

Creation Season

The Feast of St. Francis & St. Clare



St. Aidan's Episcopal Church
October 4, 2026 10:00 a.m.

The Liturgy of the Word

Opening Hymn: Sing of the Raven

Tune: Bunessan, Gaelic Melody

Lyrics: Oakerhater Celebration



Sing of the Ra - ven, bird of cre - a - tion, birth - ing the world, un -
Sing of the stor - ies told by the el - ders, tales of the prair - ie,
Sing of I - o - na, Isle of the o - cean, gull wing and eag - le
Sing of Co - lum - ba, Pat - rick and Hil - da, Brig - id and Aid - en,
Wide are the o - ceans flow - ing be - tween us, high are the mount - ains



fold - ing her wings. _____ Call - ing her chil - dren, form - ing a na -
songs of the sea. _____ Sing of the Ho - pi, Black - feet and Mo -
soar in the sky. _____ Stones of High Cross - es tell - ing their sto -
some with - out name. _____ Sing of high plac - es, sac - red the oak
soar - ing a - bove. _____ Yet the Great Spir - it form - ing cre - a -



tion, cry - ing, "To - mor - row! hear what it brings."
hawk, Chey - enne, A - pach - e, Nav - a - ho, Cree.
ry, Christ in his glo - ry dies but to rise.
tree, deep ho - ly wells and bright East - er flame.
tion calls us to - geth - er, one in God's love.

Opening Acclamation and Prayer of the Directions

Presider Blessed be the One who creates all things.

People ***The Holy One's love is new every morning.***

Officiant

We turn to the east, O God, and offer thanks to you whose creative mystery shines in the rising of the sun. May we honor the breath of life that flows through all creation, and the intricate web that connects all things. May the divine mystery open us to new beginnings.

People ***Renew us in your love.***

Officiant

We turn to the west, O God, and give thanks to you who laid the course of the sun's setting. May we welcome its waning light and hallow all endings, remembering our own sundown. Open us, we pray, to the transformations of letting go.

People ***Renew us in your love.***

Officiant

We turn to the north, O God, with reverence for the living wisdom of your holy ones, especially the Yelamu tribe of the Ramaytush Ohlone people who have lived in vital relationship with this unceded land for thousands of years. Strengthen us to engage the deep work of repair for which the very soil cries out.

People

Renew us in your love.

Officiant

We turn to the south, O God, and give thanks for your irrepressible joy in our lives. May that joy inspire us to celebrate the dignity and support the flourishing of all creation.

People

Renew us in your love.

Chant of Praise: Jubilate Deo

(repeat 3 times)

Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)



The Collect of the Day

Presider

The Creator be with you.

People

And also with you.

Presider

Let us pray.

God of all mercies, may we strive always to imitate the way of holy simplicity, humility, and poverty, shown us by our forebears Francis and Clare, and in our conversion to Christ. Spread the fragrance of a good name, we pray, from those who live faithfully according to your will. May we love one another with the charity of Christ. May the love that we have in our hearts show itself in our actions. And may our love and example increase love of God and charity for one another in all places. Amen.

The First Reading

Lector

A reading from Job (39:1–18).

"Do you know when the mountain goats give birth?

Do you observe the calving of the deer?

Can you number the months that they fulfil,

and do you know the time when they give birth,

when they crouch to give birth to their offspring,

and are delivered of their young?

Their young ones become strong, they grow up in the open;

they go forth, and do not return to them.

"Who has let the wild ass go free?

Who has loosed the bonds of the swift ass,

to which I have given the steppe for its home,

the salt land for its dwelling-place?

It scorns the tumult of the city;

it does not hear the shouts of the driver.

It ranges the mountains as its pasture,

and it searches after every green thing.

"Is the wild ox willing to serve you?

Will it spend the night at your crib?

Can you tie it in the furrow with ropes,
or will it harrow the valleys after you?
Will you depend on it because its strength is great,
and will you hand over your labor to it?
Do you have faith in it that it will return,
and bring your grain to your threshing-floor?

"The ostrich's wings flap wildly,
though its pinions lack plumage.
For it leaves its eggs to the earth,
and lets them be warmed on the ground,
forgetting that a foot may crush them,
and that a wild animal may trample them.
It deals cruelly with its young, as if they were not its own;
though its labor should be in vain, yet it has no fear;
because God has made it forget wisdom,
and given it no share in understanding.
When it spreads its plumes aloft,
it laughs at the horse and its rider.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalm 121

The Deacon or Presider introduces the Psalm and reads the Antiphon. All join in reading the bolded text.

Antiphon My help comes from our God, the maker of heaven and earth.

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills;* from where is my help to come?***
- 2 My help comes from our God,* the maker of heaven and earth.***
- 3 God will not let your foot be moved* the one who watches over you will not fall asleep.***
- 4 Behold, the one who keeps watch over Israel* shall neither slumber nor sleep;***
- 5 The Holy One watches over you;* God is your shade at your right hand.***
- 6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day,* nor the moon by night.***
- 7 God will preserve you from all evil;* the Most High will keep you safe.***
- 8 God will watch over your going out and your coming in,* from this time forth for evermore.***

Antiphon My help comes from our God, the maker of heaven and earth.

The Second Reading

Lector A reading from "Life of St. Francis" by Thomas of Celano.

The first work that blessed Francis undertook after he had gained his freedom [from his home of origins] was to build a house of God. He did not try to build one anew, but he repaired an old one, restored an ancient one [the Church of St. Damian]. He did not tear out the foundation, but he built upon it, ever reserving to Christ his prerogative, though he was not aware of it, for other foundation no one can lay but that which has been laid which is Christ Jesus.... This is the blessed and holy place, where the glorious religion and most excellent order of Poor Clares had its blessed origin about six years after the conversion

of St. Francis and through that same blessed man. Of it, the Lady Clare, a native of the city of Assisi, the most precious and firmest stone of the whole structure, was the foundation. For when, after the beginning of the Order of Brothers, the said lady [who had run away from home to join Francis at the age of about eighteen] was converted to God through the counsel of the holy man, she lived unto the advantage of many and as an example to a countless multitude. She was of noble parentage, but she was more noble by grace.... a youth in age but mature in spirit; steadfast in purpose and most ardent in her desire for divine love; endowed with wisdom and excelling in humility; Clare by name, brighter in life, and brightest in character.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn Earth Is Full of Wit and Wisdom

All Creation Sings #1064)

1 Earth is full of wit and wis-dom, sound-ing God's de-light-ed laugh,
 2 Earth is full of wit and wis-dom, wo-ven in-to har-mo-ny.
 3 Earth is full of wit and wis-dom: pen-guin, pla-ty-pus, and snail,
 from the ti-ny ro-ly-po-ly to the tree-top-tall gi-raffe.
 Ev-'ry crea-ture has a pur-pose, ev-'ry flow'r and bum-ble-bee,
 cac-tus, sea slug, oak, and al-gae, from the mi-crobe to the whale.
 All cre-a-tion sings in won-der; e-ven rocks and trees re-joice
 Spi-der, hu-man, red-wood, geck-o, mon-key, chick-en, mouse, and snake
 In this great and strange cre-a-tion, with a breath God gives us birth:
 as they join the ring-ing cho-rus: ech-oes of our Mak-er's voice.
 live with-in a sin-gle fab-ric: cloth that on-ly God could make.
 born of soil to live as stew-ards, called to love and serve the earth.

The Gospel

Deacon or Presider The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew (11:25–30).
People ***Glory to you, O Christ.***

Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Deacon or Presider The Gospel of our Savior.
People ***Praise to you, O Christ***

The Sermon

The Rev. Margaret Dyer-Chamberlain

Silence *After the sermon, a bell will sound to mark a brief period of silence. The bell will sound a second time to mark the conclusion of this time.*

The Nicene Creed

Deacon, Seminarian, or Presider Together, let us join in saying the Nicene Creed.

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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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

Deacon, Seminarian, or Presider

Jesus promised “in my father’s house there are many dwelling places.” There is abundant room for all God’s children. God of all Creation, we bring our prayers before you.

Intercessor

For the universal church, that may we live the Gospel. Inspire church leaders and congregations to advocate for justice and peace.

Deacon, Seminarian or Presider reads the Anglican, Episcopal, Diocesan, & Parish cycles of prayer, inviting additional prayers.

In hope, we pray:

Help us to be good stewards of your creation.

For the world, for people living in the many war-torn regions, those struggling with the effects of climate change and natural disasters, and for those fleeing hardship and danger.

The Intercessor pauses for additional prayers.

In hope, we pray:

Help us to be good stewards of your creation.

Intercessor

For our divided nation. Help us to embrace the truth named in our nation’s founding declaration, that all people are created equal. There is room in GOD’S house for all people.

Deacon, Seminarian, or Presider shares our communal prayers for justice and invites additional prayers.

In hope, we pray:

Help us to be good stewards of your creation.

Intercessor

For all who are sick, suffering, or in danger, named aloud or in your hearts.

Deacon, Seminarian, or Presider reads the names of those who have asked for prayers and invites additional prayers.

In hope, we pray:

Help us to be good stewards of your creation.

Intercessor

We remember with gratitude all those who have gone on before us, and whose lives continue to inspire us.

Deacon, Seminarian or Presider reads the names of those who have recently died and invites additional prayers.

Bring comfort to your people. In hope, we pray:

Help us to be good stewards of your creation.

Intercessor

For our St. Aidan's community, renewed in our commitment of hospitality with the new kitchen. May we be animated by the Holy Spirit to live in the love of Jesus Christ.

Deacon or Presider reads the names of those celebrating birthdays and invites additional prayers.

In hope, we pray:

Help us to be good stewards of your creation.

Deacon, Seminarian, or Presider

Mindful that in God's house there is always plentiful room, we pray in the name of Jesus. ***Amen.***

The Confession

Deacon or Presider Let us confess our sins against God and God's Creation.

A space of silence is kept.

All ***Holy and merciful God, we confess that we have failed to honor you by rightly claiming our kinship with all your creatures. We have walked heavily on your earth, overused and wasted its resources, taken for granted its beauty and abundance, and treated its inhabitants unjustly, holding future generations hostage to our greed. Have mercy on us and forgive us our sin. Renew in us the resolve to keep and conserve your earth as you desire and intend, with grateful and compassionate hearts, through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.***

Presider

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

Presider The peace of God be always with you.

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

You are invited to share a sign of peace or if you are on Zoom, unmute and greet each other in the name of Christ.

Announcements

Blessing of Animal Companions

Presider God be with you.

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

Presider Let us pray.

Presider O God our Source, in beauty you created all things and called human beings to dwell among creatures as stewards and friends. Free us to rejoice in the gift of life and companionship; renew our resolve to restore and safeguard this precious planet; and bless all your creatures in the mystery of your love; in the Name of your Holy Word who hallowed all flesh. ***Amen.***

All ***With all creatures gathered around the divine throne, may we bless God and become a blessing.***

At this time you are invited to bring your companion animal (or a photo, or stuffie) forward if you are in the church space, and to bring your companion animal to your device if you are connected remotely, to receive a blessing.

Officiant N (*animal name*) may you be blessed in the Name of God who created you, and may you and (*human/caretaker name*) enjoy life together with God.

Offertory Prayer

Presider O God, may we cling wholeheartedly to you: whose tender touch and kindness, whose ever fresh remembrance and fragrance, whose radiant visage and clarity continually shares heavenly joy with us and with all the citizens of the heavenly city. ***Amen.***

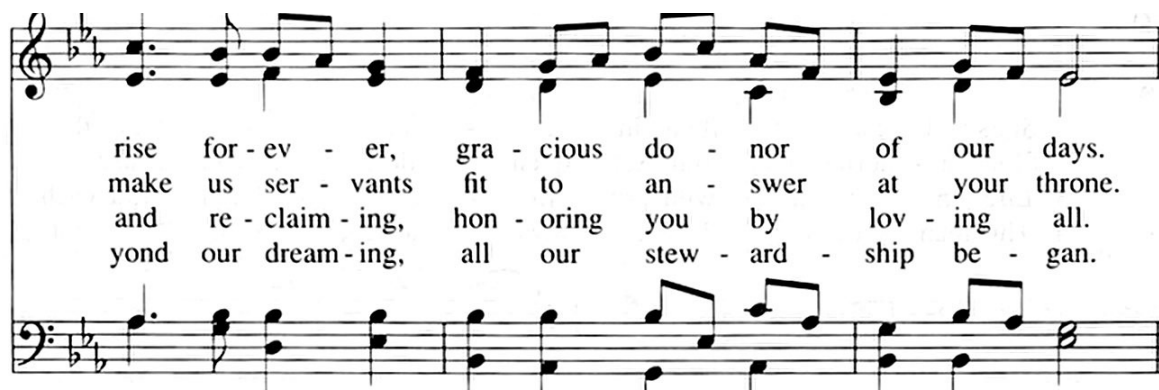


1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and
 2 Skills and time are ours for serv - ing, that your will on
 3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through powers your
 4 Lend your joy to all our giv - ing, let it light our

end - less store, Na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly cross, grave's
 earth be done: All at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es joined, the
 grace con - ferred; Ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to spread the
 pil - grimway; From the night of anx - ious keep - ing, loose us in - to

shat - tered door: Gift - ed by you, we turn to you
 Church made one. Now di - rect our dai - ly la - bor,
 gos - pel Word. O - pen wide our hands in shar - ing
 gen - erous day. Then when years on earth are o - ver,

of - fering up our - selves in praise; Thank - ful song shall
 lest we strive for self a - lone; born with tal - ents,
 as we heed Christ's age - less call, Heal - ing, teach - ing,
 and we've lived our hu - man span, God, ful - fill be -



Robert L. Edwards, 1961; alt.

Robert L. Edwards, an ordained United Church of Christ minister, has served several churches in Connecticut. He wrote this text for a competition of The Hymn Society, and it was subsequently published in Ten New Stewardship Hymns in 1961.

Tune: AUSTRIAN HYMN 8.7.8.7.D.
 Franz Joseph Haydn, 1797
 Alternate tune: HYFRYDOL

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The Deacon, Seminarian, or Presider sets the table

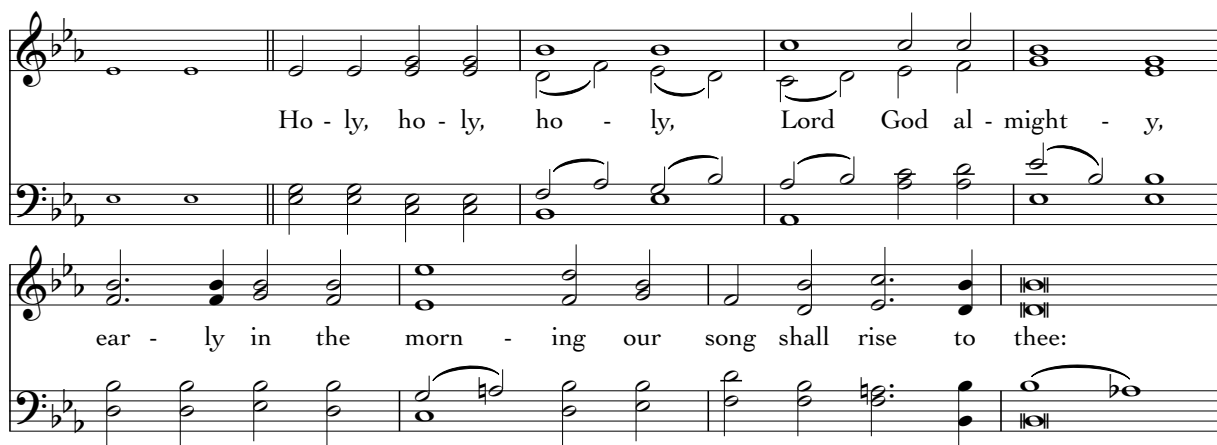
The Liturgy of the Table

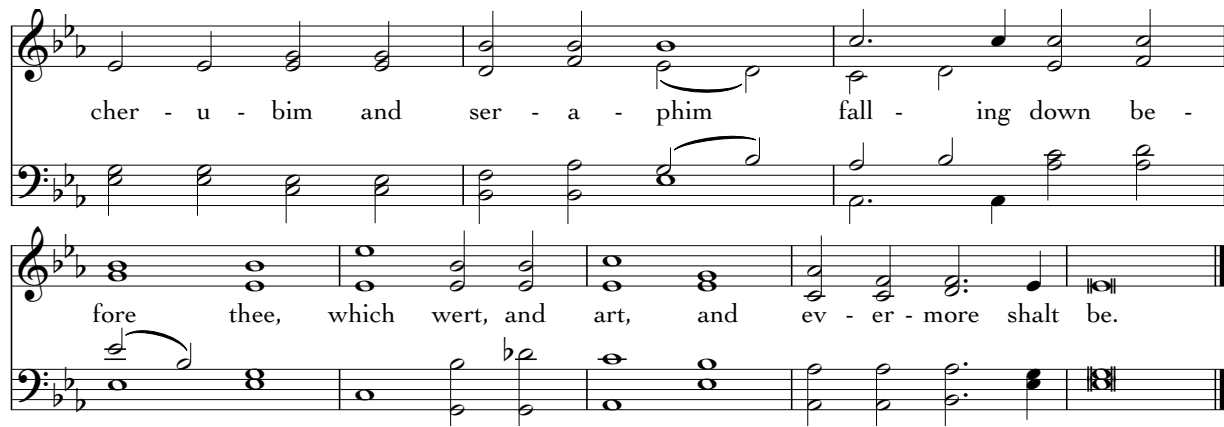
Presider God be with you.
People ***And also with you.***
Presider Lift up your hearts.
People ***We lift them to God.***
Presider Let us give thanks to God.
People ***It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

Presider

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:





Presider

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love.

Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, 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, and when he had given thanks, he 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."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world.

Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your children, that with Aidan and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

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

Deacon or Presider As the Wisdom before Creation teaches us, we pray,
All ***Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Mother, Father, Parent of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:
The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your beloved community of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen.***

The Fraction

The Presider breaks the bread and says,

Presider This is the true bread which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.
People ***Whoever eats this bread will live for ever.***

The Invitation

Lifting the bread and cup, the Presider invites the people, saying

Presider The gifts of God for the people of God. All are welcome at God's table.
*This Altar belongs to God and all are welcome to partake, wherever you are on your journey of faith.
If you choose to not receive the bread and/or wine, you are also welcome to receive a blessing;
simply come forward and cross your arms over your chest.*

The Bread and Wine are given to the communicants with these words:

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven; The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.

During Communion, those present via Zoom are encouraged to pray the following prayer for Spiritual Communion that we have shared together throughout the pandemic:

In union, O God, with your people at every altar of your Church, we offer you praise, giving thanks for your presence in the holy gifts of bread and wine. In our spatial distance we invite you to come spiritually into our hearts, nourishing and strengthening us as members of your body. Amen.

Communion: Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

Songs for a Gospel People #2

Verses 1, 2, 4



1. Make me a chan - nel of your peace. Where
2. Make me a chan - nel of your peace. Where
4. Make me a chan - nel of your peace. It



there is ha - tred, let me bring your love. Where
there's de - spair in life, let me bring hope. Where
is in par - don - ing that we are par - doned, in



there is in - ju - ry, your heal - ing, pow'r, And
there is dark - ness, on - ly light, And
giv - ing of our - selves that we re - ceive, and in



where there's doubt, true faith in you.
where there's sad - ness, ev - er joy.
dy - ing that we're born to e - ter - nal life.

Verse 3



3. Oh, Spir - it, grant that I may nev - er seek So much to be con -



soled as to con - sole. To be un - der - stood as to un - der -



stand. To be loved as to love with all my soul.

Words: traditional. Music: Sebastian Temple; arr. DN

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Postcommunion Prayer

Presider
All

Let us pray.

Faithful God, in the wonder of your wisdom and love you fed your people in the wilderness with 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.

Healing Prayer

The people are invited to share a request for healing prayer.

You may make a request for yourself or on behalf of another. The Presider then offers a prayer.

Concluding Prayer of the Directions

Officiant

Lifting our hands up, O God in the heavens, we pray that you would deepen our connection to the sky above and the cosmos beyond, knowing that we are always united with you and all things.

All Renew us in your love.

Officiant

Facing the palms of our hands toward the ground, Creator of the earth, we pray that you would teach us your life-giving ways so that we too can care for all creation as you do.

All Renew us in your love.

Officiant

Placing our hands over our hearts, God of the heart, we give thanks for each other. May we remember to rise up as one for the good of all in need, remain open to learn from our struggles, and listen for the heartbeat of God in each other.

All Renew us in your love.

Blessing

Presider

Live without fear: your Creator has made you holy, always walks with you, and loves you as a mother. Go in peace to follow the good road and may God's blessing be with you always. **Amen.**

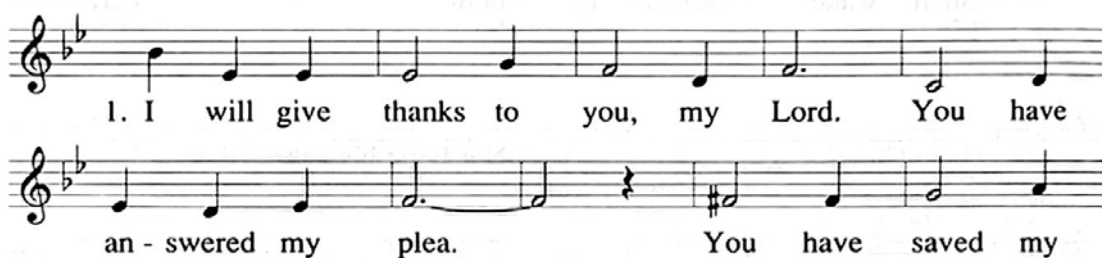
Closing Hymn: Sing to the Mountains

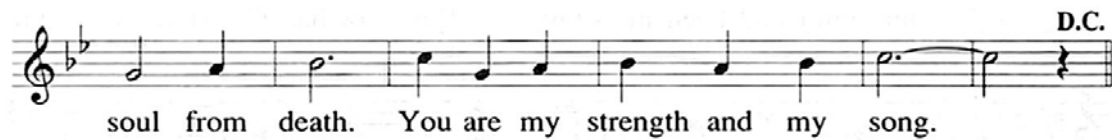
Gather Comprehensive #435

Refrain

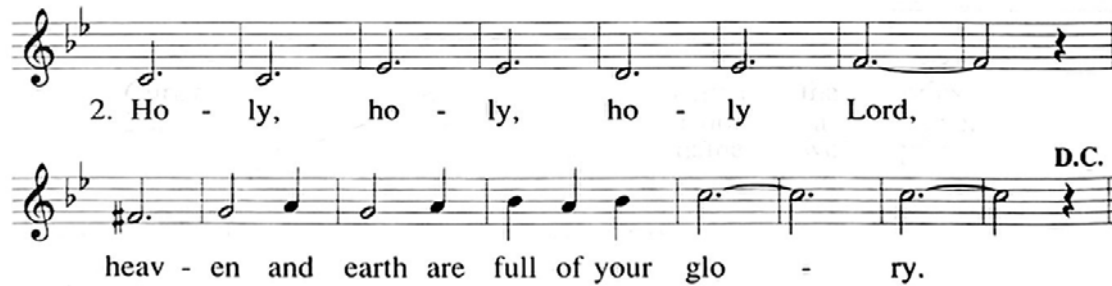


Verse 1

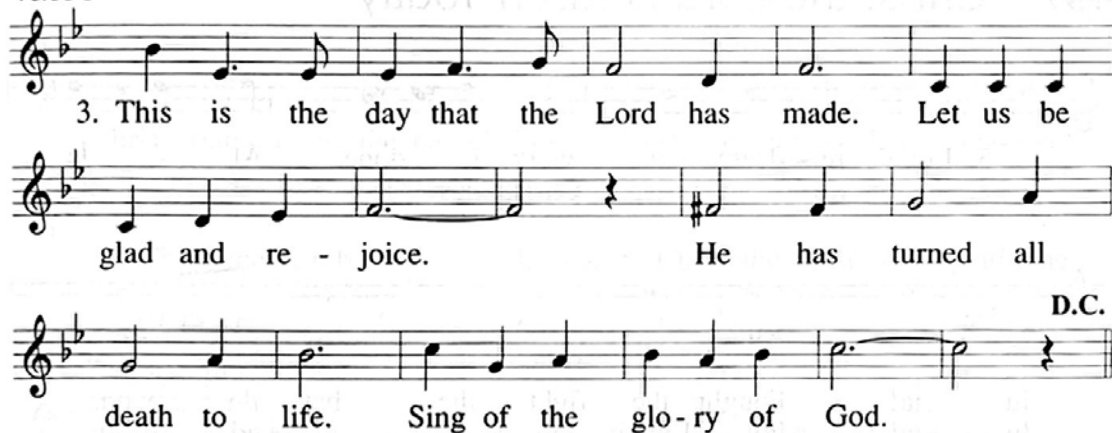




Verse 2



Verse 3



Text: Psalm 118; Bob Dufford, SJ, b.1943

Tune: Bob Dufford, SJ, b.1943; acc. by Sr. Theophane Hytrek, OSF, 1915-1992, alt.
© 1975, Robert J. Dufford, SJ, and New Dawn Music

The Dismissal

Deacon or Presider
People

Let us go forth into all Creation, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
Thanks be to God!

SOURCES

- Please note: We affirm that God embraces all genders, even when the texts of our tradition refer to God with male/masculine language.
- The cover image: Cameron took these photos in August-October of 2022-2025.
- The Liturgy for Creation Season is from the resource “Season of Creation: An Ecumenical Celebration” which can be found online at https://newcreationliturgies.org/seasonofcreation/#_id=TextAnchor010.
- The Opening Acclamation is from “Season of Creation: An Ecumenical Celebration.”
- The Prayer of the Directions was adapted in 2018 by Cameron and Susan Spencer using a version of this prayer that St. Aidan’s used in 2017 as well as a version offered by the Rev’d Virginia Marie Rincon at the Diocese of California night at General Convention, July 9, 2018 in Austin, Texas. Cameron and Susan further updated it for our observance of Creation Season in 2020, 2021, 2024, and 2025.
- To honor St. Clare as well as St. Francis today, the Collect of the Day, and the Offertory Prayer are (slightly adapted) from St. Clare of Assisi, *The St. Clare Prayer Book: Listening for God’s Leading*, ed. Jon M. Sweeney (Brewster, MA: Paraclete Press, 2007). The Blessing of St. Clare is from *Enriching Our Worship* I, p. 71. The second reading is “The Conversion of St. Francis of Assisi and the Founding of His Order,” Ch. 18 of the first “Life of St. Francis” by Thomas of Celano, 1228 C.E. in ed. Mary-Ann Stouck, *Medieval Saints: A Reader* (Ontario, Canada: Broadview Press, 1999), p. 480. The first reading and the Gospel are those appointed for the Feast of St. Francis:

<https://www.lectionarypage.net/LesserFF/Oct/Francis.html>. Many thanks to Elaina LeGault for the inspiration to celebrate the Feast of St. Clare with St. Francis several years ago, and for the prayers from *The St. Clare Prayer Book*.

- Psalm translation is from the *CSF Office Book* (Community of St. Francis, 1995).
- The Prayers of the People for the 2026 Creation Season were written by Doug Barnett with an emphasis on Plenty Room, our stewardship theme.
- The blessing for the animals was originally written by the Rev. Margaret Dyer-Chamberlain in 2022 and edited by the Rev. Cameron Partridge for 2026
- The Eucharistic Prayer is Prayer 1 from *Enriching Our Worship I.*, pp. 57-59.
- The Post Communion Prayer is from “Season of Creation: An Ecumenical Celebration.”
- The adapted prayer for Spiritual Communion located in St. Augustine’s Prayer Book, published by Forward Movement Press which can be found online at <https://news.forwardmovement.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Spiritual-Communion.pdf>.
- The Dismissal is from “Season of Creation: An Ecumenical Celebration.”
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Serving St. Aidan’s

The Rev. Cameron Partridge, *Presider*

The Rev. Margaret Dyer-Chamberlain, *Deacon & Preacher*

Mike Stafford, *Seminarian*

The Rev. Eric Nefstead, *Musician*

Anne Benninger, Sarah Glover, Lee Hammack, Jacqueline Lewey, Mileva Lewis, Janet Lohr, Paul Nocero, Jim Oerther, Kateri Paul, Barbara Stevenson, Danielle Ushizima, & perhaps you!, *Choir*

Betty Carmack, *In-Person Greeter*

Peter Fairfield, *Zoom Greeter*

Janet Lohr / Shelley Johnson Nocero, *Lectors*

Margaret Tait, *Prayers of the People*

Janice Tickner Leonard, *Eucharistic Minister*

Janice Tickner Leonard, *Altar Guild*

Paul Nocero, *Sound / Zoom*

Kateri Paul, *Bread Baker*

CoCo Lin, *Child Care*

Announcements

St. Francis and St. Clare Day is TODAY!

The Feast of St. Francis, which we put together with the Feast of St. Clare, is always a big day here at St. Aidan’s.

- **On Sunday, October 4th** in both services parishioners are invited to bring their companion animals to receive a blessing. Additionally, at the 10:00 service, it will be possible for animals to be blessed on zoom. We welcome these beloved animals to receive their blessings.
- **Sunday, October 4th, Blessing of the Animals, Upper Douglass Dog Park, Douglass at 27th, 12 -1.**
- **Sunday, October 4th, Multi-Faith Companion Animal Memorial Service at 2:30 at St. Aidan’s.** This is a time and place to come together to remember, celebrate and say “thank you” to beloved animal companions. Participants are invited to bring mementos to add to the altar of honor we will create for our animal companions.

Palestinian Liberation Theology – a Fall Formation Series

Join us **this Wednesday** for a Formation series on Palestinian Liberation Theology. We’re using a curriculum created by Brendan Fong, brother of St. Aidan’s Patti Fong, and other members of our Christian Formation team. This series is building on our previous formation sessions on liberation theologies as well as critiques of Christian Nationalism and settler colonialism. The series is taking place over three Wednesdays on Zoom and one in-person summary session on Sunday morning after our 9 AM combined service:

- Wednesday September 30, October 7, and October 14 from 7-8 PM following 6:30 PM Evening Prayer
- Sunday, October 18 at 10:30 AM following 9 AM combined worship

Join us this Wednesday at the Evening Prayer Zoom link, and please reach out to office@staidansf.org if you need it!

Our St. Aidan's Women's Spirituality Group will meet via zoom Saturday October 10th at 10:15. As before, we will have time for both checking in and personal sharing as well as time for spiritual growth. We are certainly open to formats and approaches such as reflections on a poem, scripture, narrative passage or another focus for our growth. We want our group to meet the needs and desires of those who participate. If you want to join us, and we hope you will, please contact Elaine Mannon at elaine@mannon.com to get the information for signing into our meeting.

Good News Gardening - upcoming dates

We are continuing with the second Saturday of the month at our usual 12:30-2 pm time and our next dates will be Oct 10, Nov 14, etc. Please reach out to Margaret at mdyerc@stanford.edu with any questions.

San Francisco Deanery Pilgrimage - Beginning October 10th, 9 AM - 1 PM, Join a walk in our San Francisco Deanery!

Solvitur ambulando – It is solved by walking. Saint Augustine of Hippo's words attest to the revelatory experience of being in motion. SF Deanery Pilgrimages offer opportunities to reengage this ancient wisdom in community. Join walkers beginning this fall on a faithful pathway through San Francisco's Episcopal churches and live into Saint Augustine's maxim.

At a time of social instability and separation, the ancient practice of pilgrimage can bring us together with opportunities for personal reflection and group discernment toward the healing we seek and the thriving God desires for us.

Four quarterly walks over the year are planned. Join one, part, or all of them. On each pilgrimage, a morning's walk brings walkers to one of four parish regions around the city. By the fourth walk, pilgrims will have had the opportunity to visit all the Episcopal congregations of San Francisco and will be welcomed and blessed at our diocesan cathedral.

The four Saturday walks (9 am to approximately 1 pm) are:

- **October 10, 2026: Central Parishes [Episcopal Friary of St. Francis, St. John's in the Mission, St. Gregory of Nyssa, Church of the Advent of Christ the King, and All Saints]**
- December 12, 2026: Northwestern Parishes
- February 13, 2027: Southwestern Parishes
- April 17, 2027: Northeastern Parishes

Sign up and explore maps of the routes here: <https://gracecathedral.org/sf-deanery-pilgrimages/>

"Celebrating Audacity" with former Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori Sunday, October 18

Join us at Grace Cathedral for evening Eucharist at Grace Cathedral on **Sunday, October 18th at 6pm with Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori.** Bishop Katharine is coming to DioCal to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of her election as Presiding Bishop and the 50th anniversary of the first women ordained to the priesthood in the Episcopal Church. Bishop Katharine will preach as well as speak on a panel prior to the 6 PM service. More details forthcoming about panel timing, but mark your calendars now!

Diocesan Convention, October 23 & 24: The annual convention of the diocese will take place at Grace Cathedral on October 23 & 24. The convention will hear reports from the Assessment Task Force and Strategic Vision Plan implementation, adopt a budget for 2027, elect members to the Standing Committee and Executive Council, and consider three resolutions: #1, Task Force on Artificial Intelligence; #2, Stand Up Against Hate; and #3, Shareholder Strategy to Address Data Centers.

Resolution #2 affirms the intention of the people of the diocese to stand up against hate in all its forms, and it invites practical actions such as displaying banners, regular prayers, education, and engagement with local human rights organizations. More information can be found on the convention website, www.diocalconvention.org. Next week, we'll highlight resolutions #3.

If you have opinions about any of the matters that will come before the convention, you can contact our convention delegates: Dave Frangquist, frangquist@acm.org, or David Mealy, david.mealy@gmail.com, or alternates: Barbara Stevenson, barbara.f.stevenson@gmail.com, or Elena Wong, elena.f.wong@gmail.com. You can also talk to any of our clergy, who are also voting members of the convention.

New Jim Crow Anti-Racist Book Group, Sunday, October 25, 4:30 pm, via Zoom, (note the later start by 30 minutes). We're reading *Devil in the Grove* by Gilbert King. Please feel free to reach out to Deacon Margaret with any questions at mdyerc@stanford.edu.

Wrestling with the Scriptures meets every fourth Tuesday at 10:30 am (via Zoom). The next meeting will be **Tuesday, October 27**. Please feel free to reach out to the office for the Zoom access information: office@staidansf.org.



Join an Education for Ministry (EfM) Group

Thursdays from 6:15-9 p.m. / Grace Cathedral, San Francisco

Looking for an in-person Education for Ministry (EfM) group? Live in or near San Francisco? EfM at Grace Cathedral is seeking a few participants looking to learn about faith and grow spiritually in a group setting. On Thursdays, from 6:15-9 p.m., we gather to study scripture, church history, and ethics, as well as explore different spiritual practices.

Curious if EfM at Grace Cathedral is right for you? Contact Roberta Sautter at robertas@gracecathedral.org or Rev. Mees Tielens at meest@gracecathedral.org.

More Opportunities for Solidarity with Immigrants

Several local organizations offer opportunities to stand with immigrants facing Trump administration attacks.

Faith in Action(www.faithinactionba.org): Local branch of a national community-organizing group anchored in faith communities around the country. In the Bay Area they focus on housing and immigration.

Opportunities include:

- **Immigration Court.** Accompany immigrants to their court hearings. You'll need at least conversational Spanish, and you'll be trained before you get started. For more information and the sign-up link: www.faithinactionba.org/accompaniment.
- **Rapid Response Network (203) 666-4472:** Faith in Action operates the San Mateo County Rapid Response phone network, providing information for immigrants and their supporters in the whole Bay Area, not just San Mateo. Call the number:
 - If you or a loved one has been detained by ICE
 - If you learn that someone has been detained by immigration enforcement
 - If you see ICE activity in the community
 - If you need accompaniment at an ICE Check-In or court appearance
 - If you need support filling out your asylum paperwork within the first year of entering the country
 - If you think immigration enforcement is contacting you by phone call or text message

Immigration court demonstrations and vigils: Several groups maintain a presence outside the immigration court at 100 Montgomery in downtown SF. Here are a couple:

- **Interfaith Court Vigil** (www.im4humanintegrity.org/category/events/): Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday every week. Sponsored by the Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity. Click here to sign up: bit.ly/CourtVigilVolunteer.

- **Tuesday and Friday demonstrations:** Loosely organized, pretty confrontative demonstrations, called by Democratic Socialists of America and others.

Immigration Court Observers: The National Lawyers Guild trains non-lawyers to participate in observing and documenting what happens in immigration courts in S.F. Click here for more information: nlg-sf.org/programs-committees/nlg-sfba-programs/immigration-justice-program/

Comprehensive action calendar: (www.actiontogetherwest.org/bayarea) A project that grew out of the 2016 Pantsuits Nation group, this is a very well-maintained and up-to-date calendar of resistance activities in the Bay Area.

St. Aidan's Gourmet Book Club

We resume meeting via zoom with LeeAnn DeSalles serving as our zoom master. She has set up a zoom link that will serve for all our meetings. If you would like help with zoom, please contact LeeAnn at leeanndesalles@comcast.net. If you would like to be on the Book Group's mailing list, please contact elaine@mannon.com

- **Monday, October 26, 2026 7:00 p.m.**
 - *A Man Without a Country* - by Kurt Vonnegut
A hilariously funny and razor-sharp collection of essays about art, modern technology, politics, men versus women, and the soul of America. Sometimes despairing but always searching and ultimately wise and compassionate. (160 pages – published 2005)
- **Monday, November 30, 2026 7:00 p.m.**
 - *Theo of Golden* - by Allen Levi
A story of the power of generosity, the importance of connection, and the quiet miracles that happen when we choose kindness and wonder. (399 pages)

Contemplative Prayer: Tuesday & Thursday from 8-9 AM via Zoom

We offer Contemplative prayer via Zoom. Contemplative Prayer is silent with the beginning and ending marked by a bell. You can practice meditation, silent prayer, journal, or otherwise enjoy the collective quiet. Thank you to Susan Spencer for anchoring this practice. Please feel free to reach out to the office for the Zoom access information: office@staidansf.org.

Morning Prayer: Mon, Wed, Fri at 7:30 AM

We offer Morning Prayer in hybrid mode (at church and via Zoom) on Mondays and Wednesday, and on Fridays via Zoom only. Please feel free to reach out to the office for the Zoom access information: office@staidansf.org.

Evening Prayer: Wednesdays at 6:30 PM via Zoom

We offer Evening Prayer via Zoom. Readings for the day are from the Episcopal Church's daily lectionary or calendar of saints, and the service includes a brief reflection time on the readings. Please feel free to reach out to the office for the Zoom access information: office@staidansf.org

Mask Policy: We respect the preference of anyone who feels safer by masking. We continue to monitor public health advisories and may modify our mask policy, as appropriate. Please pray for the health and safety of all our members and friends as we continue to navigate this challenging time.

To add an announcement to the weekly bulletin of the Flame, please send your edited text no later than 11:00 am Wednesday to office@staidansf.org

St. Aidan's Vestry

Susan Spencer, *Senior Warden*;
Roya Rettberg, *Junior Warden*
Dave Frangquist, *Treasurer*;
Margaret Tait, *Clerk*
Jan Adams, Gilbert Chavez, Janet Lohr,
Mary Pruyn, Margie Wolcott, Ray Wong

Staff e-mail addresses

Cameron: rector@staidansf.org
Cary: office@staidansf.org

Calendar for the Week of October 4, 2026

Sunday, October 4	Holy Eucharist, 8 AM (In-Person) & 10 AM (Hybrid) Blessing of the Animals-Upper Douglas Dog Park, 12 PM Multi-Faith Companion Animal Memorial Service at St. Aidan's, 2:30 PM
Monday, October 5	Morning Prayer (Hybrid), 7:30 AM
Tuesday, October 6	Contemplative Prayer (via Zoom), 8 AM
Wednesday, October 7	September 30 Morning Prayer (Hybrid), 7:30 AM Diamond Diners, 12 PM Evening Prayer (via Zoom), 7 PM
Thursday, October 8	Contemplative Prayer (via Zoom), 8 AM Kaffeeklatsch (via Zoom), 3 PM
Friday, October 9	Morning Prayer (via Zoom), 7:30 AM Food Pantry, 1 PM
Saturday, October 10	Women's Spirituality Group (via Zoom), 10:15 AM Good News Gardens, 12:30 PM

St. Aidan's Prayers

In Your Prayers, Please Remember:

In acknowledgment that St. Aidan's is located within the unceded ancestral land of the Yelamu tribe of the Ramaytush Ohlone people, with gratitude for their ongoing relationship with this holy place.

In the Episcopal Church: For Sean our Presiding Bishop; for Julia, President of the House of Deputies, and for the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer: For Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: For Austin, our bishop; for St Francis of Assisi, Novato and St. Francis, San Francisco.

In our Parish Cycle of Prayer: For the Worship Committee.

For those with birthdays this week: Michael, Anne, Sebastian.

For all striving for mental and emotional balance and wholeness, and for their families and friends.

For those who have asked for our prayers: André E., Ann C., ;Bill W., Carol-Ann, Charles, Chuck L., Cindi G., Dave P., Debbie C., Denise, Emily, Felicia F., Garry M., George C., Isaac C., Jaime, Janice T., Jean W., Jelly J., Jenny M., Jill, Jim F., Jim O., Jodi F., Joe, Joelle, John, Judy B., Julie A., Ken E., Lucinda G., Lyle B., Lynne and Meg S., Margarita, Marc L., Mark, Matthew G., Mercedes, Michaela, Milo R., Mina Marie, Patricia, Patty, Peter G., Ping, Rocky V. and Ruth S., Ron B., Stephanie M., Steve E., Tawanda, Tony F., Tony L., Vicky, Zakaria E.

For our ongoing work against intersecting forms of oppression, particularly racism and transphobia, and in affirmation of human dignity.

For our work in the world in our daily lives and for the ministries of the Friday Food Pantry and Diamond Diners.

For our congregation as we embrace our call to practice sanctuary: may we commit ourselves to prayer, education, and support for immigrants to this country and for all who are estranged, excluded, or threatened in 21st century America. We pray in thanksgiving for the numerous gifts our refugee and immigrant siblings have brought, and continue to bring, to this country.

For all who are struggling in this time of intensified injustice and polarization in our country and around the world: for strengthened relationships and deepened commitment to our common life and the well-being of our planet.

For those who have recently died: Sharon Martinas, Pat Kleinberg, Chandru Murthi, Jessica Stevenson, Carol Bertaut, Kate Murphy, Anna Yang, Marilyn Whitcher, Albert Tam, The Rev. Jan Cazden, Emily Hopkins, & Thales, Vanessa and Augusto Ushizima.

To place a name on our prayer list, please contact the church office at 415-285-9540, ext. 3 or office@staidansf.org. Names of the living are printed by first name and will be kept on the prayer list for four weeks. To keep someone on the list for longer, please notify the office.



St. Aidan's Episcopal Church

101 Gold Mine Drive, San Francisco, CA 94131
www.staidansf.org (415) 285-9540