



church of reconciliation

**Order of Service
October 4, 2020**

The Liturgy of the Word

PRELUDE

**Bless the Beasts and the Children
By Devorzon and Botkin**

VIDEO: INVITATION TO CONTEMPLATIVE SILENCE

THE OPENING HYMN

All Creatures of Our God and King

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People **Who brings all things into being and calls them good.**

THE COLLECT (*used every week*)

God of All Creation, as we ponder the immense challenges before us, break open our hearts beyond self-centered concerns, that we might summon the courage, make the commitment, and answer your call to care for all of your sacred Creation. Through Jesus the Christ, who is with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever, **Amen.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord of life be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Most high, omnipotent, good Lord, grant your people grace to renounce gladly the vanities of this world; that, following the way of blessed Francis, we may for love of you delight in your whole creation with perfectness of joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE

Lector: A Reading from Jeremiah.

**Jeremiah 22: 13-16
*Read by Priscilla Coppock***

Woe to him who builds his house by unrighteousness,
and his upper rooms by injustice;
who makes his neighbours work for nothing,
and does not give them their wages;
who says, "I will build myself a spacious house
with large upper rooms",

and who cuts out windows for it,
panelling it with cedar,
and painting it with vermilion.

Are you a king
because you compete in cedar?

Did not your father eat and drink
and do justice and righteousness?
Then it was well with him.

He judged the cause of the poor and needy;
then it was well.

Is not this to know me?
says the Lord.

Lector Listen to the Word of God.

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

PSALM 8

***Refrain:* O Lord, our God, how glorious is your name!
How glorious is your name over all the earth!**

When I see the heavens, the work of your hands, the moon and the stars which you arranged,
What are we that you keep us in mind? Your children that you remember them at all? *Refrain*

Yet you have made us little less than gods, with glory and honor you crowned us,
Gave us power over the work of your hands, dominion over all that you have made. *Refrain*

All sheep and oxen, birds of the air, all things that swim in the sea.
Beasts without number, life without names, you have placed under our feet. *Refrain*

THE EPISTLE

Galatians 6:14-18

Lector: A reading from Galatians.

Read by John Kiel

May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! As for those who will follow this rule-- peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. From now on, let no one make trouble for me; for I carry the marks of Jesus branded on my body. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen.

Lector: Listen to the Word of God.

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

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 11:25-30

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: **Glory to you, Lord 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."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Rev. Joshua Woods

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

Celebrant: Let us affirm our faith together.

All:

**We believe that God creates all things,
renews all things and celebrates all things.
We believe Earth is a sanctuary,
a sacred planet filled with God's presence,
a home for us to share with all creatures,
and that every creature is a manifestation of God's love.
We believe that God became incarnate in Jesus of Nazareth,
who lived as one of us, healed, reconciled,
and called us friends.
He suffered and died on a cross, the ultimate act of love.
We believe that the Risen Christ fills the whole of Creation.
We believe the Spirit breathes life into all that is.
We believe that with the Risen Christ we are rooted and grounded in Eternal Love.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Read by The George Family

Let us give thanks to God our Creator for all gifts so freely bestowed upon us: For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea.

We thank you, O God.

For the richness of the mountains, plains and rivers;

We thank you, O God.

For all that is gracious in the lives of all humankind;

We thank you, O God.

For all creatures that breathe, and move, and have life;

We thank you, O God.

For the songs of birds and the loveliness of flowers and trees;
We thank you, O God.

For the trust you have shown in giving into our care these, our pets and companions, members of our families;
We thank you, O God.

That each pet may be treasured with care;
We pray to you, O God.

That we may love and honor all your works, O God;
We pray to you, O God.

That we may continue to grow in our grateful enjoyment and stewardship of your abundant creation;
To the honor and glory of your name, now and forever, we pray to you, Lord.

Compassionate Spirit, those who suffer in mind, body, and spirit long to feel your love as they reach for wholeness; we pray especially for Jan, Kimberly, Greg, Reese, George, Kes, Jim, Anna, Yvonne, Stella, Robert, Della, Betty, Joan, Renee, Rick, Patrice, and Ed. Empower us to be your presence to those in any kind of pain or sorrow, serving them and doing what we can to ease their way.
Creator of All, help us to act.

Eternal God, you welcome your children who have passed into the fullness of spirit. May those who mourn be assured that they are not alone; may they feel our love and the kinship of all Creation reaching out to comfort them.

God, you created all living things on the face of the earth and gave us care and stewardship over them; Grant that we may be faithful to this trust in the way that we treat all animals, both wild and tame. Teach us to admire their beauty and to delight in their cunning; to respect their strength and to wonder at their intelligence. Grant that our interaction with them may be both merciful and wise. And may we join our voices with all your creatures in the praise of your goodness which endures forever. Amen.

Happy Birthday to:

Sylvia Maddox	10/2
Annis Marshall	10/5
Edwin Sasek	10/5
Andrew Moneer	10/5

THE PEACE

<i>Celebrant</i>	The peace of Christ be always with you.
<i>People</i>	And also with you.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God.

THE OFFERTORY

Season of Creation Video

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant: God be with you and with all creation.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Open your hearts.

People: We open our hearts to God.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God, Maker of heaven and earth.

People: It is right to thank our God.

Celebrant: It is right to give you thanks, loving God. Your Word is the impulse for all things to be, for space, stars, and stardust to appear, for order to emerge from chaos, for all life to be born of Earth and the Spirit. You made us stewards of this fragile Earth, our island home.

In Jesus you chose to be born, to suffer, to die, to rise from death to redeem humankind, to restore Creation, and to reconcile all born of Earth and the Spirit.

Your Presence is the living power in all things, the Christ deep among us, filling Earth—land, sea, and air; filling every element and place, filling the grain and the grape we share with you this day.

Therefore with angels and archangels, saints and sinners, ancient voices in the forest, high voices from the sky, deep voices from the sea, and the whole company of Creation, we proclaim your presence in and among us.

People: **Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Then the Celebrant continues:

All glory to you, Giver of life abundant for all Creation. Accept our praises for Jesus the Christ, the one perfect offering for the world, who on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said: “Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me.”

After supper he took the cup; 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 shed for you, and for all, to forgive sin. Do this as often as you drink it to remember me.”

Therefore, God of All Existence, in the suffering and death of Jesus our Redeemer, we meet you in your glory. We lift up the cup of salvation and call upon your name. Here and now, with this bread and wine, we celebrate your great acts of liberation, ever present and living in Jesus the Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come.

All: Amen! Come Lord Jesus.

In Christ we offer ourselves to do your will. Infuse us with your Holy Spirit, feed us with your life, fire us with your love, confront us with your justice, and make us one in the body of Christ with all who share your gifts of love.

ALL:

Through Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you on earth and all Creation, we worship you, our Loving Creator God. AMEN.

A MEDITATION ON THE LORD'S PRAYER FROM THE NEW ZEALAND PRAYER BOOK

**All: Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother 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 commonwealth 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 BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People: Therefore let us keep the feast.

A PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Celebrant: God of love and grace, of justice and peace, we give you thanks that in the Sacrament of the altar you assure us of your presence within us and within the body of Christ, the faithful through all the generations; Grant that we who have witnessed anew these holy mysteries, though unable to receive the physical elements of the Sacrament, may be moved by your indwelling Spirit ever more fully to embody your holy and life giving presence, reshaping in your likeness the world around us, until we are gathered at last into the fullness of your glorious and eternal presence; through Christ our Risen Lord.
Amen.

THE INVITATION

Celebrant: Come, for all things are now ready. Come to the table with all your kin and share with all in need the gift of healing for those in pain, the gift of forgiveness for those in sin, the gift of assurance for those in doubt, and the gift of hope for those in tears.

People **May we who share these gifts, share Christ with one another and with all of Creation.**

COMMUNION MUSIC

All Things Bright and Beautiful

COMMUNION MEDITATION

Receive Christ into your body, Sacred Body in your body. Receive Christ into your blood, Sacred Blood in your blood, flowing through you now as you breathe in spiritual communion. God of Mercy, breathe in me; breathe in us. Christ of my heart, breathe in me; breathe in us. Spirit of Peace, breathe in me; breathe in us.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant: Now may the power of Christ's body and blood transform our hearts, our minds, and our bodies so that we may become like the One we receive: Healer, Reconciler, Peace Maker.
In Jesus' name, **Amen.**

People: **We thank you, Christ, for this holy banquet, shared in communion with you and each other. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

THE DISMISSAL

Leader Let us go in peace rejoicing in the gift of the unconditional love of our pets.
All **Thanks be to God.**

THE CLOSING HYMN

O God, Your Creatures Fill the Earth