

ORDER OF SERVICE

**SUNDAY, APRIL 21ST
CELEBRATING EARTH SUNDAY**

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

*Please Stand Where Able

MUSICAL PRELUDE

BIBLE OPENING

WELCOME & CELEBRATIONS

TIME OF PREPARATION & GROUNDING

GREETING

God is good,
 All the time.
All the time,
 God is good.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

LIGHTING OF THE PEACE CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive*)

Come, let us worship in the beauty of God's presence with us.

**God present in the silent pulse of the earth
beneath us.**

God present in the beating of the sun and stars above us.

**God present in the chorus of life, the plants
and the animals and all of us breathing
together in harmony.**

Come let us open ourselves to the beauty within and the beauty around us,

As we worship the God of creation together!

OPENING PRAYER (*unison*)

**As we gather, we are thankful for your Creation:
for light and darkness;
for air, wind, and sky;
for earth and sea;
for seeds, harvests, and plant life;
for sunlight, moonlight, and starlight;
for every living creature and for our lives.**

**In our actions, meditations, and prayers,
may we honour and celebrate your good creation,
And may we seek wisdom on how to share our
gratitude and love in good and healing ways.
Amen.**

***HYMN VU #226** "*For the Beauty of the Earth*"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*responsive*)

God, who gives to all life its goodness, we come before your presence with joy.

All creation sings your praise.

You fill our lives with beauty and satisfy the hunger of our hearts.

Our hearts overflow.

God of comfort and healing, we come before your presence with sorrow:

**sorrow at the loss of loved ones,
sorrow at the loss of species and habitats,
precious partners in creation,
sorrow at frustrated dreams and continued
injustices.**

Ever-faithful, ever-loving God, we come before your presence with hope,

**having heard your promise of forgiveness
and life made new.**

Rejoicing in the Good News, the risen Christ still proclaims through the Spirit,

**we believe that your kingdom has come
near this day.**

God of Grace, grant that in this service, the kingdom of heaven may indeed come near so that we may be restored.

**We ask this in the name of Jesus, trusting
in the grace and power of his love. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Scripture assures us, The Lord is our Shepherd, we shall not want (Psalm 23).

"Whenever our hearts condemn us...God is greater than our hearts, and...knows everything" (1 John 3:20).

**As a shepherd cares for scattered sheep, our
God cares for us, forgives us, and calls us
into community.**

As members of the one flock—we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

WE HEAR THE WORD

TIME FOR ALL AGES

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE *Psalms of Nature*

Psalm 8

Psalm 96: 5-6; 11-13

Psalm 104: 1, 5, 24, 27, 29-30

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

REFLECTION

“Leave It Better Than You Found It”

*HYMN VU #310

“God, Who Touches Earth with Beauty”

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

INVITATION to Generosity

*We have a “Giving Station” at each Entrance
and one plate that will remain at the back entrance
throughout the service.*

***Please Stand for the Offering Hymn while the
Offering is brought forward**

Sung Response *“What Can I Do?” (2 times)*

*What can I do? What can I bring?
What can I say? What can I sing?
I’ll sing with joy. I’ll say a prayer.
I’ll bring my love. I’ll do my share.*

*Prayer of Dedication (unison)

**Teach us, God, to offer
the very best of who we are
in the service of your will
through the mission of this church:
may we offer hope, joy, and reconciliation
in the world so much in need.
Receive what we give for
the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen**

PASTORAL PRAYER

The Lord’s Prayer..... AMEN

*HYMN # VU295

“The Earth and All Who Breathe”

*COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION

* SONG BLESSING MV #92 (vs 1 only)

“Like A Rock”

Organist will play through once
Sing Together 2 times through

*Like a rock, like a rock, God is under our feet.
Like the starry night sky, God is over our head.
Like the sun on the horizon God is ever before.
Like the river runs to ocean, our home is in
God evermore.*

POSTLUDE

UP-COMING ANNOUNCEMENTS

***TODAY, join us for Session’s Sandwiches, Squares &
Fruit – Even if you didn’t bring anything today, there
will be plenty, Please Join Us Downstairs***

Official Board Meeting Tuesday, April 23rd at 1:00
PM – NOTE, agenda packages are in your Committee
file in the hallway.

Pastafest Fundraiser supporting Water for Life-
Uganda Project.

Sarnia Blook Donation Events

**Additional Information on the back table for
events outside LRW**

*“London Road West United Church is a welcoming congregation
celebrating God’s presence through worship, music, spiritual enrichment
and outreach.”*

“Be with us: Celebrate GOD!”

LONDON ROAD WEST UNITED CHURCH

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 21st, 2024

PASTOR ROXANNE BALE

[Email: roxanne.bale3@gmail.com](mailto:roxanne.bale3@gmail.com)

[Cell 519-280-7744](tel:519-280-7744)

CHURCH OFFICE 519-542-2084

LRWunitedchurch@gmail.com

www.londonroadwestunitedchurch

ORGANIST RYAN SHAW

CELEBRATE EARTH DAY

