



# St. Jude's Episcopal Church

*Seeking and Worshipping God, Reaching out to Others*

September 3, 2023

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
in the Season of Creation

10:30 am Holy Eucharist

----- A Special WELCOME to all! -----

We are pleased to have you worship with us this morning and hope you feel warmly welcomed. Today we begin a “new season” in the church year, an international and ecumenical observance of God’s presence in Creation; and our roles as caretakers, stewards and fellow creatures. The Season of Creation will conclude on Sunday, October 1, when we celebrate the life and witness of St Francis of Assisi (d. 1226).

Be sure to join us following the service in Vandenberg Fellowship Hall for a time of conversation and refreshments.

**New to our church?** We’d love to get better acquainted. Please leave your name and email or phone number in one of our guestbooks, located at both entrances of the worship space; or by filling out one of the Welcome cards in the pew.

COVID is still a concern in our area. Face masks are optional; they are provided at all entrances to the worship space. Hand-sanitizing stations are also provided, and recommended for use prior to receiving Communion. **All persons who desire to receive Holy Communion are served here**, no questions asked. The bread is gluten-free. All are offered the cup for a sip of wine; you can decline by crossing your arms in front of your chest. Instead of receiving Communion, you may ask a blessing from the priest.

**Hymn #** These hymns are located in the blue Hymnal 1982 in your pew.

**WLP #** These hymns are located in the green hymnal books located near the library entrance to the church.

## The Gathering of the Community

Prelude \_\_\_\_\_ *Lass uns Erfreuen*, Elizabeth Hill

Opening Hymn #401 *Please stand & join in singing* \_\_\_\_\_ *The God of Abraham praise*

Open Acclamation & Collect \_\_\_\_\_

*Presider* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

*Presider* Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

Song of Praise *Please join in singing* \_\_\_\_\_ Verses 1, 2 & 7

1. All crea - tures, wor - ship God most high! Sound ev - 'ry voice in earth and  
sky: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Sing, broth - er  
sun, in splen - dor bright; sing, sis - ter moon and stars of night:  
*Refrain*  
O praise him, O praise him, Al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

(continued on next page)

2 Sing, brother wind; with clouds and rain  
You grow the gifts of fruit and grain:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Sing, brother sun, in splendor bright;  
Sing, sister moon and stars of night:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

7 Let all things their creator bless,  
and worship god in humbleness,  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
To God all thanks and praise belong!  
Join in the everlasting song:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

## Collect of the Day

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*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Presider* Let us pray.

*All* **Lord of all love and glory, the author and giver of all good things:  
Graft in our hearts the love of your Creation; increase in all true  
unity; nourish the world with all goodness; and bring forth the fruit  
of good works; through Jesus Christ the Wisdom of Creation, who  
lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.  
Amen.**

## *The Proclamation of the Word*

**The First Reading** *Please be seated* \_\_\_\_\_ *Exodus 3:1-15*

*Reader* A Reading from the Book of Exodus.

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of

Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.” And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, “I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.”

But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?” He said, “I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain.” But Moses said to God, “If I come to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what shall I say to them?” God said to Moses, “I am who I am.” He said further, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘I am has sent me to you.’” God also said to Moses, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you’: This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations.”

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.  
*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

**The Psalm** \_\_\_\_\_ *Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c*

- 1 Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name; \*  
    make known his deeds among the peoples.
- 2 Sing to him, sing praises to him, \*  
    and speak of all his marvelous works.
- 3 Glory in his holy Name; \*  
    let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

- 4 Search for the Lord and his strength; \*  
continually seek his face.
- 5 Remember the marvels he has done, \*  
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,
- 6 O offspring of Abraham his servant, \*  
O children of Jacob his chosen.
- 23 Israel came into Egypt, \*  
and Jacob became a sojourner in the land of Ham.
- 24 The Lord made his people exceedingly fruitful; \*  
he made them stronger than their enemies;
- 25 Whose heart he turned, so that they hated his people, \*  
and dealt unjustly with his servants.
- 26 He sent Moses his servant, \*  
and Aaron whom he had chosen.
- 45 Hallelujah!

**The Second Reading** \_\_\_\_\_ *Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home*  
(Vatican encyclical, 2015), paragraph 139

*Reader*            A reading from *Laudato Si'* by Pope Francis.

When we speak of the “environment,” what we really mean is a relationship existing between nature and the society which lives in it. Nature cannot be regarded as something separate from ourselves or as a mere setting in which we live. We are part of nature, included in it and thus in constant interaction with it. Recognizing the reasons why a given area is polluted requires a study of the workings of society, its economy, its behavior patterns, and the ways it grasps reality.

Given the scale of change, it is no longer possible to find a specific, discrete answer for each part of the problem. It is essential to seek comprehensive solutions, which consider the

interactions within natural systems themselves and with social systems. We are faced not with two separate crises, one environmental and the other social, but rather with one complex crisis which is both social and environmental. Strategies for a solution demand an integrated approach to combating poverty, restoring dignity to the excluded, and at the same time protecting nature.

*Reader*            Here ends the reading.

**Sequence Hymn #581** *Please stand* \_\_\_\_\_ *Where charity and love prevail*

**The Gospel Reading** *Please stand* \_\_\_\_\_ *Matthew 16:21-28*

*Reader*            The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

*People*            **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?"

"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

*Reader*            The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*            **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Sermon** *Please be seated* \_\_\_\_\_ The Rev. Paul Brunell  
*Please remain in silence for a moment of reflection following the sermon.*

**The Nicene Creed** *Please stand* \_\_\_\_\_

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again, in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**Prayers of the People** *Please stand or kneel* \_\_\_\_\_

*Intercessor* Let us pray.

O God, Creator of all, we come before you in this time of deepening social and climate crises to confess our complicity and inaction, to pray for those most severely affected, and to ask for the courage to be diligent in prayer and truth-seeking. Open our hearts to be transformed by prayer and Spirit-led action, for the good of this community, our planet, and all its creatures.

*Silence*

Hear us, gracious God.

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Intercessor* We confess that we have not valued the air, which sustains every breath, and have instead polluted it with toxic chemicals and waste products. Help us to change our ways.

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Intercessor* We confess that we have wasted and polluted the waters, our drink of life and the main substance of our bodies. We have discharged heavy metals into the seas and rivers, we have choked them with agricultural run-off, clogged the oceans with plastic, and poisoned vulnerable children with industrial chemicals and lead-filled water from old pipes. Lead us out of disaster.

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Intercessor* We confess that we have abused the soil, which you created to provide food and homes for all land creatures. We have squandered the earth's resources, depleting its substance by overuse and greed. We have buried toxic and radioactive waste; we have stolen land from indigenous people who loved and tended the earth with greater respect than we have. Guide us to better solutions.

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**



*Intercessor* We confess that we have caused the deaths of many millions of mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and water creatures out of a sense of human entitlement; and we have destroyed their living places so that we can have more hamburgers or housing developments or fossil fuels. We have denied the inter-connectivity of all life on our planet. Help us to see more clearly.

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Intercessor* We confess that we have dominated, enslaved and exploited our human siblings, for economic gain and political power. We have turned neighborhoods into ghettos, denied the need of every family for living wages and decent health care, and forgotten Jesus' command to love every neighbor. Help us to act more justly.

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Intercessor* Have compassion on us, merciful God;

*People* **Free us from the gods of greed, wealth, and "private" property.**

*Intercessor* Free us from despair and paralyzing fear, and from the privilege of caring most about our own well-being while we see others suffer.

*People* **Free us from the lie that we are separate from our human and non-human siblings.**

*Intercessor* Let justice and peace flow from our lives like clear water;

*People* **Restore our relationship to all of Creation.**

*Intercessor* Gracious God, hear our prayers for the people we love who are in any need, sickness or danger; especially those we name ...

*The People add their petitions either silently or aloud.*

*Intercessor* Hear our prayers for the animals in our lives, who rely on our care and give us joy; especially those we name ...

*The People add their petitions either silently or aloud.*

*Intercessor* Hear our prayers for the places where we find peace and refreshment, reminding us of the goodness of Creation; especially the places we name...  
*The People add their petitions either silently or aloud.*

*Intercessor* Hear our prayers for those who have ended their time upon earth, and now live with you in your heavenly kingdom; especially those we name...  
*The People add their petitions either silently or aloud.*

*Presider* Eternal God: We thank you for the beauty of the World: for the teeming life of the seas, the flight of birds, and the diversity of animal life. Grant us grace to treat Creation with respect and care; to protect endangered species, to preserve the variety of habitats, and to honor the delicate balance of nature; we pray through the power of your Spirit and in the name of Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

**The Peace** *Please stand* \_\_\_\_\_

*Presider* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

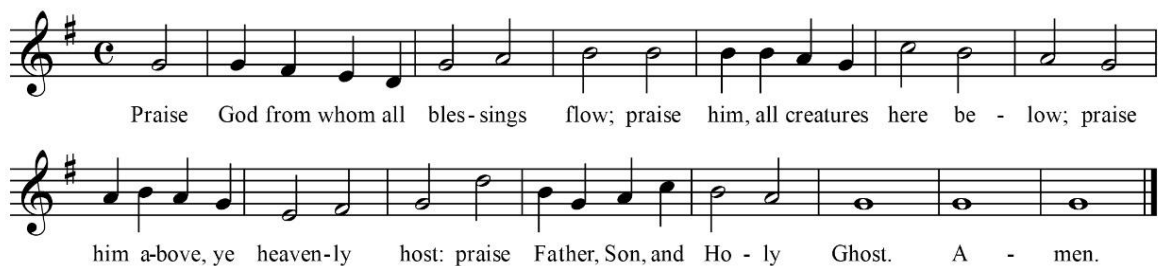
*Presider* Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. *Psalm 50:14*

*If you wish to give online, point your phone's camera at the QR code to the right and tap the webpage that pops up. It will take you to the St. Jude's online giving form!*



**Offertory Hymn #675** \_\_\_\_\_ *Take up your cross, the Savior said*

The Doxology *Please stand* \_\_\_\_\_



Praise God from whom all bles-sings flow; praise him, all creatures here be - low; praise  
him a-bove, ye heaven-ly host: praise Father, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

*The Celebration of the Eucharist*

The Eucharistic Prayer, For Creation *Please remain standing* \_\_\_\_\_

*Priest* The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*Priest* Lift up your hearts.  
*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**  
*Priest* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**  
*Priest* Praise and thanks are yours, our Creating God. From the dust of the earth you shaped human beings in your own image, and you filled the earth and seas and skies with a myriad of wonders. Yet we consistently turn your generosity into our scarcity, your elegance into our meanness, and your simplicity into our corruption.

Though we poison and destroy your good Creation, you continue to offer us your abundance. In your mercy, you have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus, transforming death into life. Through the Holy Spirit you continue to call us into covenant with you— for the restoration of Creation, and the reconciliation of all people.

And so we give you thanks, rejoicing with all of Creation, as we join the saints and angels in their unending hymn:

# Sanctus

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S 129

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly — Lord, God of pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are  
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*Priest* In the night that Jesus was betrayed, he took bread, and gave thanks to you, O God. He broke the bread, gave it to his friends and said: “Take and eat, for this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Jesus also took a cup of wine, and gave thanks to God.

He gave it to his friends saying:

“This is my blood of the new covenant,  
shed for you and for all, for the forgiveness of sins.

Every time you drink of it, do this in remembrance of me.”

So we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*All* **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

*Priest* Merciful God, we come to this table seeking reconciliation: with you, with one another, and with all creation. Through these mysteries, reconcile us to the world you made and called good; and empower us to restore your creation back to health and balance, in fulfillment of your will. Stir in us your own creativity and redeem our destructive ways. Heal your stricken world, that the soil, the skies, and the seas may be filled with your life anew.

As we offer you these gifts of bread and wine, send your life-giving Spirit upon them + and upon us + gathered in faith to receive them. Fill every heart with sure and certain hope that we shall enter into the fullness of your joy, when you are all in all.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, everlasting God our Creator, now and forever.

All AMEN.

### The Lord's Prayer \_\_\_\_\_

*Presider*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*All*

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses,**

**as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

### The Breaking of Bread, *silence follows* \_\_\_\_\_

*Priest*

The gifts of God for the people of God.  
Holy gifts for holy people.

**Communion** *Please be seated* \_\_\_\_\_

*All are welcome* but no one is obliged to receive. If you would prefer not to receive Communion, please cross your arms across your chest indicating you would like to receive a blessing instead.

If you wish to receive bread only, please take the bread and walk back to your seat or, if you wish to remain at the rail, place your arms across your shoulders when the Lay Eucharistic Minister comes by with the cup to indicate your preference. If you wish to drink wine, please drink from the cup only. Please do not intinct (dip your bread) in the wine.

**Communion Music** \_\_\_\_\_ *There is a Balm in Gilead*, Robert Lau

**Prayer after Communion** *Please stand* \_\_\_\_\_

*Priest* Let us pray.

*People* **Faithful God, in the wonder of your wisdom and love you fed your people in the wilderness with the bread of angels, and you sent Jesus to be the bread of life. We thank you for feeding us with this bread. May it strengthen us that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may embody your desire and be renewed for your service through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

**Sending Out of LEV's** \_\_\_\_\_

*Priest or Deacon gives LEV the Visitation Kit,*

*Priest* Let us all pray together:

*People* **In the name of this congregation, we send you out bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood. We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup. Amen.**

## *The Sending Out*

**Milestones & Announcements** *Please be seated* \_\_\_\_\_

**Blessing** \_\_\_\_\_

*The Presider blesses the People and the People respond:*

**Amen.**

**Sending Out Hymn #657** *Please stand* \_\_\_\_\_ *Love divine, all loves excelling*

**Sending Out** \_\_\_\_\_

*The Deacon dismisses the congregation, after which the people respond:*

**Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Postlude** \_\_\_\_\_ *Canzonetta, Dietrich Buxtehude*

*Rev. Susan will return next Sunday, from her family visit in CA.*

The church office will be closed tomorrow, Monday, September 4 for Labor Day.

We will reopen Tuesday, September 5 at 9 am.

**Prayer List** \_\_\_\_\_

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Prince, our Bishop Provisional; for Susan, our Priest-in-Charge; for Judy, our Deacon; for the Vestry.

For Al; Margaret; Bill; Rita; Todd; Diane; Sue; Barbara & Joe; Cindy; Cathy; Molly; Cory; Dale; Sue; Linda; Marcia; Gabe; Kady; Rose; Joan; Rex & Judi; Jim; Bob; Jim; James; Sharon; Mia; June; Ed; Carl; Sydne; Laura; Mike; Mary Lou; Randy; Jack; Sherry; Kathy & Tom; John; Pam; Marsha; Chet; Leonard; Ellen; Glenn; Jim; Patti; Brad; Vince; and Zack.

## **SERVING TODAY**

*LEM:* Clay Putnam  
*Reader/Prayers:* Jeff Wood  
*Ushers:* Lisa & Kelly Cronk  
*Live-streamer:* Paul Dolza  
*Altar Guild:* Sarah Dolza & Gay Adams  
*Vestry P. of Day:* Clay Putnam  
*Coffee Hour:* Dee Grossmann  
  
*Lay Eucharistic Visitor:* Lynn Hopper  
*9/5 Tuesday Counter:* Nancy Day  
*9/7 Thus. Office Volunteer:* Heather Ludwig

## **Serving Next Week, September 10**

*LEM:* Paul Dolza  
*Reader/Prayers:* Katie Young  
*Ushers:* Nancy Day & Lynne Ronthi  
*Altar Guild:* Mary Ellen & Mary Louise  
*Vestry P. of Day:* Clay Putnam  
*Coffee Hour:* The Marincos  
  
*Lay Eucharistic Visitor:* Lynne Ronthi  
*9/11 Monday Office Volunteer:* Ellen Tripp  
*9/12 Tuesday Counter:* Diane Putnam  
*9/14 Thus. Office Volunteer:* Judy Marincos

St. Jude's Episcopal Church  
(810) 629-5681

[www.stjudesfenton.com](http://www.stjudesfenton.com)  
Facebook: St. Jude's Episcopal Church

Sunday Service In-Person and on Facebook Live @ 10:30 am  
Our full Sunday schedule resumes next week:  
Adult Formation: Sundays @ 9:30 am Youth Group: Sundays @ 11:45 am