the Beauty of the Earth

#66 Blue

(Please remain standing for the Invocation)

*UNISON INVOCATION and THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Reverend John Zehring

Almighty God, to whom even the morning stars sing, let us come into Your presence with singing and praise. When we gaze at the work of your fingers and see the beauty of the earth, we are moved to proclaim "How Great Thou Art!" Grant that we may be good stewards of this beautiful swirling blue-green sphere that you created and that belongs to you. Help us to adopt the attitude that the earth is yours and we will care for it because of our love for you. Then, may we see every inch of land and sea as sacred, because it is created by you and so loved by you. This we pray in the name of your Son, sent to earth by you to make the world whole, saying, "Our Father... (debts)."

*PRAYER RESPONSE

**This is the day, this is the day
that our God has made, that our God has made;
We will rejoice, we will rejoice
and be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day that our God has made, we will rejoice and be glad in it;
This is the day, this is the day that our God has made.**

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 9: 9-10

Deacon, Deb White

"As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

(When invited, members of the Church who are able may stand and say the following words of welcome)

**We welcome you with joy in the common life of this church.
We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit
may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love
and be witnesses of our risen Savior.**

Kim and Ed Maggio

Dave and Kate Doub

Jay Henderson

Alice Rodemire

(Children may depart for Church School following reception of new members)

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 24

Deb White

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.
 Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD? And who shall stand in his holy place?
 Those who have clean hands and pure hearts,
 who do not lift up their souls to what is false, and do not swear deceitfully.
 They will receive blessing from the LORD,
 and vindication from the God of their salvation.
 Such is the company of those who seek him,
 who seek the face of the God of Jacob. Selah
 Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors!
 that the King of glory may come in.
 Who is the King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle.
 Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors!
 that the King of glory may come in.
 Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory. Selah

*HYMN

Touch the Earth Lightly

(in bulletin)

MESSAGE

**The Greatest Opportunity in History:
 A Moment for Which the Church Was Born**

The Reverend Dr. Jim Antal

MUSICAL RESPONSE

To A Wild Rose

MacDowel

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS IN THANKSGIVING

John Zehring

If you have already paid your pledge electronically or in advance, you are invited to submit into the offering plate the green giving card in the pew rack to symbolize your prayer that God will bless your giving and that your gift will support the mission and ministry of the Church in meeting the needs of others and in helping those in need.

INVITATION

OFFERTORY

For the Beauty of the Earth
 Carol-Georgine West, piano

John Rutter

*DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
 Praise God, all creatures here below,
 Praise God, above ye heav'nly host,
 Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Led by Deb White

**Receive the gifts we offer, gracious God, and multiply them to meet the needs in your world.
 Hear the desires of our hearts: to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with you,
 our God. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Intercessory Prayers

John Zehring

When invited, you are welcome to request prayers. Please speak loud enough for all to hear so that we may lift up your request in our prayers.

Morning Prayer

Terry Ebner

*HYMN

God of the Sparrow

#272 Red

*BENEDICTION

Dr. Antal

*RESPONSE

Many and Great, O God, are Thy Things

Dakota Indian Chant

*POSTLUDE

* All who are able, please stand

SOUTH CHURCH IN ANDOVER is an Open and Affirming Congregation
of the United Church of Christ.

Participating in the Service

Greeters: Garnett and Dan Jacavano

Acolytes: Joshua Stone and Bruce Waters

Deacon: Deb White

Head Usher: Mike Massey

Pastoral and Program Staff

All members are ministers

Senior Pastor: Rev. John W. Zehring

Associate Pastor: Rev. Jonathan Drury

Assistant to the Pastor: Sherry Tupper

Director of Christian Education: Terry Ebner

Director of Music & Organist: Tamara Rozek

Director of Youth Choirs: Charles Leinbach

The flowers today are given in loving memory of their husbands,

William Phillips Foster and Harry Edward Newton

by Margaret Foster and Ann Newton and their families.