

FESTIVAL OF GOD’S CREATION  
April 21, 2024 – 10 a.m.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

We fulfill our Mission to “make disciples for Jesus Christ”  
by following our Pathway:  
**Living our faith. Nurturing families.  
Serving our communities.**

\*GREETING

MUSIC FOR GATHERING Susan Finger  
“Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies”

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: “The heavens are telling the glory of the Lord;  
and the firmament proclaims His  
handiwork.” (Psalm 19)

ALL: **All around us are signs and wonders,  
fingerprints of the Creator. Praise be to  
God!**

ONE: “The earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it; the  
world, and all who live in it.” (Psalm 24)

ALL: **All around us we find life; all the created  
world is related to us. Praise be to God!**

ONE: Come, let us dwell in God’s work of art! Here in  
this wondrous world we are not alone. We share  
this life with the heavens and the earth...

ALL: **With the waters and the land, with trees  
and grasses, with fish, birds, and animals,  
with minerals and creatures of every form,  
And with all our brothers and sisters. Praise  
be to God!**

ONE: God is good and everything God makes is good.  
ALL: **Praise to the Creator of all that is, seen and  
unseen! Amen!**

\*HYMN “All Things Bright and Beautiful” #147  
Refrain:  
All things bright and beautiful,  
all creatures great and small,  
all things wise and wonderful: the Lord God made them all.

1. Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings,  
God made their glowing colors, and made their tiny wings.  
(Refrain)

2. The purple-headed mountains, the river running by,  
the sunset and the morning that brightens up the sky.  
(Refrain)

3. The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun,  
the ripe fruits in the garden: God made them every one.  
(Refrain)

4. God gave us eyes to see them,

and lips that we might tell  
how great is God Almighty, who has made all things well.  
(Refrain)

CREATION CELEBRATION Elizabeth Murray-Sherron  
“WHY GOD CREATED ANIMALS”  
OUR CREATION CONNECTIONS on screen  
A BLESSING Rev. Boruff

We give you thanks and praise, O God of creation, for  
the grandeur of all that you have made,  
**For our pets that reflect your love to us, and  
remind of us your creativity. May our hearts be  
filled with thanksgiving for them.**

We give you thanks and praise, asking for your  
blessing upon this world which is rolled into a sphere,  
packaged in sunshine, and gift-wrapped in your love.  
**It is through Jesus Christ, who came for all the  
world, and lives and reigns with God the Father  
and the Holy Spirit, one God forever. Amen.**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE Ally Hall

INVITATION TO KIDS WORSHIP  
Children ages 3 yrs. old through 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to  
First Kids.

OFFERING TO GOD Marnie Tupling  
GOD’S CREATION Sanctuary Choir  
OFFERTORY “Never Gonna Walk the Journey Alone”

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

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION Marnie Tupling

ANTHEM “Amazing Grace” Sanctuary Choir  
Soloist, Abby Mercer

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Susan Daoust

RESPONSIVE LORD’S PRAYER

ONE: Our father who art in heaven  
ALL: **You are also at home in the air, soil forests  
and oceans**

ONE: Hallowed be your name  
ALL: **By the care we take of your creation**

ONE: Your kingdom come  
ALL: **All that you see is good**  
ONE: Your will be done on earth, as it is in Heaven.

ALL: **Your will is to till and care**  
ONE: Give us this day our daily bread  
ALL: **That all may have sufficient to live life in  
fullness.**

ONE: Forgive us our trespasses  
ALL: **Our greed, our exploitation, our lack of  
concern for other species and for future  
generations**

ONE: As we forgive those who trespass against us  
ALL: **By reconciliation with justice and peace**

ONE: Lead us not into temptation  
ALL: **The temptation to equate dominion with  
exploitation**

ONE: And deliver us from evil  
ALL: **The evil of destroying your gift of  
creation**

ONE: For yours is the kingdom  
ALL: **Yours, Lord, not ours**

ONE: The power and the glory  
ALL: **In the cross and resurrection**

ONE: Forever and ever  
ALL: **You are the beginning and you are the  
end. Amen!**

OLD TESTAMENT Susan Daoust  
Genesis 1:23-25 (NLT)

<sup>23</sup> And evening passed and morning came, marking  
the fifth day. <sup>24</sup> Then God said, “Let the earth produce  
every sort of animal, each producing offspring of the  
same kind—livestock, small animals that scurry along  
the ground, and wild animals.” And that is what  
happened. <sup>25</sup> God made all sorts of wild animals,  
livestock, and small animals, each able to produce  
offspring of the same kind. And God saw that it was  
good.

NEW TESTAMENT Romans 1:19-20 (NLT)  
<sup>19</sup> They know the truth about God because he has  
made it obvious to them. <sup>20</sup> For ever since the world  
was created, people have seen the earth and sky.  
Through everything God made, they can clearly see  
his invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine  
nature. So they have no excuse for not knowing God.  
This is God’s Word for God’s people today.  
**Thanks be to God!**

\*HYMN “This is My Father’s World” #144

1. This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears  
all nature sings, and round me rings  
the music of the spheres.

This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought  
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;  
his hand the wonders wrought.

2. This is my Father's world, the birds their carols raise,  
the morning light, the lily white,  
declare their maker's praise.

This is my Father's world: he shines in all that's fair;  
in the rustling grass I hear him pass;  
he speaks to me everywhere.

SERMON Creation Celebration Rev. Boruff

HYMN "Pass It On" #572  
It only takes a spark to get a fire going,  
And soon all those around can warm up in its glowing;  
That's how it is with God's Love,  
once you've experienced it,  
Your spread the love to everyone You want to pass it on.

What a wondrous time is spring,  
When all the trees are budding  
The birds begin to sing, the flowers start their blooming;  
That's how it is with God's love,  
once you've experienced it.  
You want to sing, it's fresh like spring,  
You want to pass it on.

RESPONSE  
Today we remember:  
**We will remember always that God speaks to us through the beauty of his creation, and we will try our best to answer God's call to care for all that he has created.**

MUSIC OF SENDING Susan Finger  
"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

\*BENEDICTION \*Please stand as you are able

WELCOME  
Welcome to worship on Sundays and all programs & ministries throughout the week!

Weekly Prayer Requests

- Pray for children & staff at Gateway Childcare.
- Continue to pray for Jim and Marilyn Ault as they negotiate this difficult path.
- Congratulations to Erin & Tucker Stremming (Dick and Mary Falkenberry's daughter) on the birth of their son, Maxwell Richard Douglas.

Announcements

- **GUESTS:** Welcome. There is a gift bag for you at the Welcome Center. Glad you joined us and hope you will come again!

We give thanks for:

**Ushers:** Dick Falkenberry, Bonnie Belangee, Ryan Falkenberry, Jeff Dyer

**Greeters:** David Crane, Pat Walker

**Coffee Hosts:**

Weekly Schedule

Sun 4/21			
9:00 am	Trustees' mtg	Conference Rm	Downtown
10:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary	Downtown
11:15 am	YA Gathering	Youth Area	Downtown
11:30 am	Membership Class	North/South	Downtown
2:00 pm	Worship		Primrose
4:30 pm	Community Cafe		Downtown
Mon 4/22			
5:00 pm	Exercise Class		Davis Park
6:00 pm	AA Big Book Study	East/West	Downtown
6:30 pm	Alpha Brass Rehearsal		Downtown
7:00 pm	Budget Benders Meeting	Conference Room	Downtown
Tues 4/23			
9:00 am	Tuesday Sew Day	Fellowship Hall	Downtown
10:00 am	Staff Meeting	North/South Parlor	Downtown
1:00 pm	Outreach Meeting	Conference Room	Downtown
4:30 pm	AAYC Rehearsals		Downtown
6:00 pm	Girl Scouts	Fellowship Hall	Downtown
6:00 pm	Finance Meeting	North/South	Downtown
Wed 4/24			
8:00 am	Rotary	North/South	Downtown
3:00 pm	Coffee with Corinne		Facebook
10:00 am	Pastors' mtg	Conference Rm	Downtown
5:00 pm	Exercise Class		Davis Park
6:00 pm	Andrew Paradigm Study	North/South	Downtown
6:00 pm	Wesley Bells		Downtown
6:25 pm	Children's Choir		Downtown
7:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir	Choir Room	Downtown
Thurs 4/25			
Fri 4/26 Church Office Closes at noon			
9:00 am	Bible Study	North/South	Downtown
12:00 pm	Downtown Devotion		Facebook
Sat 4/27			
10:00 am	AA Meeting	North/South	Downtown
Sun 4/28			
10:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary	Downtown
2:00 pm	Worship		Primrose
3:00 pm	Alpha Brass Spring Concert	Sanctuary	Downtown
4:30 pm	Food @ First		Downtown



First United Methodist  
FAITH FIRST. FAMILIES FIRST. ANDERSON FIRST.



FESTIVAL OF GOD'S CREATION SUNDAY  
April 21, 2024 ~ 10 a.m.

Pastor: Corinne Boruff  
Director of Family Ministries: Ally Hall  
Ministers: Congregation