

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost – September 29, 2024
“Celebrating Creation” V – Restoring Our Balance

WE GATHER IN PRAISE

PRELUDE When Morning Guilds the Sky with Morning by Edward Grieg
Joseph Barnby, Arr by Marilyn Reimer

OPENING HYMN God of wonders Steve Hindalong and Marc Byrd, 2000

1. Lord of all cre-a - tion, of wa-ter, earth and sky,
The hea-vens are your tab - er-nac le. Glo-ry to the Lord on high!

Refrain
God of won-ders be-yond our gal - ax - y, You are ho - ly, ho ly. The
u - ni-verse de-clar-es your ma-jes ty, You are ho ly, ho ly.
Lord of hea-ven and earth, Lord of hea-ven and earth.

2. Ear-ly in the morn - ing, I will cel - e-brate the light;
When I stumble in the dark - ness, I will call your name by night

OPENING PRAYERS

Presider Blessed is the One who creates all things.
People **God's love is new every morning.**
Presider Let us pray.

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.**

SONG OF PRAISE I lift my eyes up Brian Doerksen, 1990

I lift my eyes up to the moun-tains: where does my help come from?
My help comes from you, Ma-ker of hea - ven, Cre-a-tor of the earth.
Oh, how I need you, Lord, you are my on - ly hope, - you're my on - ly prayer;
So I will wait for you, to come and res - cue me, come and give me life.

WE RECEIVE GOD'S WORD

READING FROM THE HEBREW BIBLE Isaiah 11:6-9

The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

Reader For the Word of God in Scripture; for the Word of God among us:
People **Thanks be to God.**

READING FROM “GRIEF IN A SILENT SEA”

Tim Gordon, *marine biologist at the University of Exeter and at the Australian Institute of Marine Science; his research focuses on the impacts of climate change on tropical coral reefs.*

Jesus never scuba-dived on a dying Great Barrier Reef. He never saw the colors fade, the architecture collapse and the symphony silenced. But I think his words and actions at Lazarus’ tomb show us how he might respond to today’s environmental crises. If, while on earth, Jesus had seen the riches of creation reduced to a rubble field, he surely would have wept with us for its loss. He surely would have pointed us to its future redemption. And he surely would have used this as motivation to protect all that still remains of the planet’s wonders. “I am the resurrection and the life,” said Jesus, as his cheeks shone with tears. One day, the sea will sing again.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

CANTICLE OF BROTHER SUN AND SISTER MOON

Saint Francis of Assisi

Most High, all-powerful, all-good Lord, all praise is yours,
all glory, all honor and all blessings.
To you alone, Most High, do they belong,
and no mortal lips are worthy to pronounce your Name.
Praised be you, my Lord, with all Your creatures, especially Sir Brother Sun,
who is the day through whom You give us light.
And he is beautiful and radiant with great splendor,
of you, Most High, he bears the likeness.
Praised be you, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars,
in the heavens you have made them bright, precious and fair.
Praised be you, my Lord, through Brothers Wind and Air, and fair and stormy,
all weather’s moods, by which you cherish all that you have made.
Praised be you my Lord through Sister Water, **so useful, humble, precious and pure.**
Praised be You my Lord through Brother Fire, through whom You light the night
and he is beautiful and playful and robust and strong.
Praised be you my Lord through our Sister, Mother Earth who sustains and governs us,
producing varied fruits with colored flowers and herbs.
Praise be you my Lord through those who grant pardon for love of you
and bear sickness and trial.
Blessed are those who endure in peace, **by you, Most High, they will be crowned.**
Praised be you, my Lord through Sister Death, **from whom no one living can escape.**

Blessed are they She finds doing Your Will. **No second death can do them harm.**
Praise and bless my Lord and give Him thanks, **and serve Him with great humility.**

GOSPEL CHANT

Celtic Alleluia

O’Carroll/Walker 1985



THE GOSPEL

John 21:1-14

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, ‘I am going fishing.’ They said to him, ‘We will go with you.’ They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, ‘Children, you have no fish, have you?’ They answered him, ‘No.’ He said to them, ‘Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.’ So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, ‘It is the Lord!’ When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the lake. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, ‘Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.’ So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred and fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, ‘Come and have breakfast.’ Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, ‘Who are you?’ because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

Presider The Good News of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SERMON "Restoring Our Balance" The Rev. Dr. Kate Heichler

READING OF "NOTHING IS LOST" FROM *LADDER TO THE LIGHT* Bishop Stephen Charleston
*Native American elder, a citizen of the Choctaw Nation, author,
and a retired bishop in the Episcopal Church.*

In the days of conquest, when darkness covered the land, the hoop of many nations was broken, the story of many people lost—and lost forever. The number who perished will never be counted, but their graves are still here. Their testimony is written into the earth. The wisdom of the ancestors is a mist over the valley, a cloud passing before the moon. The teachings of the elders can be heard in the rain, the message of the poets seen in the first stars that put the sun to bed. Nothing is finally lost. The ancient visions are within us. The old dreams are part of us. The steady rhythm of hope was never silenced. It beats today for all who would hear it. It beats within me. It beats within you. Life is still growing beneath the concrete. The sound of the earth is breathing beneath the glass and steel.

A FOUR DIRECTIONS PRAYER FROM OUR FIRST NATIONS PEOPLES *Cree and Dene*
(Please stand as you are able and form a circle.)

Jesus Christ is the light of the world

A light no darkness can extinguish

We thank you Creator for the Medicine you send from the Four Sacred Directions
The Medicine you send in your son Jesus Christ,
the Medicine you send in the Sacred Drum,
the Drum that brings us one heartbeat.

One heartbeat into unity with all of Creation

We thank you for the reminder that we are one with Mother Earth and with all of
Creation. We thank you for the Medicine you send in the Four Sacred Directions
of the Wind, wind that brings us changes of season, changes in our lives;

**wind that allows us to mature, adapt,
become more compassionate and loving to each other.**

We thank you, Creator, for the Medicine that you send in the Water;

The Water in our bodies and the Water of our Mother Earth

We thank you for the strengthening that you give us from these Four Sacred Medicines
Remind us always to be humble, to walk gently on the back of Mother Earth;
to remember that we are pitiful like an infant without its mother.

We are pitiful without you.

And we need you in every way, in every day.

We pray today for the strengthening, the health and the wellbeing
of the two leggeds, the four leggeds, those that creep, those that swim, those that fly,
the male and female of all creation
Water People, Rock People, Star People.

We lift up other thanksgivings and prayers for the world, the church, people we love.

The Presider offers a closing prayer:

In those days the spirit from on high will be poured out on us.
Then will the desert become an orchard and the orchard regarded as a forest.
Right will dwell in the desert and justice abide in the orchard.
Justice will bring about peace; right will produce calm and security.
My people will live in a peaceful country, in secure dwellings and quiet resting places.

THE PEACE *(Please stand as you are able)*

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

People **And also with you.**

The people exchange a sign of Christ's peace with their neighbors.

OFFERING OF OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

*Please support our mission as you feel moved - text "CCLAPLATA" to 73256 or
online at <https://christchurchlplata.org/donate/> or cash in the offering plate.
Thank you!*



OFFERTORY HYMN

[This is my father's world](#)

Hymnal 651

2 This is my Father's world: The birds their carols raise,
The morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise.
This is my Father's world: he shines in all that's fair;
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass, he speaks to me everywhere.

THE HOLY MEAL

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The people are invited to participate, praying the words in bold type.

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

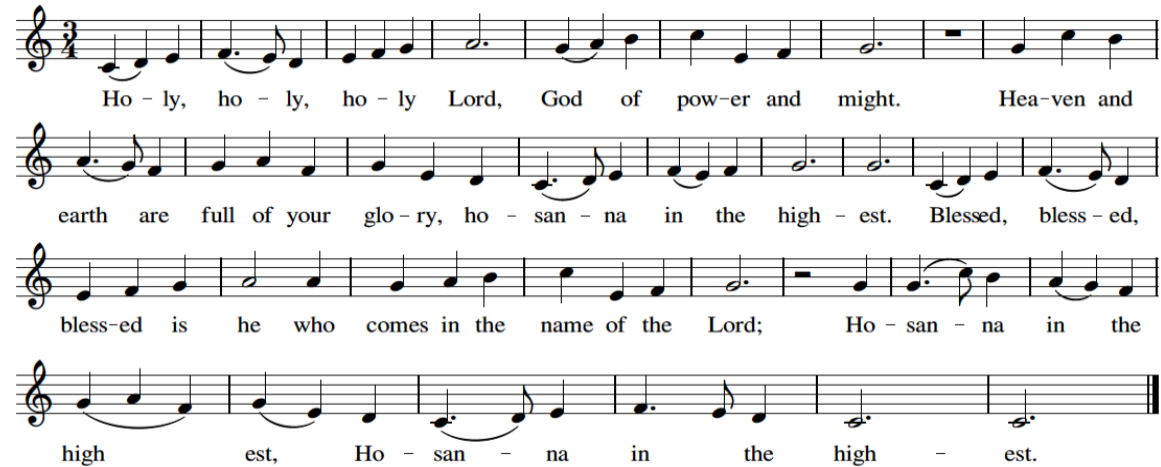
It is right and good to give you thanks, Almighty God, maker of mountains and seas, rivers and deserts, trees and birds, and all life everywhere;

for we were made to give praise.

This beautiful world reflects your glory, and we, made in your image, join in the song of praise echoing from all of creation, as we sing:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (Sanctus)

Kate Heichler, 2000



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might. Hea-ven and
earth are full of your glo-ry, ho - san - na in the high - est. Blessed, bless - ed,
bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; Ho - san - na in the
high est, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord God, you made us in Your image, to care for this lush world,
to bear your love and your light to each other and to all creation.

You gave us stewardship over it and invited us to tend its creatures as you tended us –
with love and care and generosity.

And as sin entered our hearts, love of self overcame love for the creation
with whom we share life.

**In taking more than we needed, we broke our unity with you, O Lord;
with one another; and with your creation.**

Into this brokenness, you sent your Son, Jesus Christ, to heal all things.

He came and brought new life to everything he touched –
**bread multiplied on hillsides; fish multiplied in nets;
the sick became whole and dead were raised to new life.**

Through the Spirit you continue to call us into covenant with you—
for the restoration of Creation and the reconciliation of all people.

In the night that Jesus gave himself up to that mission, he took bread,
and gave thanks to God, Creator. He broke the bread, gave it to his friends and said,
"Take, eat: This is my Body, given for you. Do this to remember me."

He took the wine, and gave thanks to God, Creator. He gave it to his friends saying,
**"Drink this, all of you: This is my blood, sealing God's promise to forgive your sins.
Whenever you drink it, do this to remember me."**

So we come to this feast to remember his death, to celebrate his resurrection.

**We come to anticipate our life with him in the restored Creation with all the people
and animals and wild places we have loved.**

Send Your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, we pray; **make it holy food for your holy people.**

Send Your Holy Spirit upon your holy people gathered here:

Fill us with your power and love as healers of this precious earth.

Accept these prayers and praises, O God, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship,
from generation to generation. **AMEN**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*Jesus' Original*)

**Our Father in heaven,
holy is your Name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread,
And forgive us our sins as we forgive
those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil,
For the kingdom, the power, and the
glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*Elizabethan translation*)

**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**

AT THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Taste and see

Kate Heichler

Taste and see the good-ness of the Lord, the bread he broke for us, Hal-le - lu-jah;
 Taste and see the wine that he has poured; the great-est for the
 least, hal-le - lu - jah; so let us keep the feast, Hal-le - lu - jah!

All are welcome to communion, coming up the center aisle and returning by the side aisles, disposing of the wine cup in the basket on your way back to your pew. Those who wish to sip from the common cup, please indicate so to the chalice bearer. If you don't wish to receive you may cross your arms for a blessing.

COMMUNION MUSIC Variations on "Picardy" Traditional French Carol Arr. Edward L. Good

PRAYER OF THANKS

Faithful God, in your wisdom and love you fed your people in the wilderness with the bread of angels. You sent Jesus to be the bread of life. We thank you for feeding us with this bread. May it birth in us a new heart and a new vision, 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. May our lives 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.

PASTORAL BLESSING

May God who established the dance of creation, who marveled at the lilies of the field, who transforms chaos to order, lead us to transform our lives and the Church, to listen to the voice of all creatures that reflect God's glory in creation. And the blessing of the Creator God, the Risen Son, and the Promised Holy Spirit bless to be a blessing to others today and always. **Amen.**

PRAYERS FOR BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

COMMUNITY NEWS

AFFIRMATION OF PURPOSE

Bountiful God, you call us to labor with you in tending the earth:
 Where we lack love, **open our hearts to the world;**
 where we waste, **give us discipline to conserve;**
 where we neglect, **awaken our minds and wills to insight and care.**
 May we with all your creatures honor and serve you in all things, for you live and reign with Christ, Redeemer of all, and with your Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

The earth is the Lord's

Maggi Dawn

1. The earth is the Lord's and ev - ery-thing in it; From sea - bed to
 2. Can you feel the ach - ing hear of cre - a - tion? A plan - net in
 3. On this ho - ly ground, de - fense - less be - fore you, Your Spi - rit, O
 sky and from o - cean to earth; The beau - ty from here to the farth - est hor -
 per - il, a world in des - pair, A hab - i - tat drained of strength and re -
 God, is the air that we breathe; Oh, teach us to live your ho - ly vo -
 i - zon, a gift to us all from the mo - ment of birth.
 si - lience can ne - ver sus - tain all the life in her care.
 ca - tion: to care for the ground that is un - der our feet.
Chorus
 There is no way back to the gar - den of E den, But the vision you pro -
 mise is a ci - ty and home. Re - deem us, O Lord, and the earth we be - long
 to: Cre - a - tion still groans for a new world to come.

SENDING *People* **Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE The Heavens are Telling Frank Joseph Haydn

MUSIC AND WORSHIP NOTES

Organ and Piano: Mary Kercher; Guitar: Kate Heichler

*The **Canticle** is attributed to St. Francis of Assisi.*

*The indigenous **Four Directions Prayer** comes from an Anglican priest of the Cree and Dene people on the western coast of Canada, and the **closing prayer** is an adaptation of Isaiah 32:15-18. Kate Heichler authored the **eucharistic prayer; the Prayer of Thanks; Blessing and Affirmation of Purpose** come from *Season of Creation 2024: A Celebration Guide for Episcopal parishes.**

Hymns are found in the hymnals in our pews, and words are provided on slides.

Those worshiping online can click the link on the hymn name and find the tune there.

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OUR PRAYERS

We give thanks for: The energy of the fall season.

Milestones: Melanie Tierney, Meredith Bankenstein

We pray for: Our children getting back into the rhythm of school.

Those in need of healing – Chris, Bill, Kathie, Kathleen, Patsy; James; Douglas; Janet

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BEING AN INVITING CHURCH – After-Church Gathering Today – We will gather over a light meal and conversation about how we can become more intentional and effective in inviting people to Christ Church – there is wisdom in the larger church that we can learn from, and wisdom we have to share with each other! Plan to stay.

NEXT SATURDAY! LEST WE FORGET: CHARLES COUNTY RECKONS WITH RACE October 5, 10 – 3 Port Tobacco Historic Village – The Christ Churches are lead organizers of this racial justice event – please register to attend and invite some people to join you. If you're willing to help out the day of, please let Rev. Kate know.

BLESSING OF ANIMALS & FALL FAMILY PICNIC October 6, 11 am – We culminate our Celebrating Creation series with our annual Blessing of Animals worship service outside in our field. We'll have a potluck picnic lunch after worship. This is a wonderful opportunity to invite friends to join you for church – 2-leggeds or 4-leggeds or winged!

BEING WITH: A Joyful Exploration of Christian Faith and Life – Wednesday evenings starting October 2 – This 10-week course invites us to bring our hearts as well as our minds head into exploring God's love for us in Christ. We will begin at 6 with a light supper and finish around 7:30. Childcare can be arranged – who might you invite? We can also make this a hybrid experience if you are interested but cannot attend in person – please speak with Rev. Kate.

OKTOBERFEST – Saturday, October 19 – Christ Church Wayside is hosting this fall extravaganza – an outdoor party featuring brats and beer, children's games and all kinds of fun. We are invited to help with games and children's activities – please let Rev. Kate know if you can help with that. And grab some flyers to share around, and forward the online posts.

ONLINE GIVING – You can text a donation - text "CCLAPLATA" to 73256, and follow the prompts. You can also give online - go to www.christchurchlaplata.org and scroll down to the "Donate" link.

GIVING FUND – Our Giving Fund is getting many requests – please give as you're able.