

Sunday, September 7, 2025  
St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
Holy Eucharist  
1st Sunday of Season of Creation

The Word of God



**SEASON OF  
CREATION**

PRAY

Entrance Rite

ENTRANCE HYMN *Immortal, invisible, God only wise (St. Denio) (H 423) vv. 1-2*

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,  
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,  
3 To all life thou giv - est, to both great and small;  
4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry, thou rul - est in light,

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,  
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;  
in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;  
thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,  
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove  
 we blos - som and flour - ish, like leaves on the tree,  
 all laud we would ren - der: O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - tor - ious, thy great Name we praise.  
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.  
 then with - er and per - ish; but nought chan - geth thee.  
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee.

**OPENING ACCLAMATION (Creation 2025)**

**OPENING ACCLAMATION (Season of Creation)**

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

This is the day the Creator has  
 made.

*People Let us rejoice and be glad in it.*

**COLLECT FOR PURITY (BCP p. 355)**

*The Celebrant may say*

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 Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**SONG OF PRAISE *All creatures of our God and King* (H 400) vv. 1-2**



1 All crea - tures of our God and King, lift up your voic - es, let us  
 \*2 Great rush - ing winds and breez - es soft, you clouds that ride the heavens a -  
 \*3 Swift flow - ing wa - ter, pure and clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to  
 4 Dear mo - ther earth, you day by day un - fold your bless - ings on our  
 5 All you with mer - cy in your heart, for - giv - ing o - thers, take your  
 \*6 And ev - en you, most gen - tle death, wait - ing to hush our fi - nal  
 7 Let all things their cre - a - tor bless, and wor - ship him in hum - ble -



1 sing: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Bright burn - ing  
 2 loft, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Fair ris - ing  
 3 hear, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Fire, so in -  
 4 way, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! All flowers and  
 5 part, O — sing now: Al - le - lu - ia! All you that  
 6 breath, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! You lead back  
 7 ness, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God the



1 sun with gold - en beams, pale sil - ver moon that gen - tly gleams,  
 2 morn, with praise re - joice, stars night - ly shin - ing, find a voice,  
 3 tense and fierce - ly bright, you give to us both warmth and light,  
 4 fruits that in you grow, let them his glo - ry al - so show:  
 5 pain and sor - row bear, praise God, and cast on him your care:  
 6 home the child of God, for Christ our Lord that way has trod:  
 7 Fa - ther, praise the Son, and praise the Spi - rit, Three in One:

*Refrain*



O praise him, O praise him, Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

*The refrain may be sung antiphonally, by phrase; all join in the final Alleluia.*

**THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Preside*        The Creator be with  
*r*                you.

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

*Preside*        Let us pray.

*r*

Grant us, O God, the courage to choose Jesus' way even at great cost, bearing our cross and releasing our possessions, for the liberation and healing of your world; through Jesus Christ the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen**

## **The Lessons**

### **FIRST READING: Jeremiah 18:1-11**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

<sup>1</sup>The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: <sup>2</sup>"Come, go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words." <sup>3</sup>So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel.

<sup>4</sup>The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him.

<sup>5</sup>Then the word of the LORD came to me: <sup>6</sup>Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the LORD. Just like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. <sup>7</sup>At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, <sup>8</sup>but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. <sup>9</sup>And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, <sup>10</sup>but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it. <sup>11</sup>Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the LORD: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

### **PSALM: Psalm 139:1-5, 12-17**

*Remain seated.*

<sup>1</sup>LORD, you have searched me out and known me; \*  
you know my sitting down and my rising up;  
you discern my thoughts from afar.

<sup>2</sup>You trace my journeys and my resting-places \*  
and are acquainted with all my ways.

<sup>3</sup>Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, \*  
but you, O LORD, know it altogether.  
<sup>4</sup>You press upon me behind and before \*  
and lay your hand upon me.  
<sup>5</sup>Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; \*  
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.  
<sup>12</sup>For you yourself created my inmost parts; \*  
you knit me together in my mother's womb.  
<sup>13</sup>I will thank you because I am marvelously made; \*  
your works are wonderful, and I know it well.  
<sup>14</sup>My body was not hidden from you, \*  
while I was being made in secret  
and woven in the depths of the earth.  
<sup>15</sup>Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb;  
all of them were written in your book; \*  
they were fashioned day by day,  
when as yet there was none of them.  
<sup>16</sup>How deep I find your thoughts, O God! \*  
how great is the sum of them!  
<sup>17</sup>If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand; \*  
to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours.

## SECOND READING: Philemon 1-21

*The people sit.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to Philemon.

<sup>1</sup>Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,  
To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, <sup>2</sup>to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and  
to the church in your house:

<sup>3</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup>When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God <sup>5</sup>because I hear of your love for all the  
saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup>I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective  
when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. <sup>7</sup>I have indeed received much joy and  
encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my  
brother.

<sup>8</sup>For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, <sup>9</sup>yet I would  
rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of  
Christ Jesus. <sup>10</sup>I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my im  
prisonment. <sup>11</sup>Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. <sup>12</sup>I am  
sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. <sup>13</sup>I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of  
service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; <sup>14</sup>but I preferred to do nothing  
without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced.  
<sup>15</sup>Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back

forever, <sup>16</sup>no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

<sup>17</sup>So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. <sup>18</sup>If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. <sup>19</sup>I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. <sup>20</sup>Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. <sup>21</sup>Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

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

*Silence may follow.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN *Morning has broken* (H 8) vv. 1-2**

*All stand in body or spirit.*

*Unison or harmony*

1 Morn-ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing,  
2 Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from hea - ven,  
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing

black-bird has spo - ken like the first bird. \_\_\_\_\_  
like the first dew - fall like on the first grass. \_\_\_\_\_  
born of the one light E - den saw play! \_\_\_\_\_

Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the morn - ing!  
 Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet gar - den,  
 Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - ery morn - ing,

Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!  
 sprung in com - plete - ness where his feet pass.  
 God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

**GOSPEL: Luke 14:25-33**

*All stand.*

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

<sup>25</sup>Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus;] and he turned and said to them, <sup>26</sup>“Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. <sup>27</sup>Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. <sup>28</sup>For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? <sup>29</sup>Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, <sup>30</sup>saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ <sup>31</sup>Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup>If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. <sup>33</sup>So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

The Gospel of our Savior.

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

## THE SERMON (BCP p. 358)

### PROFESSION OF FAITH

*from Gurukul Lutheran Theological College & Research Institute (in South India) as provided in "Listen to the Voice of Creation."*

**We believe in God, who creates all things, who embraces all things, who celebrates all things, who is present in every part of the fabric of creation.**

**We believe in God as the source of all life, who baptizes this planet with living water.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ, the suffering one, the poor one, the malnourished one, the climate refugee, who loves and cares for this world and who suffers with it.**

**And we believe in Jesus Christ, the seed of life, who came to reconcile and renew this world and everything in it.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God, who moves with God and who moves among and with us today.**

**We believe in everlasting life in God. And we believe in the hope that one day God will put an end to death and all destructive forces. Amen.**

### THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *Larry Bennett*

God of unchangeable power, open our eyes to the wonders of creation and teach us to see all things for good to the honor of Your glorious name.

We pray for the church, that she may be a beacon of hope, responsibility, and stewardship for God's precious gift of creation. Lord, in your mercy... **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for those in authority, that they respect the environment, the poor and most vulnerable. Lord, in your mercy ... **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for the earth our common home, that through God's grace we be moved to protect, conserve, and sustain the world's well being for future generations. Lord, in your mercy ... **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for the gifts of science and technology that skills, methods, instruments, and machines be used for visionary, compassionate, and practical environmental care. Lord, in your mercy ... **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all indigenous peoples that they may lead sacred, protected, and valued lives. May their voices be heard and honored in all environmental decisions. Lord, in your mercy ... **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for refugees that have lost their homes, livelihood, and security due to climate or weather-related problems. Lord, in your mercy ... **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all people and creatures whose lives and deaths have contributed to the fruitful abundance of the world. Lord, in your mercy ... **Hear our prayer.**

Awaken our praise and thankfulness for everything You have made. Give us the grace to perceive that all life is connected. Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

### CONFESSION OF SIN *Liturgical Materials "For Honoring God In Creation"*

*The Presider may say*



Let us confess our sins against God and God's creation.

**God of compassion, have mercy upon us. Heal our relationship with all creation. Forgive us for our mistreatment and neglect of the creatures who share the earth with us. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent for what we have done to harm them, and for what we have not done to help them. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may care for one another and for all creatures, according to your will and in the fullness of your love; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.**

*The Priest stands and says*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

## **THE PEACE**

*All stand.*

*Presider*            Peace be with yourself.  
                          Peace be with Creation.  
                          Peace be with one another.  
                          The peace of Christ be always with you.

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

*Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## The Holy Communion

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE (BCP p. 376)**

*The Celebrant says*

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

### **OFFERTORY HYMN *For the beauty of the earth* (H 416) vv. 1-6**

1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,  
 2 For the beau - ty of each hour of the day and of the night,  
 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,  
 4 For the joy of hu-man love, bro-ther, sis - ter, par - ent, child,  
 5 For the Church which ev - er - more lift - eth ho - ly hands a - bove,

1 for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies,  
 2 hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light,  
 3 for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight,  
 4 friends on earth, and friends a - bove, for all gen - tle thoughts and mild,  
 5 of - fering up on ev - ery shore thy pure sac - ri - fice of love,

*Refrain*

Christ our God, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate-ful praise.

6 For each perfect gift of thine  
 to the world so freely given,  
 faith and hope and love divine,  
 peace on earth and joy in heaven,

*Refrain*

## The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer 2 (EOW)

*The People remain standing.*

*Presider* The Creator be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*Presider* Lift up your hearts.  
*People* **We lift them to the Creator.**  
*Presider* Let us give thanks to the Loving God

People

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing (say):

**SANCTUS *Santo, santo, santo [Holy, holy, holy] (WLP 785)***

San - to, san - to, san - to, mi cor - a - zon te a - do - ra! Mi  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you! My

cor - a - zon te sa - be de - cir: san - to e - res Se - ñor.  
heart is glad to say the words: you are ho - ly, Lord.

*The Presider continues*

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with [The blessed Virgin Mary, the Prophets, Apostles, Martyrs, St, Mark,\_\_\_ and] all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** *Adapted from "Creation Care Prayers" [The Church of England Environmental Programme, 27](#)*

As the Wisdom before Creation teaches us, we pray:

*People*            **Our Father, who art in heaven**  
*Presider*        You are also at home in the air, soil, forests and oceans  
*People*            **hallowed be thy Name**  
*Presider*        By the care we take of your Creation  
*People*            **thy kingdom come,**  
*Presider*        All that you see is good  
*People*            **thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**  
*Presider*        Your will to till and care  
*People*            **Give us this day our daily bread.**  
*Presider*        That all may have enough to live life in fullness  
*People*            **And forgive us our trespasses,**  
*Presider*        Our greed, our exploitation, our lack of concern for other species and for future generations  
*People*            **as we forgive those who trespass against us.**  
*Presider*        By reconciliation with justice and peace.  
*People*            **And lead us not into temptation,**  
*Presider*        The temptation to equate dominion with exploitation  
*People*            **but deliver us from evil.**  
*Presider*        The evil of destroying your gift of creation  
*People*            **For thine is the kingdom,**  
*Presider*        Yours, Lord, not ours  
*People*            **and the power, and the glory,**  
*Presider*        In the cross and resurrection  
*People*            **forever and ever.**  
*Presider*        You are the beginning and you are the end.

Amen.

## The Breaking of the Bread

### FRACTION ANTHEM

This is Living Bread, given for all Creation.

**All who eat this bread share in Christ's Body**

### INVITATION (BCP p. 364)

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

### PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Let us pray:

*Silence*

*Lord Jesus, we thank you for feeding us spiritually with your Body and Blood, through which you have imparted to us your life. Teach us to live with grateful hearts. You have come to us anew today. May you continue to live in our souls; until in your good time we may see you face to face where you live and reign for ever and ever. Amen.*

This is God's Table, all who are drawn here are welcome.

### DISTRIBUTION (BCP p. 365)

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [*Amen.*]

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [*Amen.*]

### COMMUNION HYMN *God the sculptor of the mountains (Sandria)* (WLP 746)

1. God the sculp-tor of the moun-tains, God the mil-ler of the sand,  
 2. God the nui-sance to the Pha-raoh, God the cleav-er of the sea,  
 3. God the un-ex-pect-ed in-fant, God the calm, de-ter-mined youth,  
 4. God the dress-er of the vine-yard, God the plant-er of the wheat,

God the jewel-er of the heav-ens, God the pot-ter of the land:  
 God the pil-lar of the dark-ness, God the bea-con of the free:  
 God the ta-ble turn-ing pro-phet, God the res-ur-rect-ed Truth:  
 God the reap-er of the har-vest, God the source of all we eat:

you are womb of all cre-a-tion, we are form-less; shape us now.  
 you are gate of all de-liv'-rance, we are sight-less; lead us now.  
 you are pres-ent ev-ery mo-moment, we are search-ing; meet us now.  
 you are host at ev-ery ta-ble, we are hun-gry; feed us now.

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (Creation 2024)**

*from "Prayers of Intercession for Creation Time 2012" in Churches Together in Britain and Ireland*

Let us pray.

Create in us a new heart and a new vision, O God, that the gifts of your Spirit may work in us and renew the face of the earth. May we be one with you so that our work is yours and your work is ours. Lead us to transform our lives to reflect your glory in Creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior who is alive with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever. Amen

**BLESSING (Creation 2024)**

Go forth now to care for God's world. Use resources wisely. Share your knowledge. Sacrifice where necessary. Live in harmony with all creation. Go out into all the world as prophets of a new way of living and preach the good news to all. And the blessing of the Creator God, the Risen Son, and the Promised Holy Spirit bless you that you might be a blessing to others today and always. Amen

**POST-COMMUNION HYMN *God of grace and God of glory* (H 594)**

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple pour thy power;  
2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as - sail his ways!  
3 Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness, bend our pride to thy con - trol;  
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils we de - plore;

crown thine an - cient Church's sto - ry; bring her bud to glo - rious flower.  
From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise:  
shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, rich in things and poor in soul.  
let the gift of thy sal - va - tion be our glo - ry ev - er - more.

Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, for the fac - ing of this  
 grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, for the liv - ing of these  
 Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, lest we miss thy king - dom's  
 Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, serv - ing thee whom we a -

hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.  
 days, for the liv - ing of these days.  
 goal, lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.  
 dore, serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

**DISMISSAL (Creation 2024)**

**DISMISSAL (BCP p. 366)**

Let us go forth into all Creation, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia.

*People* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

*From riteplanning.com.*

*Copyright © 2025 Church Publishing Inc. All rights reserved.*