

Creation Season

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost



St. Aidan's Episcopal Church
September 13, 2026 10:00 a.m.

The Liturgy of the Word

Opening Hymn: Sing Out, Earth and Skies

Gather Comprehensive #499

Cantor:



1. Come, O God of all the earth: Come to us, O
2. Come, O God of wind and flame: Fill the earth with
3. Come, O God of flash-ing light: Twin - kling star and
4. Come, O God of snow and rain: Show - er down up -
5. Come, O Jus - tice, Come, O Peace: Come and shape our

Cantor:



Right - eous One; Come, and bring our love to birth:
right - eous - ness; Teach us all to sing your name:
burn - ing sun; God of day and God of night:
on the earth; Come, O God of joy and pain:
hearts a - new; Come and make op - pres - sion cease:

All:



In the glo - ry of your Son.
May our lives your love con - fess.
In your light we all are one.
God of sor - row, God of mirth.
Bring us all to life in you.

Refrain



Sing out, earth and skies! Sing of the God who loves you!



Raise your joy-ful cries! Dance to the life a - round you!

Text: Marty Haugen, b.1950
Tune: SING OUT, 7 7 7 7 with refrain; Marty Haugen, b.1950
© 1985, GIA Publications, Inc.

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.***

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.

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)*



Presider The Creator be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Presider Let us pray.

O God, because in our ignorance and selfishness we so often fail to care rightly for your Creation, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may soften and unite our hearts with all living beings who suffer; through Jesus Christ the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

Lector A reading from the Book of Genesis (50:15-21).

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People *Thanks be to God.*

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

Antiphon Bless the Holy One, O my soul, and forget not all God's benefits.

8 *You are full of compassion and mercy,* slow to anger and of great kindness.*

9 *You will not always accuse us,* nor will you keep your anger for ever.*

10 *You have not dealt with us according to our sins,*
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.*

11 *For as the heavens are high above the earth,*
so is your mercy great upon those who fear you.*

12 *As far as the east is from the west,* so far have you removed our sins from us.*

13 *As parents care for their children,* so do you care for those who fear you.*

Antiphon Bless the Holy One, O my soul, and forget not all God's benefits.

The Second Reading

Lector A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans (14:1-12).

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your kindred? Or you, why do you despise your kin? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Hymn Praise, My Soul the Joy of Heaven

The Hymnal 1982 #410 Incl. vers.

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) on two staves. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are as follows:

1	2	3	4
Praise, my soul the Joy of hea - ven; to God's feet thy	Praise God for the grace and fa - vor giv'n to mor - tals	Par - ent - like God tends and loves us; well our fee - ble	An - gels, help us to a - dore God; ye be - hold God



trib - ute bring; ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en,
in dis - tress; praise God still the same as ev - er,
frame God knows; in God's hand, who gen - tly bears us,
face to face; sun and moon bow down be - fore God,

ev - er more God's prais - es sing: Al - le - lu - ia,
slow to chide and quick to bless: Al - le - lu - ia,
we are res - cued from our foes. Al - le - lu - ia,
dwell - ers all in time and space. Al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia! Praise to God E - ter - nal bring.
al - le - lu - ia! Glor - ious in great faith - ful - ness.
al - le - lu - ia! Wide - ly yet God's mer - cy flows.
al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace.

Words: Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847), alt.; modified for inclusive language by Kim Hardy (b. 1958)
Music: *Lauda anima*, John Coss (1800-1880)

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The Gospel

Deacon or Presider
People

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew (18:21-35).
Glory to you, O Christ.

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave

fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

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.

The Intercessor pauses for 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

Offertory Prayer

Presider O God, we give our minds to you, our hearts to you, our hands, our feet to you. Open our eyes, we pray, to your presence; our ears to your call, our hearts to your love. **Amen.**

Offertory: Come Down, O Love Divine

The Hymnal 1982 #516

1 Come down, O Love di - vine, seek thou this soul of mine,
2 O let it free - ly burn, till earth - ly pas - sions turn
3 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,

and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;
to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;
shall far out - pass the power of hu - man tell - ing;

The musical score is written for three parts: Soprano, Alto, and Bass. It is in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a focus on the lyrics. The lyrics are arranged in three lines, with the first line being the most prominent. The second and third lines provide additional context and depth to the prayer. The score includes a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a time signature of 4/4. The lyrics are written below the notes, and the music is written on a grand staff with three staves.

O Com-fort - er, draw near, with - in my heart ap - pear,
and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,
for none can guess its grace, till Love cre - ate a place

and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
where - in the Ho - ly Spi - rit makes a dwell - ing.

Words: Bianco da Siena (d. 1434?); tr. Richard Frederick Littledale (1833-1890), alt. Music: Down Ampney, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). By permission of Oxford University Press.

The Deacon, Seminarian, or Presider sets the table

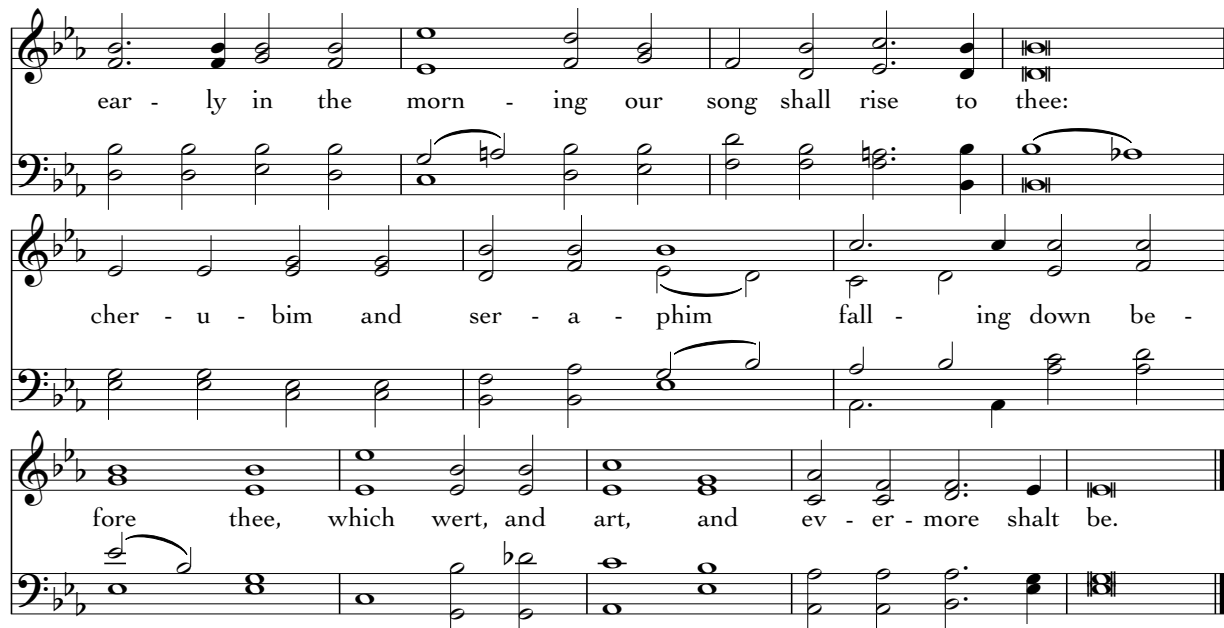
The Liturgy of the Table

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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God al - might - y,



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
All

As the Wisdom before Creation teaches us, we pray,

***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: Let Us Break Bread Together On Our Knees

The Hymnal 1982 #325

1 Let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees; _____
2 Let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees; _____

let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees; _____
let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees; _____

Refrain
when I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun,

O Lord, have mer-cy on me. _____

3 Let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees; _____
let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees; _____

Refrain
when I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun,

O Lord, have mer-cy on me. _____

Words: African-American spiritual. Music: *Let Us Break Bread*, Afro-American spiritual; arr. and harm. David Hurd (b. 1950).

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

God of the galaxies, God of the starburst and sunlit morning, God of the forest and shining seas, God of the blooming desert and rolling fog – bathe us in light and surround us with love.

And the blessing of the Creator God, the Risen Son,
and the Promised Holy Spirit bless you
that you might be a blessing today and always. *Amen.*

Closing Hymn: Guide My Feet Lord, While I Run This Race

Wonder, Love, and Praise #819

1. Guide my feet Lord, while I run this race.
2. Hold my hand Lord, while I run this race.
3. Stand by me Lord, while I run this race.

Guide my feet Lord, while I run this race.
Hold my hand Lord, while I run this race.
Stand by me Lord, while I run this race.

Guide my feet Lord, while I run this race, 'cause I
Hold my hand Lord, while I run this race. 'cause I
Stand by me Lord, while I run this race. 'cause I

don't want to run this race in vain.
don't want to run this race in vain.
don't want to run this race in vain.

Music: African-American spiritual, arr. Carl Harris, Jr. (b. 1935).

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/#_idTextAnchor010.
- 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.
- The collect is from Season of Creation, A Celebration Guide for Episcopal Parishes, Perennial Ed., 2025, p20.
- 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 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 Blessing is adapted from “Season of Creation: An Ecumenical Celebration.”
- 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, *Preacher*

Mike Stafford, *Seminarian*

Mileva Lewis, *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*

Sue McDonald, *In-Person Greeter*

Elena Wong, *Zoom Greeter*

Micah Wong / Rebecca Gordon, *Lectors*

Betty Carmack, *Prayers of the People*

Kateri Paul, *Eucharistic Minister*

Janice Tickner Leonard, *Altar Guild*

Maddy Partridge, *Sound / Zoom*

Kate Fritz, *Bread Baker*

CoCo Lin, *Child Care*

Announcements

BINGO, BINGO, BINGO. It is true that Bingo is coming to St. Aidan’s on Saturday, September 19, from 5:00 to 8:00. Please get your tickets for a family-friendly early evening of dinner, drinks, merriment and of course Bingo! Bingo players of all ages (particularly on the younger side) are invited to come and have fun on Sept 19. Prizes including a grand prize for the finale game are available for the Bingo winners.

Cost: Under 18: No charge for dinner/drinks and one bingo card, and additional bingo cards can be purchased for \$5 each;

Over 18: \$20 for dinner/drinks and one bingo card and additional bingo cards can be purchased for \$10 each.

Scholarships are also available, so don’t let costs stop you from an early evening of Bingo fun.

Contact Maddy Partridge, Olivia Tait or Ray Wong for tickets and further information.

Wrestling with the Scriptures meets every fourth Tuesday at 10:30 am (via Zoom). The next meeting will be Tuesday, September 22. Please feel free to reach out to the office for the Zoom access information: office@staidansf.org.

St. Francis and St. Clare Day is coming!

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.

Beyond the Bridge: A Film & Conversation on a Solution to Homelessness

September 14 in San Francisco

Rev. Stephen Siptroth has called our attention to this film screening and discussion that is being sponsored by the Bar Association of San Francisco, United Way Bay Area, and other groups.

For more information or to sign up go to <https://uwba.org/get-involved/events/beyond-the-bridge/>

From the event webpage: "This thought-provoking film highlights effective strategies that are helping communities move beyond managing homelessness and toward creating lasting solutions. Through compelling stories and real-world examples, Beyond the Bridge challenges audiences to reimagine what is possible when communities work together to address one of our region's most urgent issues."

Please Note Location Change from original announcement:



The Deacons' Council invites you to a
Commemoration of Audacious Women Deacons in the Diocese of California

LOCATION CHANGE

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
1924 Trinity Avenue, Walnut Creek



Eucharist and Reception
Saturday, September 19, 2026
Two o'clock in the afternoon

Clergy in attendance, please wear collars;
only the altar party will vest.
Children are welcome.

RSVP by September 12:
<https://tinyurl.com/DeaconsCouncil>

"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!

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.

Remembering Pat Kleinberg

We were very sorry to learn recently that Pat Kleinberg has died. Pat was a member of another San Francisco congregation but participated in several St. Aidan's ministries and events over the years, particularly activities with a multi-faith theme. She was part of our ELM (End of Life Ministries) Committee efforts in its earliest years. She also contributed three reflections to our Blue Christmas services. In 2019 she talked about Elizabeth, Mary, and Mary's Magnificat (Luke 1:39-56). In 2020 she reflected upon "And He Shall Feed His Flock" from Handel's Messiah. Her 2021 reflection – the only one for which we have a video (linked here at 4:47) – lifted up the difficulties and disappointments that can attend the Christmas season. Pat was an interfaith minister who volunteered at the Sequoias in San Francisco. She was also learning to become a death doula. All of us who worked with her or had the opportunity to sit and talk with her remember her with love and appreciation. Her memorial service will be September 26 at 11am at the Unitarian Universalist Church of San Mateo. May she rest in God's deep peace with the saints in light.

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: nlgsf.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, Sept. 28, 2026 7:00 p.m.**
 - *Stone Yard Devotional* - by Charlotte Wood
A quiet, warmhearted novel that asks its readers not to rush ahead looking for a plot but to think about the deeper things that confront us all at one time or another. Shortlisted for the 2024 Booker Prize and praised for its gorgeous prose and profound emotional depth. (304 pages)
- **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 September 13, 2026

Sunday, September 13	Holy Eucharist, 8 AM (In-Person) & 10 AM (Hybrid)
Monday, September 14	Morning Prayer (Hybrid), 7:30 AM
Tuesday, September 15	Contemplative Prayer (via Zoom), 8 AM DHCA District 8 Candidates for Supervisor Public Forum, 6:30 PM
Wednesday, September 16	Morning Prayer (Hybrid), 7:30 AM Evening Prayer (via Zoom), 7 PM
Thursday, September 17	Contemplative Prayer (via Zoom), 8 AM Kaffeeklatsch (via Zoom), 3 PM
Friday, September 18	Morning Prayer (via Zoom), 7:30 AM Food Pantry, 1 PM
Saturday, September 19	Bingo! Bingo! Bingo!, 5 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 the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: For Austin, our bishop; for St. Cyprian's, San Francisco; and Holy Cross, Castro Valley.

In our Parish Cycle of Prayer: For the Vestry.

For those with birthdays this week: Jason.

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., Charles, Chuck L., Cindi G., Dave P., Debbie C., Denise, Felicia F., 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., 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