

Order for Worship
October 3, 2021
St. Francis Sunday
Harvest Home Sunday

WELCOME

PRELUDE Third Mode Melody (I heard the Voice of Jesus say) – Robert Lind

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LIGHTING OF THE TRINITY CANDLE

St. John's is a community that is

Ignited by Spirit, Growing in Love.

We begin our worship in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

HYMN WOV 767 All things bright and beautiful

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.

Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colors, God made their tiny wings.

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.

The purple-headed mountains, the river running by
the sunset, and the morning that brightens up the sky.

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.

Text: Cecil F. Alexander
Music: English tune, 17th cent., adapt. Martin Shaw
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CONFESSION OF SIN

Almighty God, we come together to thank you
for the beauty and glory of your creation;
to praise you for your holiness and grace;
to acknowledge our responsibility to animals
and for our use of the created world.

But, first of all, we pray for your forgiveness because of our part in sins of thoughtlessness and cruelty towards animal life.

Almighty God, you have given us temporary lordship of your beautiful creation. But we have misused our power, turned away from responsibility and marred your image in us. Forgive us, true Lord, especially for our callousness and cruelty to animals. Help us to follow the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, who expressed power in humility and lordship in loving service. Enable us, by your Spirit, to walk in newness of life, healing injury, avoiding wrong and making peace with all your creatures. God of everlasting love, who is eternally forgiving; pardon and restore us, and make us one with you in your new creation. Amen.

In God's great mercy, the slate is wiped clean and we are forgiven.
**May we live in respect and care with all creatures of the earth as forgiven children of God.
Thanks be to God!**

HYMN OF PRAISE Glory to God



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



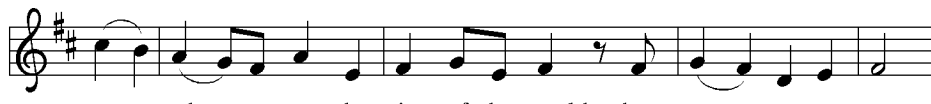
Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



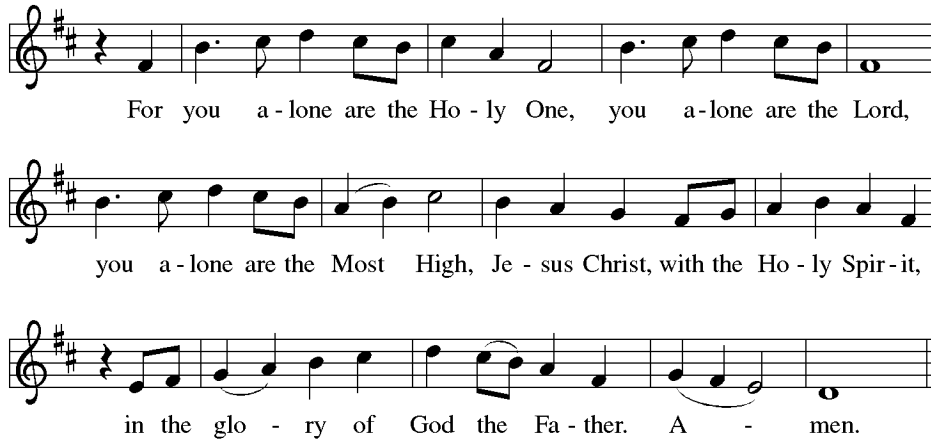
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,
 you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,
 in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

OPENING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, your Holy Spirit gives breath to all living things; renew us by this same Spirit, that we may learn to respect what you have given, and care for what you have made, through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord. **Amen**

+ WORD +

FIRST READING: Genesis 1:1, 20-28

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth.

And God said, 'Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.' So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, 'Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.' And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

And God said, 'Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.' And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, 'Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.'

So God created humankind in his image,
 in the image of God he created them;
 male and female he created them.

God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.'

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 11:25-30

At that time 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.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY ACS 1063 God of the Fertile Fields

God of the fertile fields,
shaper of earth that yields our daily bread:
forth from your bounteous hand
come gifts your love has planned,
that all in ev'ry land
be clothed and fed.

We would be stewards true,
holding in trust from you all that you give;
help us in love to share,
teach us like you to care
for people ev'rywhere,
that all may live.

Text: Georgia Harkness, 1891–1974, alt.

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STATEMENT OF FAITH

I believe in God, our Creator, who at the beginning of time made us to be sons and daughters: who, after we separated ourselves from God, still gave us hope in the promise of the Word.

I believe in God, our Savior, Christ Jesus, who is one with the Creator. Who at the beginning of time called us to be sons and daughters; who loved us so much that he limited himself to life as a human; who was born at Bethlehem, lived in Galilee, walked in Palestine and Israel; who through his life and death and resurrection in this world reunited us with God, brings to us, in his person, God's all encompassing love and peace.

I believe in God, our Counselor, who is one with the Creator and the Christ. Who from the beginning of time gathers us to be sons and daughters; who feeds us with wisdom, strength, faith and love so that we may come back to God restored to the wholeness for which we were created. Amen

MUSICAL OFFERING. In Perfect Charity – Randall Debruyne
(vs. 1 based on a prayer of St. Francis of Assisi)
Cathy Texter, soprano

Text and music: c. Randall Debruyne, pub. by OCP Publications

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of abundance, you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING *attributed to St. Francis, based on Numbers 6:22-27*

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May God show God's face to you and be merciful to you,

May God turn God's countenance to you and give you peace.

May the Lord bless you.

Amen

SENDING HYMN ELW 835 All Creatures, Worship God Most High

All creatures worship God most high! Sound ev'ry voice in eart and sky: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Sing brother sun, in splendor bright; sing sister moon and stars of night:

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Sing brother wind; with clouds and rain you grow the gifts of fruit and grain: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Dear sister water, useful, clear, make music for your Lord to hear:

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Sing brother fire, so mirthful, strong; drive far the shadows, join the throng: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Dear mother earth, so rich in care, praise God in colors bright and rare:

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Text: St. Francis of Assisi; tr. composite c. 1997 Augsburg Fortress

Music: 1623

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace to care for all God's created beings.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Ite, Missa est – Eric De Lamarter

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If you have and/or, are interested in participating in the musical life of St. John's, please contact me, preferably via e-mail to let me know what your specific interests are, e.g. choir, praise team, handbells, instrumental or vocal solos, etc. It's important that I have plenty of information for planning purposes, especially in light of social distancing protocols. You can reach me at bmod7@comcast.net. Thank you! Ben



St. John's is hoping to offer the Trunk or Treat again this fall on Sunday, October 24 2-4 PM

Before we advertise this event, we want to make sure we have enough trunks to make it worthwhile.

If you are willing to create a trunk display for Trunk or Treat on Oct 24, please email pbarndt@barndtagency.com by October 4th.

Sunday School has begun—Sundays 8:45 to 9:15 for pre-K through 5th grade. All participants, please wear a mask.

The theme this year is *“Celebrating the Season: Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall... God is with us through them all!”*

Connections (grades 6, 7 and 8) and High School Youth Class (grades 9-12) will meet on the first Sunday of each month, **next meeting is November 7th**. We hope you can join! Questions? Please email Jamie Hovanec at jlhovanec78@gmail.com.

St. John's Faith Formation needs your help. Would you like to teach Sunday School, Connections or the High School Youth Class? Everything will be prepared for you and ready to go on the day you teach.

Sunday School will be held every Sunday 8:45-9:15. We are hoping to run two classes (Pre-K-1st and 2nd-5th) You can teach every week, every other week or once a month, whatever works with your schedule.

Connections (grades 6-8) and the High School Youth Class (grades 9-12) will meet on the first Sunday of each month. If you would like to teach either of these classes, it would be great for one teacher to volunteer for the once a month duration, but we are flexible.

If you can't teach, perhaps you can donate supplies. We need: Hand sanitizer, spray cleaners, wipes, sketch pads (any kind will work... they are about \$5 at Walmart 6x9 or 8.5x11), Canvas tote bags and Oriental Trading, Michaels or Amazon gift cards.

Contact Jamie Hovanec jlhovanec78@gmail.com, if you have any questions or if you are interested in helping this year.

First Communion Workshop

Saturday, November 13 9:30-11:30 AM

Do you have a young person in grades 2-6 who hasn't received communion yet but is interested in doing so? Then this workshop is for you! This workshop will prepare students to receive Holy Communion, which they will do within worship on Sunday, November 21.

A parent/guardian is expected to attend the workshop with each student.

Visit the link below to register for the workshop by Sunday, November 7

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B084FA8AD2CAAFD0-first3>

Meal Train for Brian & Jennifer Allebach

Thank you for signing up!

A meal train, to provide a meal on Saturdays, has been started. To access the meal train sign-up, see what dates are available and find out all the pertinent information, see the weekly email or contact the church office.

Brian also loves to receive cards - so feel free to drop one in the mail to their home address, which is: Brian Allebach, 1096 Soffa Road, East Greenville, PA 18041.

Thank you for your tender care for this family at this challenging time.



You can support St. John's every time you shop at Amazon—and it costs you nothing! Simply go to smile.amazon.com to select St. John's Evangelical Lutheran, Green Lane as your supporting charity. Then all purchases you make through smile.amazon.com (same prices as amazon.com) will donate a percentage on to St. John's. If you use Amazon's mobile app, you will have to go into the app to turn Amazon Smile on. Just go into the Amazon app, click on settings, then click on AmazonSmile and follow the prompts to select St. John's and turn on AmazonSmile so all your purchases count! For more information, call the church office!