

Liturgy for Pilgrims

for The Feast of Creation



We are a community inspired by Jesus's message of love, peace, and living in solidarity with the marginalized. We welcome people to join us in rejecting allegiance to empire and systemic injustice by building a better world together.

Through shared meals and evolving traditions, we dedicate ourselves to honoring the worth of every person.



GATHERED FROM OUR VARIOUS WORLDS

Ring of the Bell to Center the Community

Bringing the Light and Censing the Gathering

Acclamation

Blessed is the beloved community of God's peace.
And blessed are those who follow the ways of love.

Introduction to the Day's Liturgy

Gathering Song

**Come, dear friends, let's feast together,
stories share and fears release.
Christ is opening wide the circle.
may this house shine bright with peace.**

Lighting the Peace Lamp

Welcome all to this space of hope and love. As we light the peace lamp, we are reminded of our commitment to make this place a safe place where hatred is turned to love, fear is dispelled, and peace prevails. **May the design of God's peace be present today.**

Singing



SHARING OUR STORIES, ANCIENT AND NEW

Sharing Our Stories

After each sharing: **We are loved.**

Prayer of Illumination

Cosmic God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures. You embrace with your tenderness all that exists. Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty. Fill us with peace, that we may live as siblings with our fellow humans and with all creatures, harming no one. **Amen.**

from Isaiah 43

The Eternal One says, “Don’t revel only in the past, or spend all your time recounting the victories of days gone by. Watch closely: I am preparing something new; it’s happening now, even as I speak, and you’re about to see it.

“I am preparing a way through the desert;
Waters will flow where there had been none.
Wild animals in the fields will honor Me;
the wild dogs and surly birds will join in.
There will be water enough for My chosen people,
trickling springs and clear streams running through the desert.
My people,
the ones whom I chose and created for My own,
will sing My praise.”

Sacred words to inspire us. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 104

Antiphon

I will sing to you all my *life*,*
I will make music for my God as long as I *live*.

Bless ADO-NAI, my *soul*!*
ADONAI, my God, how great you *are*!

Clothed in majesty and glory, wrapped in a robe of *light*,*
you stretch the heavens out like a *tent*.

You lay the beams for your palace on the waters a-*bove*;*
you use the clouds as your chariot
and ride on the wings of the *wind*;
you use the winds as *messengers**
and fiery flames as at-*tendants*.

You fixed the earth on its foun-*dations**
so it can ne-ver totter,
and wrapped it with the Deep as with a *robe*,*
the waters over-topping the *mountains*.

At your rebuke the wa-ters bolted,*
fleeing at the sound of your *thunder*,
cascading over the mountains, into the *valleys*,*
down to the reservoir you made for *them*;
you imposed boundaries they must ne-ver cross*
so they would never again flood the *land*.

You set springs gushing in ra-vines,*
running down be-tween the *mountains*,
supplying water for wild *animals**
and donkeys quench their *thirst*.
the birds of the air make their nests by these *waters**
and sing a-mong the *branches*.
From the heavens you water the *highlands**
you fill the earth with your *work*;
you make fresh grass grow for *cattle**
and plants for us to cultivate to get food from the *soil*—
wine to cheer our hearts, oil to make our fa-ces *shine*,*
and bread to su-stain our *life*.

The trees of ADONAI drink their *fill*— *
those cedars of Lebanon, where birds build their *nests*,
and, on the high-est *branches*,*
the stork makes its *home*.
The wild goats take refuge in high *mountains*,*
and in the crags, rock bad-gers *hide*.

You made the moon to tell the *seasons*,*
and the sun knows when to *set*:
you bring darkness on, night falls,
and all the forest creatures come *out*— *
savage lions roaring for their prey, claiming their food from *God*.

The sun rises, they retire, going back to lie down in their *lairs*,*
and people go out to work, to labor again un-til *evening*.*
ADONAI, what variety you have cre-*ated*,
in wisdom you have made them *all*.

There's the vast expanse of the *Sea*,*
teeming with countless creatures, living things large and *small*,
with the ships going to and *fro**
and Leviathan whom you made to frol-ic *there*.

All creatures de-pend on *you**
to feed them at the pro-per *time*.
Give it to them – they gather it *up*.*
Open your hand – they are well *satisfied*.
Hide your face – they are ter-ri-*fied*.*
Take away their breath – they die and re-turn to *dust*.

Send back your breath – fresh life be-gins*
and you renew the face of the earth.

Glory forever to A-DO-NAI!*
May you find joy in your cre-ation!
You glance at the earth and it trembles;*
you touch the mountains and they smoke!
I will sing to you all my life,*
I will make music for my God as long as I live.

May these reflections of mine
give God as much pleasure as God gives me!*
May the corrupt vanish from the earth and the violent ex-ist no longer!

Bless ADO-NAI, my soul!*
Al-le-lu-ia!

Gloria
Glory to you, O Trinity, most holy and *blessed*,*
One God, now and for-ever. A-men.

Antiphon
I will sing to you all my life,*
I will make music for my God as long as I live.

from Colossians 1

He is the exact image of the invisible God, the firstborn of creation, the eternal. It was by Him that everything was created: the heavens, the earth, all things within and upon them, all things seen and unseen, thrones and dominions, spiritual powers and authorities. Every detail was crafted through His design, by His own hands, and for His purposes. He has always been! It is His hand that holds everything together. He is the head of this body, the church. He is the beginning, the first of those to be reborn from the dead, so that in every aspect, at every view, in everything—He is first. God was pleased that all His fullness should forever dwell in the Son who, as predetermined by God, bled peace into the world by His death on the cross as God's means of reconciling to Himself the whole creation—all things in heaven and all things on earth.

Gospel Acclamation



Mark 11:12-25

Before time itself was measured, the Voice was speaking. The Voice was and is God. This celestial Word remained ever present with the Creator; His speech shaped the entire cosmos. Immersed in the practice of creating, all things that exist were birthed in Him. His breath filled all things with a living, breathing light— A light that thrives in the depths of darkness, blazes through murky bottoms. It cannot and will not be quenched. The Voice took on flesh and became human and chose to live alongside us. We have seen Him, enveloped in undeniable splendor—the one true Son of the Father—evidenced in the perfect balance of grace and truth.

Story of our brother, Jesus. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

A Midrash

Our Faith

We believe in God, whose love is the source of all life and the desire of our lives; whose love was given a human face in Jesus of Nazareth; whose love was crucified by the evil that waits to enslave us all; and, whose love, defeating even death, is our glorious promise of freedom. Therefore, though we are sometimes fearful and full of doubt, we trust that love. And in the name of Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves in the service of others: to seek justice and to live in peace; to care for the earth and to share the commonwealth of God's goodness; to live in the freedom of forgiveness and in the power of the Spirit of Love; and in the company of all the faithful – past, present, and yet to come – so to be the Church, for the glory of God. **Amen.**

Confession

God of all creation, in whom all life is interconnected, we confess that we have fractured our planet. We confess our complicity in systems of greed and empire that exploit extracting creation's gifts for profit and casting the burden of environmental destruction onto the poor. We confess that we have poisoned Wind and Water, turning the elements that sustain us into tools of environmental racism and inequality. We confess our harm to Earth, our mother and sibling, upholding structures that strip the soil, silence the vulnerable, and privilege the few at the expense of the many. We confess how we have commodified Death, allowing violence, poverty, and state neglect to prematurely claim those on the margins. Forgive our silence and our privilege. Awaken us to dismantle systemic oppression, that we may restore what is broken and walk in true solidarity with all creation.

(Silence is held.)

Jesus brings the liberation of God's commonwealth and shatters our complicity. We are released, with eyes and ears and mouths and hearts open, sent forth to dismantle the powers of death and embody love. **Those in power do not hold our future. Thanks be to God.**



SACRED MEAL IN THE HOUSEHOLD OF CHRIST

Passing of the Peace

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

Presentation of the Gifts

**Praise God, the source of life and breath.
Praise Christ, the one who conquers death.
Praise Holy Spirit, wind and flame.
The One and Holy Triune Name. Amen.**

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

The Holy One be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up in hope.
Let us give thanks for life and breath.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Presider prays ... Therefore, we join with the heavenly chorus, with the earth and all its creatures, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs of liberation, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope:

**Holy, holy, holy, God of love and strength.
All creation is full of your imagination.
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the One who comes in your name.**

Presider continues ... Remembering now his living witness of liberation, and offering to you our solidarity and mutual care for the sake of all creation, we declare a mystery of faith:

Christ lives. Christ dies. Christ rises again and again.

Presider continues, followed by the "Our Father"

**O lamb of God, who takes away the shame of the world,
show mercy in us.**

**O lamb of God, who takes away the shame of the world,
grant us peace.**

Until the day when justice is no longer imagined but lived, when peace is not enforced but shared, when every table is crowded and everybody is welcomed—we will gather, we will give thanks, we will break bread, and we will practice the future. **Amen.**

Communion of Solidarity



WE GO IN PEACE TO LOVE

Next Week in the Liturgy

Pastor's Commendation

Sending Song

**Go, dear friends, bring liberation:
stories share and fears release.
Christ has opened wide the circle.
May your lives shine bright with peace.**

Dismissal

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

the pilgrim house
reimagining jesus
in the way of peace



Next Week: The Third Sunday of Creation (9/20/26)

Next Sunday's readings hold water up as both gift and demand for justice. Amos calls for justice to flow like a river, Psalm 93 praises God's power over the waters, Revelation pictures the river of life flowing freely, and John offers Christ as living water for all who thirst. Together they remind us that water is sacred, not something to be owned or desecrated. We'll mark this by pouring water from the Big Sioux River into the font as we pray for water justice and healing of the earth.

Rev. Dr. Christopher Montgomery, OSL, Pastor