

# Broadway United Methodist Church

## Commit. Seek. Share. 2026

# EARTH SUNDAY



Sunday, April 19, 2026 at 11:00 a.m.

### GATHERING MUSIC AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

PRELUDE                      “For the Beauty of the Earth”                      Tim Barnes, organ

### CALL TO WORSHIP

The steps of those who delight in God are made firm.

**Though we stumble, we shall not fall, for God upholds us with a steady hand.**

Have you not known? Have you not heard? God is the everlasting God!

**The Creator of the ends of the earth does not faint or grow weary.**

Those who wait for God shall renew their strength.

**They shall mount up with wings like eagles, run and not be weary, walk and not faint.**

**Amen.**

\*OPENING HYMN                      “Lead Me, Guide Me”                      The Faith We Sing # 2214

### OPENING PRAYER

Holy God, earth and air and water are your creation, and every living thing belongs to you: have mercy on us as climate change confronts us. Give us the will and the courage to simplify the way we live, to reduce the energy we use, to share the resources you provide, and to bear the cost of change. As we begin worship this day, open our eyes to the beauty of creation, and move us with compassion to help heal and restore our world. **Amen.**

## WELCOME STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY AND CONNECTION

*[Please use the Friendship Pads, click [here](#), or scan the QR code to mark your presence with us.]*

Welcome to worship, God's beloved!

**YES, I Am Welcome! Bienvenidas y bienvenidos!**



\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIME WITH YOUNG CHRISTIANS

Robin Davis

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE EARTH

Jill Raz

EARTH DAY REFLECTION

Richard Alton

## A RESPONSIVE LITANY FOR EARTH DAY

Lord, we pray for this world you have made. We ask your blessing on earth, wind, and water. Preserve this sweet place in its course through the cosmos. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord, we pray for the community of living creatures. Guide us in our works and ways, that every being may praise with its life and serve you all of its days. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord, we pray for our human family. You named us stewards of this Earth, and we want to tend it and care for it. Teach us to live in harmony together, so we can live in harmony with Earth. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord, again and again we seek what is good and do what is bad. We stand in the rubble of many bad choices. We have been forgetful and willful tenants since you first put us in the Garden. Give us strength and courage to change our ways, so this Earth may flourish under our care. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord, at the end of all things you will bring us into your household, to make community with you forever. Fill us with your Spirit now, in our days on this Earth, so we may be fit and ready for the new heaven and the new Earth you promise. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord, you have called us to be stewards of this wonderful Earth.

**Guide our efforts: refresh the ground and the sea, let the air be soft and sweet. Teach us to care for your Earth, as you care for us. We ask this in your HOLY name. Amen.**

READING FROM THE WORLD from *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge*

by Robin Wall Kimmerer

read by Annika Tamkus

FIRST READING

Isaiah 40:28-31

Do you not know? Have you not heard? YHWH is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. This God does not faint or grow weary; with a depth of understanding that is unsearchable. God gives strength to the weary, and empowers the powerless. Young women

may grow tired and weary, young men may stumble and fall, but those who wait for YHWH find a renewed power: they soar on eagles' wings, they run and don't get weary, they walk and never tire.

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

SECOND READING                      Psalm 37:23-24

Our steps are steadied by YHWH, who secures our path. Though we stumble, we won't fall, for God is holding our hand.

May God bless the speaking and hearing of the Word. **Amen.**

MESSAGE                              "Cycling with God"                              Deaconess Catherine Inserra

TIME FOR OFFERING

MISSION MINUTE: KIDS ABOVE ALL                              [see announcements]

INVITATION TO OFFERING

*[Broadway is committed to the financial support of its identity, vision, and ministry by tithing. Consider making an offering this morning of 10 percent of your income from this past week. Please be as generous as you can in your giving. To give online, scan the QR code at right or visit us at [BroadwayChurchChicago.com/give](https://BroadwayChurchChicago.com/give). Thank you for your commitment to God's purposes through our faith community!]*



\*THE DOXOLOGY                              United Methodist Hymnal # 95

**Praise God from whom all blessing flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly hosts. Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Everpresent God, we bring these offerings as signs of our gratitude and hope for our earth. May our giving reflect the joy of being found, and the wonder of Resurrection. Use these gifts to kindle faith, feed the hungry, and proclaim your presence in every corner of creation. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN                              "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"                              The Faith We Sing # 2153

\*SENDING FORTH

Beloveds of God, let us go out into the world-  
Agitated, yet blessed!  
Challenged, and determined!  
Energized, even if fatigued!  
Gifted with the Spirit!  
To be the earth creatures God has created us to be, **AMEN and AMEN!**

POSTLUDE                              "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"(Beethoven)                              Tim Barnes, organ

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*Liturgy adapted from sanctifiedart.org and discipleship.com.  
Opening Prayer adapted from "The Anglican Church of Australia."  
Sending Forth adapted from "Liturgies from Below" by Claudio Carvalhaes.  
Scripture from The Inclusive Bible, Maryland: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc., 2009.  
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## CELEBRATING GOD'S LOVE FOR ALL PEOPLE

We are black, brown, red, yellow, white, and all the colors of God's created rainbow. We are lesbian, gay, bisexual, asexual, and straight. We are transgender, intersex, female, male, gender fluid. We are queer. We are questioning. We are every age. We are every ability. We are every economic & theological location. We are YOU.

### Welcome to God's Beloved Community at Broadway.

**BROADWAY'S MISSION STATEMENT:** "God calls Broadway United Methodist Church to be a faith community embracing the diversity of our Chicago neighborhood and larger community. We welcome all persons – celebrating the human family's God-given diversity of race, age, gender, sexual orientation, and physical or mental capacity. We also welcome persons of all social and economic classes and faith backgrounds. At Broadway, we are accepted into God's nurturing family, which invites us into spiritual growth through worship, study, mission, and social action. We are grateful for the opportunities God gives us to experience and share the love of Christ."

Office Hours are generally Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9:30am-1:30pm\*

**\*For the most up to date information, please see**

[www.broadwaychurchchicago.com/calendar](http://www.broadwaychurchchicago.com/calendar)

Broadway United Methodist Church

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[www.BroadwayChurchChicago.com](http://www.BroadwayChurchChicago.com)

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