Fifty-five years ago on **April 22, 1970**, Americans came together to celebrate the first **Earth Day**.

**The 2025 Theme: OUR POWER, OUR PLANET™** “urges us to advocate for **RenewableEnergyNow.** On Earth Day April 22nd, 2025, over one billion people around the globe are expected to participate. This demonstrates how the diverse Earth Day movement remains as dedicated today as it was back in 1970 to bringing everyone together for a better future.

Grassroots people-power has always been at the heart of Earth Day and it is the catalyst for paradigm-shifting change because when individuals unite with a common purpose, they can overcome even the most entrenched systems and industries.

Solving the climate crisis will require a long-term commitment. Future generations must understand what’s at stake: the basic science, the policy options, and the consequences, and unlimited energy for the entire planet through renewable solar, wind and other technologies.

This Earth Day, let us commit to harnessing renewable energy to build a healthy, sustainable, equitable and prosperous future for us all, let us commit to Renewable Energy Now.

**Climate Education**:

**Climate Education** is essential for preparing the next generation of innovators, entrepreneurs, scientists, engineers, and business leaders needed to grow the green economy.

**Climate Justice** is an environmental justice concept that aims to fairly distribute the effects of climate change and the work to reduce it.

**Prepared by Verdelle M. Cunningham**

**Environmental Stewardship Committee**

**Please send all financial support to the District President for remittance to the Executive Director, Mrs. Rosetta Dunham,**

**P.O. Box 26846 - Charlotte, NC 28221-6846**

**2025 Earth Day Theme**

**“Our Power, Our Planet”**



**April 27, 2025**

**The Journey Continues: Equity and Justice**

**For Our Planet**

***~Order of Service~***



Prelude

\*Call to Worship

Give us each day our daily bread. Help us to harness the wind, the water, the sun, and all renewable sources of power. Teach us to conserve, preserve, and use wisely the blessed treasures of our wealth-stored earth. Help us to share your bounty, not to waste it, or pervert it into peril for our children or our neighbors in other nations. You who are life and energy, and blessing, teach us to revere and respect your tender world.

Triune God, help us to hear the cry of the earth, so that we may together care for our common home. **Amen.**

\*Opening Hymn “*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"*

Scripture Reading Isaiah 24: 4-5

Opening Prayer

Prayer Response

Litany

Offering

Introduction of Speaker

Sermonic Selection “*The Earth Belongs to God Our Lord*”

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Sermon

\*Closing Selection “*Eve of Destruction” (20 Twenties)*

Benediction

***Environmental Stewardship Litany***

*https://www.presbyterianmission.org/eco-journey*

**Leader**: God of all creation, hear our prayers for justice for our planet Earth.

People: For the air we breathe, that it may be clean and pure, we pray. For the waters of our oceans, rivers, and lakes, that they may be free from pollution, we pray.

**Leader**: God of all creation, hear our prayers for the soil beneath our feet, that it may be fertile and sustain life.

People: For the forests and wild spaces, that they may be protected from destruction, we pray.

**Leader**: God of all creation, hear our prayers for endangered species, that they may be preserved and flourish.

People: For those affected by climate change, that they may find relief and resilience, we pray.

**Leader**: God of all creation, hear our prayers for those working to protect the environment, that they may be empowered and supported.

People: God of mercy, forgive us for our neglect and abuse of your creation, we pray.

**Leader:** God of all creation, grant us the wisdom to live in harmony with the Earth

ALL: Give us the courage to speak out against injustice towards our planet, we pray. Fill us with the strength to act for the good of all creation, we pray. Amen.

\*Please stand, if able

*Today’s offering benefits \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Thank you!*