



Wangari Maathai

This morning, the Living with Intention sermon series spotlights the faith and work of Nobel Peace Prize winning Eco-Activist Wangari Maathai. The first woman in East Africa to earn a PhD, Matthai began speaking out against the rapid deforestation of Kenya's rich woodlands in the 1970s. Across two decades she was at times beaten and imprisoned as she battled economic and government powers in her work to promote eco-justice and restore ecological balance in Kenya. Maathai secured international funding to put Kenya's women to work cultivating trees.

In 1977, Matthai's project to reforest Kenya became known as the Green Belt Movement. Since its beginning, the Greenbelt Movement has planted over 52 million trees. This morning Parkview welcomes special guest speakers Sella Ayugi, Kamau and Wangari Kinuthia, as they share information and insights into Wangari Matthai's inspiring story of faith-fueled activism, courage, and ecological civil disobedience.



The Celebration of Worship

February 20, 2022 • 7th Sunday after Epiphany

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave
Worship Leader: Titus Toyama
Pianist: Janet Hill
Japanese Reader: Miyo Uchida

Prelude

Janet Hill

*Introit

All: Make us one, Lord, make us one. Holy Spirit make us one. Let Your love flow so the world will know, we are one in You.

Welcome/Announcements

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

Call to Worship

Titus Toyama

Leader: God of spirit and flesh, God of heaven and earth, Your grace and truth are revealed in Your Son Jesus Christ.

People: Your power and presence are made known to us and to all the world through Your Holy Spirit.

All: Creator God, Lord of all, we proclaim Your steadfast love and faithfulness as we sing praises to You.

*Opening Hymn: "I Sing the Mighty Power of God" (#288)

I sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise, that spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies. I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day. The moon shines full at God's command, and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord who filled the earth with food. God formed the creatures through the Word, and then pronounced them good. Lord, how Thy wonders are displayed, where'er I turn my eye, if I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the sky!

There's not a plant or flower below but makes Thy glories known. And clouds arise, and tempests blow, by order from Thy throne, while all that borrows life from Thee is ever in Thy care, and everywhere that we can be, Thou, God, art present there.

** Those who can, please rise*

Invitation to Confession

Titus Toyama

Leader: As God's children, called to live in relationship with each other, we must admit how we have hurt others, and harmed our planet, so we can be forgiven and restored to new life. Please join me as we pray to God together.

Prayer of Confession

Titus Toyama

Leader: Holy God, You know how often we have sinned in wandering from Your presence, in wasting Your gifts, in forgetting Your love. Forgive us.

People: The troubles of this world sometimes make us feel helpless and hopeless. We get overwhelmed by the magnitude of need around us.

Leader: Forgive us when neglect to trust Your power to transform us and redeem the world.

All: Bind us together to work for equality and justice as we follow Your command to care for the earth, and for each other. Teach us how to live in Your light and bring others home to Your love. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Time for silent reflection and confession

Assurance of God's Grace

Titus Toyama

Leader: God offers us grace and power, that our weary spirits might be strengthened for the work of freedom, peace, and unity which is our calling, and God's joy.

All: Thanks be to God! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

*Response to God's Forgiveness

All: Glory be to Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end, Amen, Amen.

Passing of the Peace

Titus Toyama

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And also with you.

The Lord's Prayer

All: Our Parent Who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

*Sending Hymn: "The Trees of the Field"

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace; the mountains and the hills will break forth before you; they'll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field will clap, will clap their hands.

And all the trees of the field will clap their hands; (clap clap)
the trees of the field will clap their hands; (clap clap)
the trees of the field will clap their hands (clap clap)
while you go out with joy.

*Benediction

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

*Response: "Shalom"

Sha rom, sha rom, mata a u hi ma de. Sha rom, sha rom, Kami no mi megumi.

(Peace, peace, until we meet again. Peace, peace, may we be blessed with grace from God.)

Sha rom, sha rom, mata a u hi ma de. Sha rom, sha rom, yuta kani, yuta kani, yuta kani.

(Peace, peace, until we meet again. Peace, peace, abundantly, abundantly, abundantly.)

In Appreciation:

Greeters:	Jerry Champa, Carla Hart
Online Greeter:	May Lee
Usher:	Julie Chew
Parking:	Russ Hart
Sound System:	Cathy Nishizaki
Zoom Moderator:	Lois Van Beers

Then God said, “Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.” And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

Children’s Message

“I Will be a Hummingbird” by Wangari Maathai

Sermon and 2nd Scripture Reading

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

Living Intentionally Series: “Marching with Trees - Wangari Maathai” with Sella Ayugi, Kamau Kinuthia & Wangari Kinuthia

Isaiah 55:12-13

For you shall go out in joy and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Musical Offering

Janet Hill

Time for silent reflection

Opportunity To Present Offerings

Titus Toyama

*Doxology

All: Praise God from Whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

Titus Toyama

Joys & Concerns

Titus Toyama

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

*Reflection Hymn: “Called as Partners in Christ’s Service” (#343)

Called as partners in Christ’s service, called to ministries of grace, we respond with deep commitment, fresh new lines of faith to trace. May we learn the art of sharing, side by side and friend with friend, equal partners in our caring to fulfill God’s chosen end.

Christ’s example, Christ’s inspiring, Christ’s clear call to work and worth, let us follow, never faltering, reconciling folk on earth. Men and women, richer, poorer, all God’s people, young and old, blending human skills together gracious gifts from God unfold.

Thus new patterns for Christ’s mission, in a small or global sense, help us bear each other’s burdens, breaking down each wall or fence. Words of comfort, words of vision, words of challenge, said with care, bring new power and strength for action, make us colleagues, free and fair.

So God grant us for tomorrow ways to order human life that surround each person’s sorrow with a calm that conquers strife. Make us partners in our living, our compassion to increase, messengers of faith, thus giving hope and confidence and peace.

Unison Prayer of Guidance

All: Now may the words of our mouths, the meditations of our hearts, the interpretation of our minds, and the response of our hands be acceptable to You, our Lord and our Redeemer. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

Japanese Reading: Jeremiah 17:7-8

Miyo Uchida

Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.

1st Scripture Reading: Genesis 1:1-5, 11-13

Titus Toyama

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.