

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE



SCIENCE **AND** FAITH

The Parable of the Wolves



Wolves of Yellowstone

Table Talk 1

A parable is an Earthly story with a Heavenly meaning. Although the science behind the wolves in Yellowstone is more complicated, and not everyone is happy about their presence (ask the ranchers) let's use the story to think about deeper meaning.

What does the story of the wolves of Yellowstone tell us about The Creation and the Creator?

God, The Creator

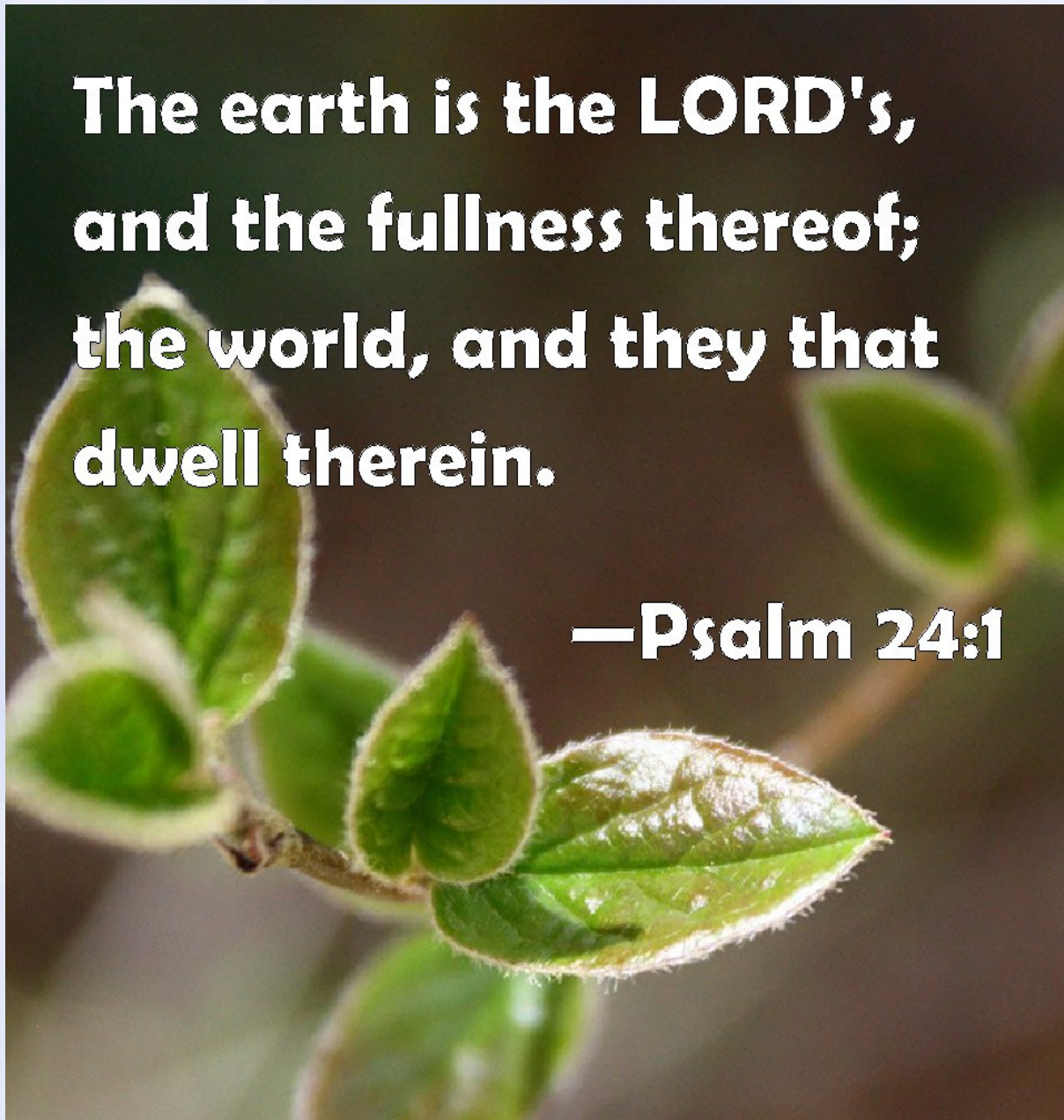


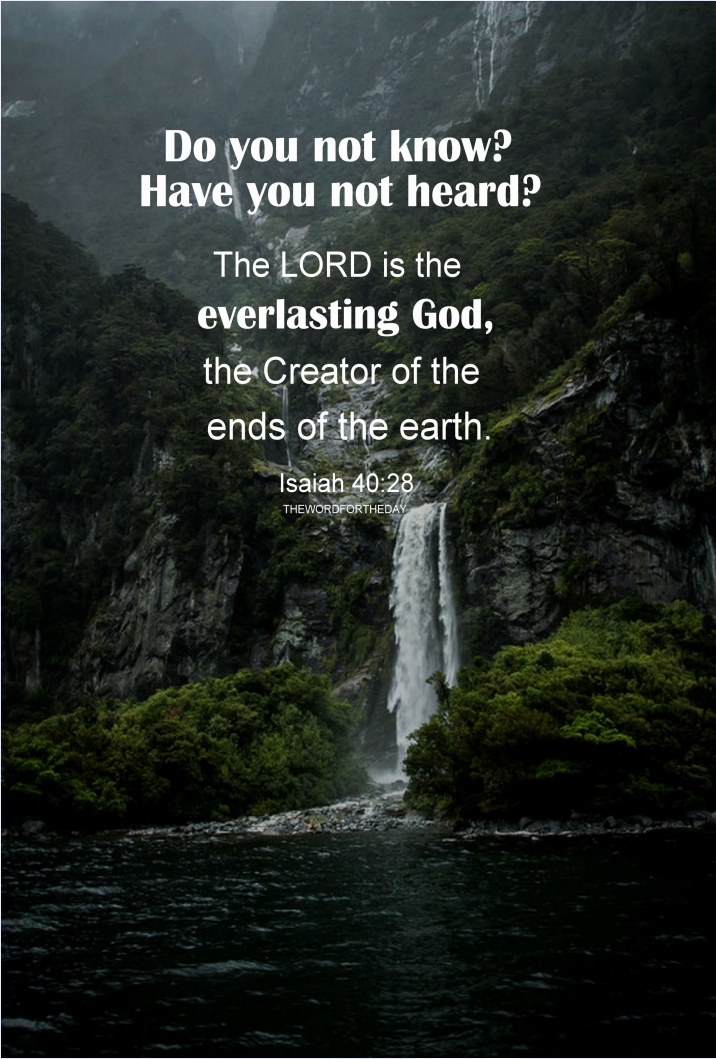
**“And God saw every thing that he
had made, and, behold, it was
very good...”**

Genesis 1:31 (KJV)

**The earth is the LORD's,
and the fullness thereof;
the world, and they that
dwell therein.**

—Psalm 24:1






**Do you not know?
Have you not heard?**

The LORD is the
everlasting God,
the Creator of the
ends of the earth.

Isaiah 40:28
THEWORDFORTHEDAY



The heavens declare the glory
of God; the skies proclaim the
work of His hands.

Psalm 19:1

Table Talk 2

FAITH & POLITICS:
A CONVERSATION



How does
your faith
inform your
politics?

A Movement Is Born: Environmental Justice and the UCC

Marking the 35th Anniversary of the Warren County Civil Disobedience Campaign and the 30th Anniversary of the Toxic Wastes and Race Report



"Breath to the People" Sacred Air and Toxic Pollution

A report prepared for the United Church of Christ on
100 super polluters in populated areas across the U.S.



 UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST



Efforts to limit pollution of the air and water, to mitigate existing pollution, to find methods that have less environmental impact are often met with stiff resistance.

Table Talk 3: Why does we seem so reluctant to adopt systems to clean/protect the environment that others so readily adopt?

Love Neighbors & The Creation

United Church of Christ to become first U.S. denomination to move toward divestment from fossil fuel companies

Like 49 Share 49 Tweet G+ Share 6

June 30, 2013

Written by Micki Carter

A set of strategies to attack climate change — which includes a path to divestment from fossil fuel companies — was passed by General Synod on Monday afternoon at the [redacted] Center. This action was supported by [redacted] major religious bodies.

ce and backed engagement in

UCC Covenant Association Collaborative Mission



TAKE PRIDE DAY -
Blue Marsh Clean Up
April 15, 2018 9am-1pm

With Earth Day (April 22) in mind and a love for caring about God's creation - Zion UCC Womelsdorf and friends are planning a one time day of mission work @ Blue Marsh Lake in Leesport, PA.

This collaborative clean up day includes all UCC v meeting, opening prayer, designated work sites (distributed by all churches gather together for lunch before returning

on skill sets of those

Church exhausts \$50,000 in love of neighbor, to keep water flowing in Flint





Brooks Berndt
Minister for Environmental Justice

Environmental Racism Is Nothing New

Race is the most significant predictor of a person living near contaminated air, water, or soil.

56%

of the population near toxic waste sites are people of color.

THE NATION
INSPIRING PROGRESS SINCE 1865



People of color:

38%

Have higher nitrogen-dioxide exposure.

2x

Are more likely to live without potable water and modern sanitation.

Have seen **95%** of their claims against polluters denied by the EPA.

Environmental racism was called to light by the UCC in the 1980's.



"Today, the national Synod of the UCC added another 'first' when it became the first national faith communion to vote to divest from fossil fuel companies – and to do it with the support of its major investment institution, United Church Funds."

- The Rev. Jim Antal, conference minister, Massachusetts Conference of the UCC



The UCC Environmental Justice Council National Church





The UCC has a church recognition “Creation Justice Church” (Like ONA or Extravagant Welcome)

Table Talk 4. What are some characteristics that you would expect of a church that has been recognized as a Creation Justice Church?

Table Talk 5

CREATION CARE

A Story of Three Great Loves

by the United Church of Christ



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST



BLESSED
TOMORROW.

Caring for Creation Today

ecoAmerica
building climate leadership

What's the takeaway for you tonight?