



# St. Jude's Episcopal Church

*Seeking and Worshipping God, Reaching out to Others*

September 24, 2023

The Seventeenth 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. The Season of Creation will conclude next Sunday, October 1, when we celebrate the life and witness of St Francis of Assisi, and bless people's pets (properly restrained) in the parking lot at 12 noon. Bring yours and invite your friends!

Be sure to join us following the service in Vandenberg Fellowship Hall for a time of conversation and refreshments; and join the fun as the CROP walk begins outside at 12:30.

**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 \_\_\_\_\_ *Tranquility*, Hubert Parry

Opening Hymn #690 *Please stand* \_\_\_\_\_ *Guide me, O thou great Jehovah*

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* \_\_\_\_\_

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)*

5. And you, most gentle sister death,  
waiting to hush our final breath:  
alleluia, alleluia!  
Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,  
Fair is the night that leads us home  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
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, 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* **Grant us, Lord, your vision of a renewed earth in which heaven comes to rest; and even now, while we too often despair of healing and wholeness, to hold fast to your promise and commit again to hope; 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 16:2-15*

*Reader* A Reading from the Book of Exodus.

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days." So Moses and Aaron said to all the

Israelites, “In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?” And Moses said, “When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord.”

Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.’” And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke to Moses and said, “I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’”

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.”

<i>Reader</i>	The Word of the Lord.
<i>People</i>	<b>Thanks be to God.</b>

**The Psalm** \_\_\_\_\_ *Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45*

- 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.
- 37 He led out his people with silver and gold; \*  
in all their tribes there was not one that stumbled.
- 38 Egypt was glad of their going, \*  
because they were afraid of them.
- 39 He spread out a cloud for a covering \*  
and a fire to give light in the night season.
- 40 They asked, and quails appeared, \*  
and he satisfied them with bread from heaven.
- 41 He opened the rock, and water flowed, \*  
so the river ran in the dry places.
- 42 For God remembered his holy word \*  
and Abraham his servant.
- 43 So he led forth his people with gladness, \*  
his chosen with shouts of joy.
- 44 He gave his people the lands of the nations, \*  
and they took the fruit of others' toil,
- 45 That they might keep his statutes \*  
and observe his laws. Hallelujah!

## The Second Reading \_\_\_\_\_

*Reader*            A reading from *The Art of the Commonplace*, Wendell Berry.

What is good for the world will be good for us. That requires that we make the effort to know the world and to learn what is good for it. We must learn to cooperate in its processes,

and to yield to its limits. But even more important, we must learn to acknowledge that the creation is full of mystery; we will never entirely understand it. We must abandon arrogance and stand in awe. We must Season of Creation 2023 87 recover the sense of the majesty of creation, and the ability to be worshipful in its presence. For I do not doubt that it is only on the condition of humility and reverence before the world that our species will be able to remain in it.

*Reader* Here ends the reading.

*The Art of the Commonplace: The Agrarian Essays of Wendell Berry* (Berkeley, CA: Counterpoint Press, 2003)

**Sequence Hymn WLP #761** *Please stand* \_\_\_\_\_ *All who hunger, gather gladly*

**The Gospel Reading** *Please stand* \_\_\_\_\_ *Matthew 20:1-16*

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

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

Jesus said, “The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’

When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and

go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

*Reader*            The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*            **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Sermon** *Please be seated* \_\_\_\_\_ The Rev. Susan Anslow Williams  
*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 interconnectivity 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; and bless our CROP Walk today, as the funds we raise will help neighbors in need.

*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.*

*Priest* Great Spirit God, we give you thanks for another day on this earth. We give you thanks for this day to enjoy the compassionate goodness of you, our Creator. We acknowledge with one mind our respect and gratefulness to all the sacred cycle of life. Bind us together in the circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and one another. **Amen.**

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

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

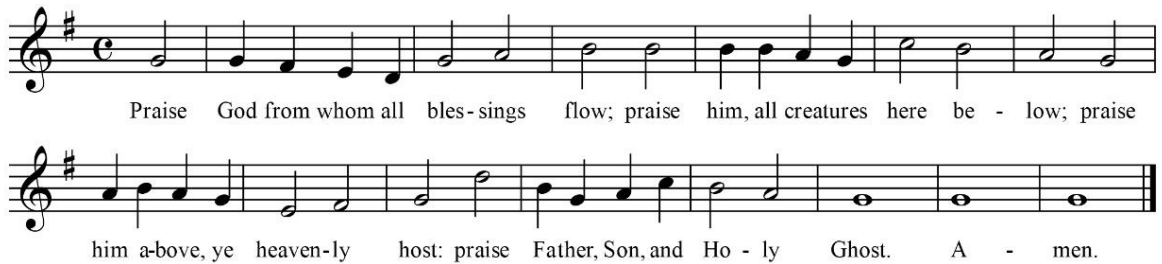
*Presider* Let us continually offer to God the sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge God's Name; doing good and sharing what we have; for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. *Hebrews 13:15,16*

*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 Anthem** \_\_\_\_\_ *God, Whose Firm is All Creation, Larry J. Long*

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



Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*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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Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord,  
God of power and might, heaven 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.

S 128--Setting by William Mathias

*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* \_\_\_\_\_



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is



sac - ri - ficed for us; there - fore let us keep the feast.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Setting: Gerald R. Near (b. 1942)

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 \_\_\_\_\_ O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee, Daniel Burton

Communion Hymn #660 \_\_\_\_\_ O Master, let me walk with thee

**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 #541** *Please stand* \_\_\_\_\_ *Come, labor on*

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

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

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

**SERVING TODAY**

LEM: Dee Grossmann  
Reader/Prayers: Paul Dolza  
Ushers: Lisa & Kelly Cronk  
Live-streamer: ???  
Altar Guild: Terri Hutchins & Francine Johnston  
Vestry P. of Day: Paul Dolza  
Coffee Hour: CROP Walk Potluck  
  
Lay Eucharistic Visitor: Paul Dolza  
9/25 Mon. Office Volunteer: Heather Ludwig  
9/26 Tuesday Counter: Lynne Ronthi  
9/28 Thus. Office Volunteer: Lynne Ronthi

**Serving Next Week, Oct. 1**

LEM: Amy Freeman  
Reader/Prayers: Dave & Deb James  
Ushers: Charlie Johnston & Jeff Wood  
Live-streamer: ???  
Altar Guild: Sarah Dolza & Gay Adams  
Vestry P. of Day: Dee Grossmann  
Coffee Hour: Doug & Diane Hill  
  
Lay Eucharistic Visitor: Amy Freeman  
10/2 Mon. Office Volunteer: Ellen Tripp  
10/3 Tuesday Counter: Nancy Day  
10/5 Thus. Office Volunteer: Judy Marinco

St. Jude's Episcopal Church  
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Sunday Service In-Person and on Facebook Live @ 10:30 am