

Feast of St. Francis &
Blessing of the Animals
October 6, 2024
8:30am & 11am



Central Lutheran Church
1857 Potter Street
Eugene, Oregon
541-345-0395
www.welcometocentral.org

Welcome to Worship!

Central Lutheran Church, a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Oregon Synod, is a Reconciling in Christ community: We affirm that Christ has made us one body with many members, all sharing in God's wondrous grace and unconditional love.

We celebrate both the human variation and inclusive unity of God's family. Following Jesus' example, we embrace all of God's people regardless of ethnicity, physical and mental abilities, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or economic circumstance. With welcoming hearts, we invite you to join us in worship, fellowship, and ministry.

Our mission is to be the hands and feet of Jesus by loving God and one another, nurturing faithful living, serving those in need, and sharing the Gospel.

Central Lutheran Staff

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In commemoration of the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals, we give thanks to God, the Creator of all good things in heaven and on earth, and under the earth. Using a variety of resources from Roman Catholic, Anglican/Episcopal, and Lutheran liturgies, today we give glory to God for the bounty and beauty of creation and all God's creatures, great and small.

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Carillon

PRELUDE

Andante - Maddalena Lombardini Sirmen

WELCOME

A LITANY OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE GIFT OF CREATION

Bless the Lord, all you creatures!

And forget not all of God's benefits.

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

We give you thanks and praise, Creator God.

That we may love and honor the works of your hand,

We give you thanks and praise, Creator God.

That all living things may be treasured with care,

We give you thanks and praise, Creator God.

That all life may flourish,


We give you thanks and praise, Creator God.

All are invited to join in today's procession. Following the hymn, those who desire to have an animal blessed, please remain up front.

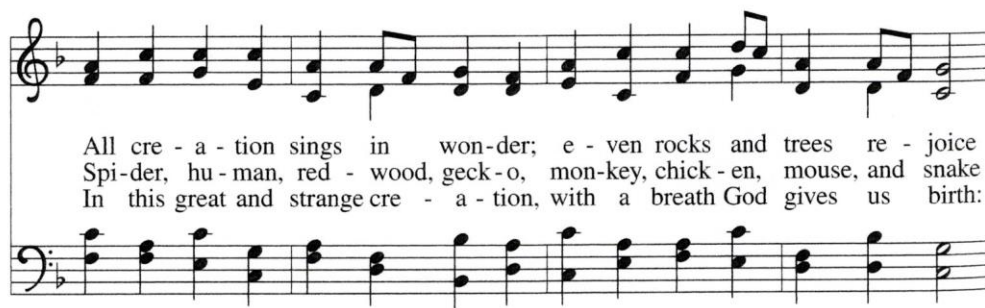
PROCESSIONAL HYMN #1064 Earth Is Full *(please stand)*



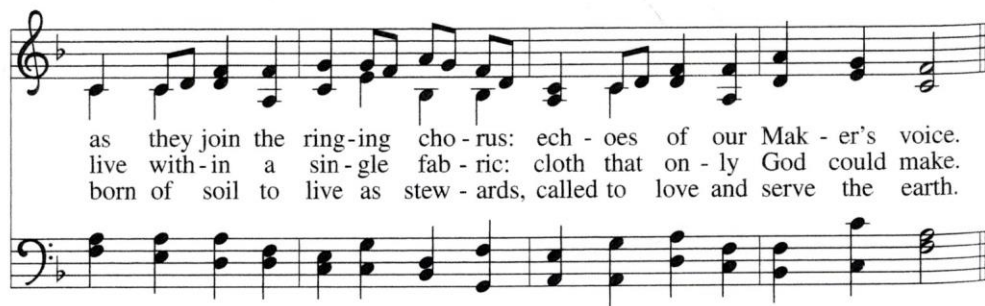
1 Earth is full of wit and wis - dom, sound - ing God's de - light - ed laugh,
2 Earth is full of wit and wis - dom, wo - ven in - to har - mo - ny.
3 Earth is full of wit and wis - dom: pen - guin, pla - ty - pus, and snail,



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 - joi - ce
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.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

BLESSING THE ANIMALS

During the blessing the congregation is invited to sing:

Refrain

All things bright and beau - ti - ful, All crea-tures great and small,

Fine

All things wise and won - der - ful, The Lord God made them all.

1. Each lit - tle flower that o - pens Each lit - tle bird that sings,
2. The pur - ple head - ed mountain, The riv - er run - ning by,
3. The cold wind in the win - ter, The pleas - ant sum - mer sun,
4. God gave us eyes to see them, And lips that we might tell

Repeat Refrain

He made their glow - ing col - ors, He made their ti - ny wings.
The sun - set, and the morn - ing That bright-ens up the sky.
The ripe fruits in the gar - den, he made them ev - ery one.
How great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

Text: Cecil Alexander, 1818-1895, alt.
Music: English tune, 17th cent., adapt. Martin Shaw, 1875-1958

At the conclusion of the blessing, the following prayer is said.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Holy God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING Micah 6:6-8

God responds to the people's question about what God expects of them. It is not sacrifice, but a way of life that values justice, loving-kindness, and humility.

“With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?” He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

The Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 8

¹O Lord our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!



²**you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children; you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.**

³When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

⁴**what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them, human beings that you should care for them?**

⁵Yet you have made them little less than divine; with glory and honor you crown them.

⁶**You have made them rule over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet:**

⁷all flocks and cattle, even the wild beasts of the field,

⁸**the birds of the air, the fish of the sea, and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.**

⁹O Lord our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.

ANTHEM (8:30)

Psalm 150 – Franck

Chorale

ANTHEM (11:00) *Joyful Praises – Traditional Shaker* Children's Choir

SECOND LESSON Galatians 6:14-18

Paul suggests that since the coming of Christ there is a new unity of all people. The old "world" has been crucified and the new "creation" has been enacted so that all people and all things have become one in Christ Jesus as expressed in their very own bodies and selves.

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. The Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

During the Gospel Acclamation our children are invited to join Pastor Ben in the chapel for a special message. They will return during the sharing of the peace.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*please stand*)

Handbells

Al - le - lu - ia, _____

al - le - lu - ia, _____ al - le - lu -

- ia, _____ al - le - lu - ia. _____

John Shields 2021
Central Lutheran Church

The musical score is written on three staves. The first staff begins with the instruction 'Handbells' and contains the melody for the first line of the acclamation. The second and third staves continue the melody and lyrics. The lyrics are 'Al - le - lu - ia, _____', 'al - le - lu - ia, _____ al - le - lu -', and '- ia, _____ al - le - lu - ia. _____'. The music is in a simple, rhythmic style suitable for handbells.

Cantors: The earth, the creatures, and all living things are given for you, says the Lord. Love them, protect them, and use them wisely. **(Repeat antiphon)**

GOSPEL Matthew 11:25-30

The Gospel according to Matthew, the 11th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.** 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.” The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

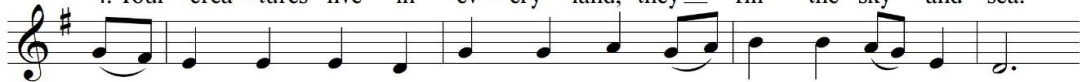
Pastor Laurie A. Jones

HYMN O God Your Creatures Fill the Earth (*please stand*)

KINGSFOLD



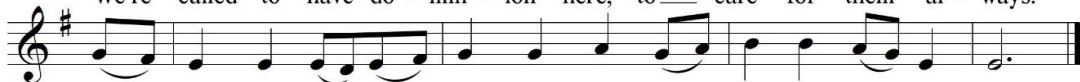
1. O God, your crea-tures fill the earth with won - der and de - light,
2. You made the pets we wel-come in; they're won - drous bless - ings, too.
3. You made the crea-tures on each farm; you know the things they need.
4. Your crea - tures live in ev - ery land; they fill the sky and sea.



And eve - ry liv - ing thing has worth and beau - ty in your sight.
With paws and whisk - ers, wings and fins, they of - fer praise to you.
May they grow health - y, safe from harm, and safe from hu - man greed.
O Lord, you give us your com - mand to love them ten - der - ly.



So play - ful dol - phins dance and swim; your sheep bow down and graze.
O Lord, you call us to em - brace these crea - tures in our care.
Just as a shep - herd loves the sheep, you know their joy, their pain.
We're called to have do - min - ion here; to care for them al - ways.



Your song birds share a morn - ing hymn to of - fer you their praise.
May we show kind - ness, love and grace to all pets eve - ry - where.
Lord, bless the an - i - mals we keep; May all farms be hu - mane.
By lov - ing crea-tures you hold dear, we of - fer you our praise.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *(please be seated)*

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

MISSION MOMENT

Sarah Gillem

OFFERTORY (8:30) *From Out of the Woods a Cuckoo Did Fly* Cundick

INSTRUMENTAL MEDITATION (11:00)

OFFERING

You may place your offering in the plates as you come forward for communion.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING *(please stand)*

The Lord be with you.
Lift up your hearts.
Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

And al - so with you.
We lift them to the Lord.

PROPER PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, Holy God, through Christ our Lord; who rose beyond the bounds of death and, as he had promised, poured out your Spirit of life and power upon the chosen disciples and so also upon us. At this the whole earth exults in boundless joy. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of
pow'r and might: Heav'en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age. Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: “Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord’s passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. † Christ is risen. † Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD’S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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. (please be seated)

COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS & DISTRIBUTION

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace. grant us peace.

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION (*please stand*)

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS SENDING PRAYER

BENEDICTION

God, Creator of all things, breathing all life into being; Jesus Christ, Redeemer of the world, gathering us into one body; Holy Spirit, living voice, calling and enlightening the Church; Triune God, three-in-one, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

HYMN #835 All Creatures, Worship God Most High!

1 All crea - tures of our God most high, Sound
 2 Great rush - ing wind and breez - es soft, O
 3 O flow - ing wa - ters, pure and clear, Make
 4 Dear moth - er earth, who day by day Un -
 5 Let all things their Cre - a - tor bless And

ev - 'ry voice in earth and sky: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
 clouds that ride the winds a - loft: Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le -
 mu - sic for your Lord to hear. Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le -
 fold rich bless - ings on our way, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le -
 wor - ship God in hum - ble - ness. Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le -

lu - ia! O burn - ing sun with gold - en
 lu - ia! O ris - ing morn, in praise re -
 lu - ia! O fire so mas - ter - ful and
 lu - ia! The fruits and flow'rs that ver - dant
 lu - ia! Oh, praise the Fa - ther, praise the

beam And sil - ver of moon with soft - er gleam:
 joyce, O lights of eve - ning, find a voice.
 bright, Pro - vid - ing us with warmth and light.
 grow, Let them our praise with a - bun - dant show.
 Son, and praise the Spi - rit, Three in One,

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Francis of Asisi, 1182-1226

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Care for the earth and all its creatures. **Thanks be to God.**

We invite you to remain seated through the voluntary; however, if you choose to depart, we kindly ask you to do so in silence.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY *Toccata & Fugue in D Minor* Johann Sebastian Bach

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Chorale Members:

Soprano Section

Carol Welch	Jeannette Engel	Honora Mathisen-Lund	Madeleine Rowell
Naomi Castro	Sarah Gillem	Tamara McIlhenny	Lois Stark
Taylor Hulett	Natalia Hayes	Debbie Ogburn	Susan Wade
Ginger Bopp	Lauralie Kallinen	Claire Pahlmeyer	

Alto Section

Alyse Jamieson	Claudia Hardwick	Patricia Lambert	Kit Sundling
Donna Bennett	Jeanne Henriksen	Chris Prescott	Heidi von Brockdorff
Judy Blue	Meg Hicks	Elaine Replogle	
Jade Chamness	Susan Johnson	Karen Scott	
Sally Diehm	Sue Mathisen	Karie Shorack	

Tenor Section

David Gustafson	Andrew Anderson	Owen Catherwood	RayWade
Steve Rodgers	Bernie Bopp	John Olsen	

Bass Section

Daniel Au	John Shields	John Hardwick	Greg Spontak
Dylan Bunten	Ben Brown	Stephen Keese	
Shayne Lowry	Blake Hodgetts	Jeff Simas	

Today's Cantor at 11am: Steve Rodgers

Junior Cantors:

Lukas Henriksen, Charlotte Miller, Sam Rodgers, Arya Saks, Signe Smith Ayla Solinsky, and CJ Strietelmeier

Children's Choir:

Agatha Anderson, Evan Barrett, Louisa Barrett, Hannah Hardwick, Eliot Hodgetts, Henry Koscho, Oliver Miller, Evelyn Neckels, Greyson Neckels, Piper Neubert and Paul Rodgers

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Adult Education Class will meet in the Parish Hall this morning between services (9:45-10:45am) to hear more about our partnership with Camp Lutherwood and to celebrate Central's Mission and Ministry.

Join us for Together Tuesdays with the community meal beginning at 5:15pm followed by Music Together, Children's Choir Rehearsal, Junior Cantors, and Adult Education.

Endowment Grant Proposals - Annual Solicitation for Funding Special Projects: CLC Endowment Fund Committee is actively soliciting proposals for funding special projects within the church which are outside of the normal budget. Acceptance of these proposals will be guided by the CLC Mission: to be the hands and feet of Jesus by loving God and one another, nurturing faithful living, serving those in need, and sharing the Gospel. Request forms may be obtained in the Narthex, church office, from the Endowment Committee or welcometocentral.org/endowment. Your proposal must be coordinated through a committee, ministry team, council, relevant staff person, and/or one of the pastors. Deadline: Friday, October 25, 2024. Endowment Fund Committee Members: Lorraine Davis, Chair; Donna Bennett; Drew Haugen; Stephanie Riess; Becky Shurson; Bruce Smolnisky; and Debbie Knebel (Council Rep).

Would you like to contribute to our quilt mission but can't attend in person? We are now providing kits for you to take home, sew and return. There is a basket in the narthex with material and instructions. Each kit makes one top which we will complete during our Thursday morning quilting time on the 1st and 3rd of each month from 9am-noon. Tops are 35 squares sewed with quarter inch seams in a simple 5x7 layout. These tops are our greatest need presently, so if you have time to sew even one or two, we will appreciate it. **Next Sunday will be the Blessing of the Quilts** before the quilts are sent to Lutheran World Relief for distribution around the world. Donations to defray shipping costs are appreciated.

Also, next Sunday we will be celebrating our Campus Ministry outreach and welcoming new and returning residents at Christus House.

Hearth & Table has resumed on Thursday evenings from 6:30-7:30pm. Partnering with FOOD for Lane County, Chef Clare Van Hoven and student volunteers prepare and serve a home-style meal to hungry UO/LCC students. **New this year... A Vespers worship service** is also being offered on Thursdays at 7pm in the Sanctuary – All are welcome!

Central Lutheran dinner groups, possibly even a lunch group, now forming. Currently four couples have agreed to lead a group, thus now we are checking for interest. We are trying to keep the groups at 6 to 8 folks (made up of singles and couples). However, if you cannot host a group in your home, you can choose a restaurant that accommodates the group and each person will simply pay for their own meal. If you don't like driving at night or just prefer a noon or early afternoon gathering, that may be possible. This is an easy way to meet folks from the church that otherwise may not happen, share a great meal and super conversations, thus we are intentionally trying to develop groups with at least some folks who are new. If you are interested, please email (dickdarst@comcast.net) or text (541-729-1705) me back, no later than October 8.

Serving those in need... Interfaith Food Hub is Looking for Volunteers Spend a few hours a week on Wednesdays at First Christian Church downtown making sandwiches for our unhoused neighbors. Paste the link into your browser or click on the link below for more info:

<https://signup.com/go/ErFTQVP>



We give thanks to God for the faithful and generous gifts of your time, talents, and treasures in support of our shared mission and ministry at Central Lutheran Church in Eugene and beyond!