

Worship Service: Series on Ecotheology and Discipleship
Fourth Service – *Being Church in the World: Collective Discipleship*

Opening Prayer

God of all,
we come before you today
in worship, love, grief, and confession:
Worship of you, Triune God,
love for all that you have created,
grief for the harms caused to your planet, and
confession for the ways in which we have caused that harm.
Lord, gather us together as your church today.
Bring us into this space of worship
so that we might praise your name,
share the love we feel,
lament the grief we experience,
and seek your forgiveness of our actions.
Bring us into this space of worship
in unity as a community of faith.
Transform us this morning,
so that we might go out to be the church in the world,
responding to the cries of the Earth
and finding our place in the web of life.
AMEN.

Opening Hymn: *VU 479 Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether*

Children's Time

Children's Hymn: *VU 87 I Am the Light of the World*

Scripture Readings:

Matthew 28:16-20
Acts 4:32-37

Sermon *Reorienting Church in the World*
(video sermon preached by the Rev. Dr. Jessica Hetherington)

Hymn: *MV 154 Deep in Our Hearts*

Closing Hymn: *VU 513 Lord, You Give the Great Commission*

Benediction

Go out now, into the world,
part of this Earth community
that has been created by God,
bound up in Jesus Christ,
through which the Holy Spirit moves.

Go out now, transformed as church in the world,
emboldened to live out a collective discipleship
of ecological healing, transformed worship and prayer,
and a new sense of unity within the whole of life.

And as you go, know that you go not alone,
but with God our Creator, Christ our Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit, our Sustainer,
this day and forevermore. AMEN.

Other Hymn Suggestions:

VU 79 Arise! Your Light is Come

VU 571 Eternal Ruler of the Ceaseless Round

VU 602 Blessed Be the Tie That Binds

VU 643 Faith, While Trees Are Still in Blossom

MV 212 Sent Out in Jesus' Name