

Season of Creation: Rooted in God's Living Soil
July 16, 2023
8:30am Worship



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

Welcome to Central!

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, *servicing* those in need, and *sharing* the Gospel.

A special word of welcome to our guests today: Thank you for worshiping with us. If you are a first-time or occasional visitor and would like to be added to our mailing list, or if you'd like to hear from us, we invite you to fill out the visitor information card found in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. Also, if you wish to find out more about Central we invite you to visit our website *welcometocentral.org*.

Parents of young children: We welcome the sound of little ones in worship and so we encourage children and parents to worship together. However, if it is helpful to you, you are welcome to utilize the children's space located adjacent to the Narthex (entrance) to the Sanctuary. Additionally, there are children's bags and kid's bulletins available in the Narthex.

Large print bulletins as well as hearing assistance receivers are also available from the ushers. Please note: if your personal hearing device has a T-Coil there are Hearing Loops in the Sanctuary and Parish Hall.

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Carillon

PRELUDE

Ave Maria

Bach/Gounod

Sheri Pyron, Horn; Jack Benda, Violin

WELCOME

OPENING LITANY

Come, worship the God of all creation.

We gather to praise the Creator, the continuous source of all living things.

Come, worship our God who breathes life into being.

We praise the Creator who fashions the forests, whose trees clean the air of this world.

Come, worship our God who forms life out of soil.

We praise the Creator whose land brings nourishment.

Come, worship our God who receives our lament in the wilderness.

We praise the Creator whose Son brings healing to all creation.

Come, worship our God who sends waters flowing with life.

We praise the Creator whose baptism unites us to be one in the Body of Christ with all creation.


REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM

In water we are joined to Christ and the entirety of the Trinity in the gift of baptism.


We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives into the new creation with your forgiveness, grace, and love. **Amen.**

ENTRANCE HYMN All Things Bright and Beautiful


Refrain




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



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



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



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. *Repeat Refrain*

Text: Cecil Alexander, 1818-1895, alt.

Music: English tune, 17th cent., adapt. Martin Shaw, 1875-1958

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.**

KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, _____ have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, _____ have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of



God, and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray — to the Lord.



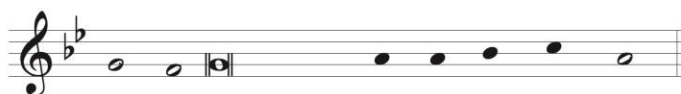
Lord, _____ have mer - cy.



For this ho-ly house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, _____ have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

3 *Refrain*

Organ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al-le-lu ia, al-le-lu ia. 1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er, rich-es wis-dom, and strength, and hon-or, bless-ing and glo-ry are his. *Refrain* This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al-le-lu ia, al-le-lu ia. 2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and join in the hymn of all cre-a-tion. Bless-ing, hon-or, glo-ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men *Final refrain* This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. for the Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign.

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. God, the universe sings of your glory. You have made a covenant with us and with all living things and you root us in your love. Deepen our gratitude for all you have made and awaken in us a renewed commitment to care for the earth and each other, living out your covenantal care. In Jesus's name, we pray. **Amen.** (*please be seated*)

ANTHEM

Hymn of Promise Sleeth

Cantors

FIRST READING Genesis 9:8-17

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹“As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you ¹⁰and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. ¹¹I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” ¹²God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh, and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” ¹⁷God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 98



¹Sing a new song to the Lord, who
has done ¹marvelous things,

whose right hand and holy arm have ¹won the victory.

²**O Lord, you have made ¹known your victory,**

you have revealed your righteousness in the sight ¹of the nations.

³You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the ¹house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory ¹of our God.

⁴**Shout with joy to the Lord, ¹all you lands;**

lift up your voice, re- ¹joice, and sing.

⁵Sing to the Lord ¹with the harp,

with the harp and the ¹voice of song.

⁶**With trumpets and the sound ¹of the horn**

shout with joy before the ¹king, the Lord.

⁷Let the sea roar, and ¹all that fills it,

the world and those who ¹dwell therein.

⁸**Let the rivers ¹clap their hands,**

and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,

who comes to ¹judge the earth.

⁹The Lord will judge the ¹world with righteousness

and the peo- ¹ples with equity.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, And to the ¹Holy Spirit.

As it was in the begin- ning, is now, and will be fore- ¹ver. Amen.

SECOND READING Ephesians 3:14-21

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. ¹⁶ I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit ¹⁷ and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. ¹⁸ I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth ¹⁹ and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. ²⁰ Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, ²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



CANTORS: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;
Break forth into joyful song and sing praises. **Repeat Antiphon**

GOSPEL READING John 1:1-4

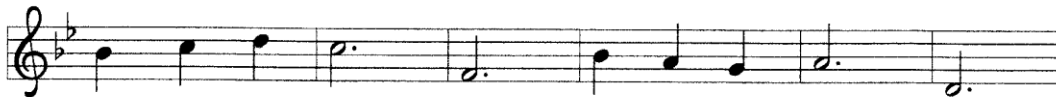
In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

Jesus said, I tell you if the people were silent, **the very stones would shout out.**

SERMON

Pastor Andrew Langford

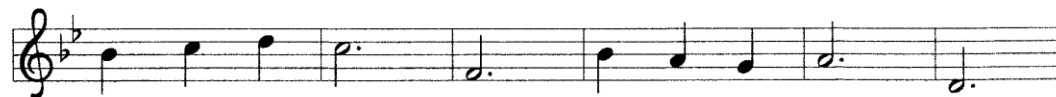
HYMN OF THE DAY #739 Touch the Earth Lightly (*please stand*)



1 Touch the earth light - ly, use the earth gent - ly,
 2 We who en - dan - ger, who cre - ate hun - ger,
 3 Let there be green - ing, birth from the burn - ing,
 4 God of all liv - ing, God of all lov - ing,



nour-ish the life of the world in our care:
 a - gents of death for all crea - tures that live,
 wa - ter that bless - es, and air that is sweet,
 God of the seed - ling, the snow, and the sun,



gift of great won - der, ours to sur - rend - er,
 we who would fos - ter clouds of dis - as - ter—
 health in God's gar - den, hope in God's chil - dren,
 teach us, de - flect us, Christ re - con - nect us,



trust for the chil - dren to - mor - row will bear.
 God of our plan - et, fore - stall and for - give!
 re - gen - er - a - tion that peace will com - plete.
 us - ing us gent - ly, and mak - ing us one.

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our Christian faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen. *(please be seated)*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

PEACE

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

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

OFFERING

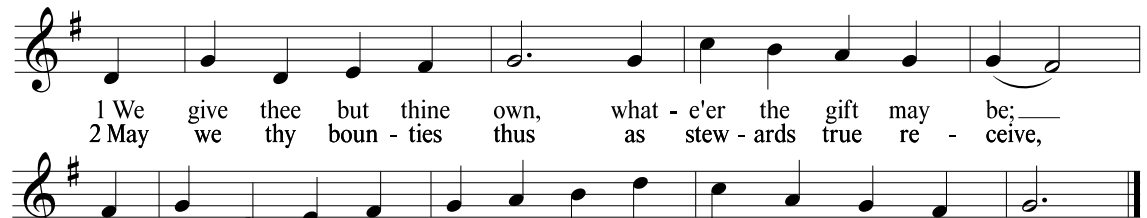
Please bring your offerings forward when you come for communion

OFFERTORY

His Eye Is on the Sparrow

Cantors

OFFERING RESPONSE *(please stand as you are able)*

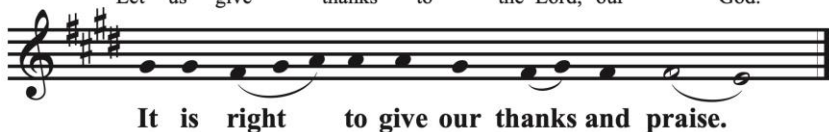
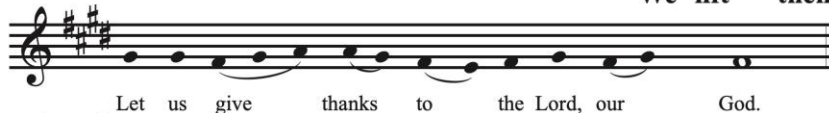
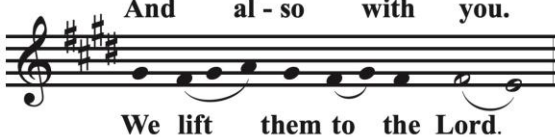
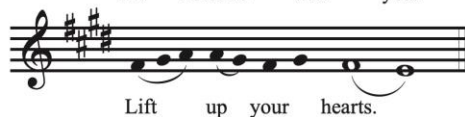


1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be; —
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,
all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.

OFFERING PRAYER

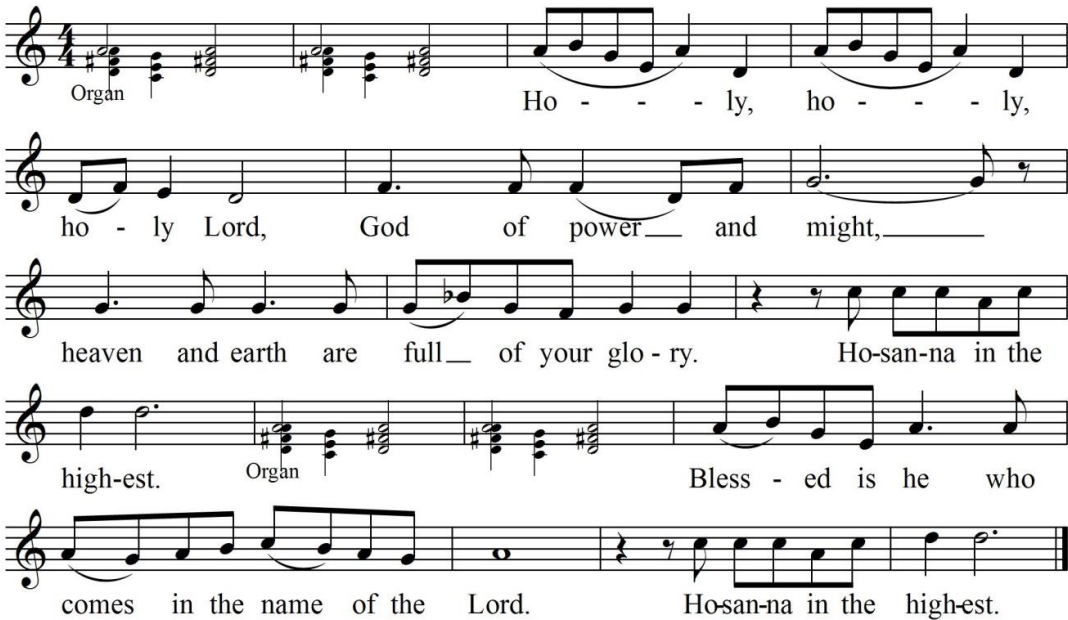
Let us pray. God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING



PROPER PREFACE

SANCTUS



Organ Ho - - - ly, ho - - - ly,
ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the
high-est. Organ Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Hosan-na in the highest.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

O God triune, how majestic is your name in all the earth. Over the eons your merciful might evolved our home, a fragile tree of life. Here by your wisdom are both life and death, growth and decay, the nest and the hunt, sunshine and storm, darkness and light. Sustained by these wonders, we creatures of dust join in the ancient song: The earth is full of your glory.

The earth is full of your glory.

O God triune, you took on our flesh in Jesus our healer. In Christ you bring life from death; we remember his cross, we laud his resurrection. Broken like bread, he enlivens our body. Outpoured like wine, he fills the earth with goodness. Receiving this mystery, we mortals sing our song: The earth is full of your glory.

The earth is full of your glory.

We praise you for the heart of Jesus, so filled with your love for this earth. 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.

Gathered around this table, we your children unite in this song: The earth is full of your glory.

The earth is full of your glory.

O God triune, you create the worlds, you uphold the living, you embrace the dead. Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth. Strengthen us for our journey with this meal, the body and blood of Christ. Give us a future that trusts in you and cares for your earth. Empowered by your promises, we rise from our deaths to praise you again: The earth is full of your glory.

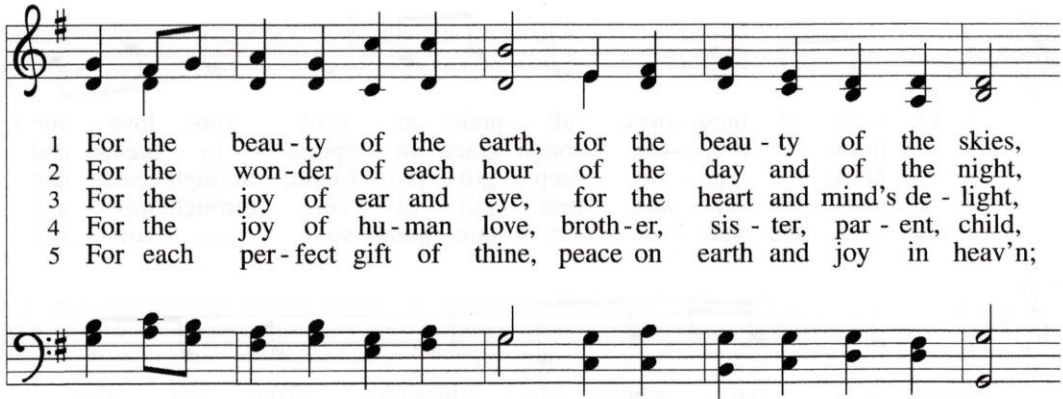
The earth is full of your glory.

Amen, and amen. **Amen, and amen.**

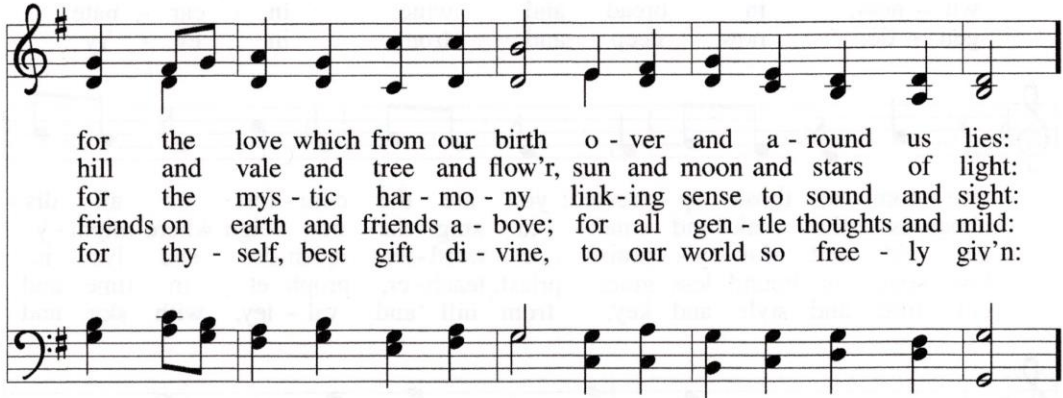
LORD'S PRAYER

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. (*please be seated*)

HYMN #879 For the Beauty of the Earth




1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,
2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
5 For each per - fect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:
for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
for thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our world so free - ly giv'n:

Refrain



Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the harvest. **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 *Allegro Maestoso* (First Sonata) Felix Mendelssohn

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Cantors: Alyse Jamieson and Blake Balmaseda

Season of Creation

Sunday Worship Themes:

July 23 – Wildfires and Natural Disasters

July 30 – Resurrection and Renewal

Saturday Engagement Opportunities:

July 29 – Riverside litter clean up at 9am. Meet at Campbell Community Center

Upcoming in August: ELCA Study for Civic Life and Faith

The ELCA Task Force on Studies for Civic Life and Faith has released a study curriculum for use throughout our church. The task force is inviting **all of us** to join a conversation about religious liberty, the proper role of the church in relation to government, and many other critical topics.

Pastor Ben and Deacon Clare will be hosting this weekly study on Zoom on **Tuesdays at 7pm in August (through the first week of September).**

Tuesday, August 1 - Session 1: “How Is God’s Invitation to Discipleship Lived Out in a Democracy?”

Tuesday, August 8 - Session 2: “How Do Christians Address Controversial Civic Issues?”

Tuesday, August 15 - Session 3: “What Are Lutheran Views on Civic Life?”

Tuesday, August 22 - Session 4: “What Are the Objectives of Democracy in the United States?”

Tuesday, August 29 - Session 5: “What’s Faith-based Living Got to Do With Civic Life?”

Tuesday, September 5 - Session 6: “How Do We Go in Peace to Love and Serve the Lord in Civic Life?”

A response form after each session lets participants communicate with the task force itself on the material covered. Join us for any or all of these sessions on Zoom.

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