

**Caring for God's Creation**  
**Saturday, April 22**  
**10:30am**

**Centering**

Leader: As we gather, let us remember that we come together  
to praise our God.  
People: **We do remember and give thanks.**  
Leader: We rejoice and give praise for the God who creates and sustains.  
People: **We do rejoice and sing our praise.**

**Hymn**            *As the Sun Doth Daily Rise (verses 1,2,5)*            Number 675

**Opening prayer (in unison)**

**New every morning is your love, great God of light,  
and all day long you are working for good in the world.  
Stir up in us desire to serve you,  
to live peacefully with our neighbors,  
and to devote each day to your Son,  
our Savior, Jesus Christ the Lord.\* AMEN**

**Presentation**

*Religion, Politics and Lifestyle - Is Faith a Political Issue?*      Bishop Kenneth Carder

**Affirmation**

Leader: Let us pray.  
People: **O god, as you anointed leaders and called prophets of old,  
lead us to recognize our true representatives and authentic leaders:  
men and women who love your people and can walk with them,  
who feel their pain and share their joys,  
who dream their dreams and strive to accompany them  
to their common goal.  
In your fire, with your Spirit, embolden and commission us  
to transform our political system, to serve your people,  
and to bring real glory to your name.\* AMEN.**

**Sending forth**

**Go now, with hearts to understand; never taking from creation's beauty more than  
we give; never destroying wantonly for the furtherance of greed; never denying to give our  
hands for the building of earth's beauty; never taking from her what we cannot use.\***

**Go now, in the blessed assurance that we are forgiven for our sins and granted new  
life as co-creators with the God who was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. AMEN**

\*An order for morning praise and prayer from *The United Methodist Book of Worship*, 1992

\*Blessings for Persons, For Leaders from *The United Methodist Book of Worship*, 1992

\*Adapted from *Voices, Native American Hymns and Worship Resources*, 1992