

# THE WYOMING PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



*We are a caring, inclusive community that reflects  
God's unconditional love by putting our faith into action.*

## EARTH DAY & CLIMATE ACTION



**SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY**

**5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**APRIL 28, 2024**



*Worshiping God and Serving the Community Since 1873*

## ***WORSHIP THIS MORNING***

*We welcome everyone to worship on this Lord's Day.  
If you are visiting us for the first time, we're so glad that you're here.*

*Please introduce yourself to Pastor Heather after the service.  
If you are interested in receiving more information about WPC,  
please contact Pastor Heather at [hbrannon@wyomingpresbyterian.org](mailto:hbrannon@wyomingpresbyterian.org)*

**PARKING:** Please do not park in front of the sanctuary doors on Wyoming Ave. If you can, please park on Linden Street to help those who have physical limitations and cannot walk long distances. Thanks for your hospitality!

**GRATITUDE:** We give thanks for those who have participated in worship.

- **Musicians:** Rachel Jufer
- **AV Recording Staff**
- **Deacon of the Week Greeter and Ushers**
- **Communion Preparers and Servers**

**SHARING OUR GIFTS:** Please visit our online offering plate at [wyomingpresbyterian.org/giving](http://wyomingpresbyterian.org/giving) or send a check to Wyoming Presbyterian Church, 432 Wyoming Ave., Millburn, NJ 07041. Thank you for your generosity and participation in the life of our community.

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## ***CHILDREN AND FAMILIES***

**NURSERY:** Families are invited to use our nursery space if your children need a break from worship, diaper change, etc. To find the nursery, exit the front of the sanctuary and turn right down the hallway. The nursery is next to the gender neutral bathroom.

**PRAYGROUND:** All children and their families are invited to worship in this fun space.

**UPPER ELEMENTARY:** Visit the Busy Box in the Narthex for fun activities to do during worship.

**CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Join us for Sunday School with our Director of Family Ministries, Tracy Policastro, after the Children's Message, for toddler–8th grade. Pick up in Fellowship Hall following worship.



## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Leader:**

We have forgotten who we are.  
We have alienated ourselves from the unfolding of the cosmos.  
We have become estranged from the movements of the earth.  
We have turned our backs on the cycles of life.

**Response: We have forgotten who we are.**

**Leader:**

We have sought only our own security.  
We have exploited simply for our own ends.  
We have distorted our knowledge.  
We have abused our power.

**Response: We have forgotten who we are.**

**Leader:**

Now the land is barren.  
And the waters are poisoned.  
And the air is polluted.

**Response: We have forgotten who we are.**

**Leader:**

Now the forests are dying,  
And the creatures are disappearing,  
And humans are despairing.

**Response: We have forgotten who we are.**

**Everyone:**

**Creator God,**

**We ask for forgiveness.**

**We ask for the gift of remembering.**

**We ask for the strength and courage to change.**

**We commit to be responsible stewards of your creation.**

**Amen.**

## ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

### \*EASTER ALLELUIA, PH #108

*Christ is alive and comes to bring, Good news to this and every age, till earth and sky and ocean ring. With joy, with justice, love, and praise*

## *WE HEAR GOD'S WORD*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 1:1–2;4a

p. 1

SERMON

*“In the beginning...”*

Rev. Heather Brannon

## *WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD*

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Responsive)

A Declaration of Faith (1977)

One: We acknowledge one God alone, whose demands on us are absolute, whose help for us is sufficient.

**All: That One is the Lord, whom we worship, serve, and love.**

One: We know that God is not confined to the story we can tell. The story itself tells us God works the divine, sovereign will among all peoples of the earth.

**All: We believe God works beyond our imagining throughout the universe.**

One: We must not set our ultimate reliance on any other help.

**All: We must not yield unconditional obedience to any other power.**

One: We must not love anyone or anything more than we love God.

**All: To worship God is highest joy. To serve God is perfect freedom. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

*(Moment of Silent 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 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.**

## INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

*You may also participate in the offering by using our online offering plate at [wyomingpresbyterian.org/giving](http://wyomingpresbyterian.org/giving) or by mailing your gift to the church at 432 Wyoming Ave., Millburn, NJ 07041.*

## OFFERTORY

"You Raise Me Up"

Graham/Lovland

*When I am down and, oh my soul, so weary,  
When troubles come and my heart burdened be,  
Then, I am still and wait here in the silence,  
Until You come and sit awhile with me.*

*You raise me up, so I can stand on mountains,  
You raise me up, to walk on stormy seas.  
I am strong, when I am on your shoulders,  
You raise me up to more than I can be.*

*There is no life, no life without its hunger,  
Each restless heart beats so imperfectly.  
But when you come and I am filled with wonder,  
Sometimes I think I glimpse eternity.*

## INCLUSIVE DOXOLOGY, #591

Old Hundredth

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.*

## \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

