

Listen to the Voice of Creation SEASON OF CREATION 2022

The Burning Bush Ex 3:1-12

Welcome!

This is the day the Lord has made, let us together rejoice and be glad in it!

~ Christ Ascension is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Lənape Hakink (Lenni-Lenape) people, and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

~ Here are a few notes to help you participate in worship today: You are invited to participate with the words in **bold type**. The liturgy for this season is found on the front pages of *All Creation Sings* as indicated (**p**.____)You may stand as you are able where there is an asterisk (*). Hymns may be found in the back of the red or purple hymnal using the number indicated (#). Hymns #151-893 may be found in the red *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* and hymns #901-1100 may be found in the purple *All Creation Sings*. The Psalms are found as hymns #1-150 on un-numbered pages in the middle of the red hymnal.

 \sim Elements of this morning's worship which do not come from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* nor All Creation Sings come from the resources of The Season of Creation and their steering committee. You can find out more: seasonofcreation.org The Eucharistic Prayer is composed by Gail Ramshaw and found in Pray, Praise, and Give Thanks: A Collection of Litanies, Laments, and Thanksgivings at Font and Table.

~ You don't need to disconnect here! You don't need to turn off your phone, but please place it in silent mode. Feel free to take pictures—of our building, of worship, <u>but ask permission for any people-pictures</u>. We ask that you not use flash during this worship service. Post your favorite quote from the sermon or verse from a hymn...just be sure to *check in* and let your friends know where you are!

 \sim We welcome all of God's children **no matter your age**. Wriggles, dancing, and singing welcome! Together we raise a joyful noise. If you would like a children's bulletin, a soft toy, or a book, they're in the back!

~ **All-Gender Restrooms** may be found in Kimes Hall. To get there, exit by the back door, cross the driveway, and enter the red door at the top of the ramp/stairs.

~ Christ Ascension is a **Reconciling in Christ** congregation and we fully welcome all people—regardless of race, gender understanding/expression, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, marital status, political affiliation—and we hope that you know the grace and love of God among us today!

HOLY COMMUNION 27TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME 2 OCTOBER 2022

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

At the sound of the bell, the assembly stands.

*THANKSGIVING FOR THE EARTH

Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Pre-Anaphora, and Anaphora of Basil, adapted

Remember the fruits of the earth, for sowing and for harvest.

Remember the dew of the air.

Remember the downcoming of the rains and the waters and the rivers.

Remember the plants and the blooms of every year.

Remember the safety of humans and of animals and of us, your sinful servants.

For the rain, the wind of the sky, seed, plants,

the fruit of the trees and also the vineyards,

and for every tree in the entire world,

We are grateful.

For the Holy Trinity who brings us to perfection in safety and peace, forgives us our sins, brings us up according to their measure that we may grow and prosper through God's grace, who makes the face of the earth to rejoice, waters her furrows, lets her grain be abundantly multiplied and makes ready her seed-time and harvest. **We give You thanks.**

All Creatures, Worship God Most High!



Text: Francis of Assisi, 1182–1226; tr. composite Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623 Text © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

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*GREETING



*PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture readings, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING

A reading from Lamentations: How lonely sits the city that once was full of people! How like a widow she has become, she that was great among the nations! She that was a princess among the provinces has become a vassal. She weeps bitterly in the night, with tears on her cheeks; among all her lovers she has no one to comfort her; all her friends have dealt treacherously with her, they have become her enemies. Judah has gone into exile with suffering and hard servitude; she lives now among the nations, and finds no resting-place; her pursuers have all overtaken her in the midst of her distress. The roads to Zion mourn, for no one comes to the festivals; all her gates are desolate, her priests groan;

her young girls grieve, and her lot is bitter.
Her foes have become the masters, her enemies prosper,
because the Lord has made her suffer for the multitude of her transgressions;
her children have gone away, captives before the foe.
From daughter Zion has departed all her majesty.
Her princes have become like stags that find no pasture;
they fled without strength before the pursuer.

PSALM



Lamentations 3:23

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Psalm tone reproduced from Psalter for Worship Year C
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The thought of my affliction | and my homelessness is worm- | wood and gall!

My soul continually | thinks of it
and is bowed | down within me. <u>R</u>But this I | call to mind,
and therefore | I have hope:
The steadfast love of the Lord | never ceases,
God's mercies never come | to an end; <u>R</u>

they are new | every morning;

great | is your faithfulness.

"You are all that I have," | says my soul, "therefore I will hope in | you, O Lord."

You are good to those who | wait for you,

to all that | search for you.

It is good that one | should wait quietly for the salvation | of the Lord. <u>R</u>

SECOND READING

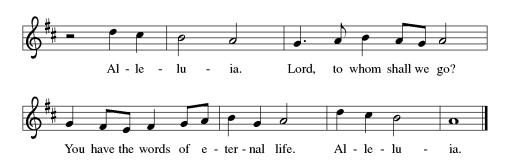
A reading from First Timothy: Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus, To Timothy, my beloved child: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. I am grateful to God whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline. Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, and for this reason I suffer as I do.

But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

The assembly stands to greet the gospel.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW p. 151



*GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.** The apostles said to the Lord, 'Increase our faith!' The Lord replied, 'If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, "Be uprooted and planted in the sea", and it would obey you. 'Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from ploughing or tending sheep in the field, "Come here at once and take your place at the table"? Would you not rather say to him, "Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink"? Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, "We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!" '

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Jay

After a brief silence for reflection, the assembly stands to proclaim the Word of God in song

Gurukul Theological College, adapted

We believe in God, who creates all things, who embraces all things, who celebrates all things, who is present in every part of the fabric of creation.

We believe in God as the source of all life, who baptizes this planet with living water.

We believe in Jesus Christ, the suffering one, the poor one, the climate refugee, the malnourished one, who loves and cares for this world and who suffers with it.

And we believe in Jesus Christ, the seed of life, who came to reconcile and renew this world and everything in it.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God, who moves with God and who moves among and with us today. We believe in everlasting life in God. And we believe in the hope that one day God will put an end to death and all destructive forces. Amen

*INTERCESSORY PRAYER

With all of God's creation let us raise our voices in praise of God and in prayer for all of God's creatures.

Most High God, you illumine our way by Brother Sun and Sister Moon. Shine through your Church that we reflect the radiance of your glory and love for all you have made. Strengthen us to be preachers of your joy. God of glory, **hear our prayer.**

The whole of your creation breathes with Brother Wind and Air. As the days shorten and the harvest comes, make us good stewards of all your gifts. Help us to realize that the richness of your creation is more than enough for all when we share of what you have given us. God of glory, **hear our prayer.**

You baptize your whole creation with Sister Water who flows pure and clear. May the streams of justice run from the mountains to the seas, and may all creation be washed of the stains that mar the beauty of your diverse peoples: racism, xenophobia, homophobia, and other discriminations and distances. God of glory, **hear our prayer.**

Mother Earth comforts and supports us day by day with your goodness. Visit those who yearn for healing and wholeness, in particular those whose names and needs we lift up now: ______. Strengthen caregivers and those who bear another's burdens. Give wisdom and understanding to all medical professionals. May Michael and all your angels spread their wings over first responders. God of glory, **hear our prayer.**

Brother Francis, Sister Clare, and their brothers and sisters spread the good news of you far and wide. As we journey through this life continue to walk the road with us that we may praise you and live lives that glorify you. Strengthen our work and the ministry of our partners. Sustain the children, families, and teachers of Christ Ascension Preschool. God of glory, **hear our prayer.**

For what else do we pray?

For the prayers on our lips and in our hearts, God of glory, **hear our prayer.**

At the close of all things, all your people are greeted by gentle Sister Death. Bring us with Mary, Francis, Clare, Damian, and all your faithful to the fullness of your joy. God of glory, **hear our prayer**.

Into your hands, Great Creator, we place all our prayers trusting in your goodness through the poor and humble Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Hope of the World of the world, Ο Christ of sion, Hope great com - pas 1 world, God's 2 Hope of the gift from high - est heav en, Hope 3 of the world, a foot on dust - y high ways, Hope of the world, who by your cross did save 4 us 5 Hope of the world, Christ ris'n from death vic - to rious, θ 0 speak ful flict rent. to our fear hearts by con gry bring ing to hun souls the bread of life: wan - d'ring of light: show _ ing to souls the path from death and deep spair, from de guilt and sin: who tri - umph con-quered grief by this and pain: from con - sum - ing Save us, your peo ple, pas sion, still let **Š**pir your it un - to us be giv en walk close be side us lest the tempt - ing by ways we ren - der back the love your mer - cy gave us; would be we faith ful gos - pel glo rious; to your who by our own false hopes and aims are spent. bit earth's wounds end to heal and all ter strife. end - less night. lure us а way from you to your pur - pose for - ev - er work through our lives to bring your in. Lord will you are our and reign!

Text: Georgia Harkness, 1891–1974, alt.

Music: DONNE SECOURS, Trente quatre pseaumes de David, Geneva, 1551

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*THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you. We greet one another with a greeting of peace. Please be mindful of touch.

MEAL

God feeds us with Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church. Our offering at Christ Ascension goes to support our ministries as well as those of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. If you would like to give electronically, you may do so by using the DONATE tab on our website: christascension.org, or via VanCo Mobile Faith Engagement App.

MUSICAL OFFERING

*OFFERTORY HYMN

Refrain the grains of wheat hill As once scat-tered on the were gath-ered in-to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to you. one in As this cup of bless-ing is shared with - in our midst, 1 2 Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when Refrain Ο may we share the pres ence of your love. all tion this feast with cre а shares you.

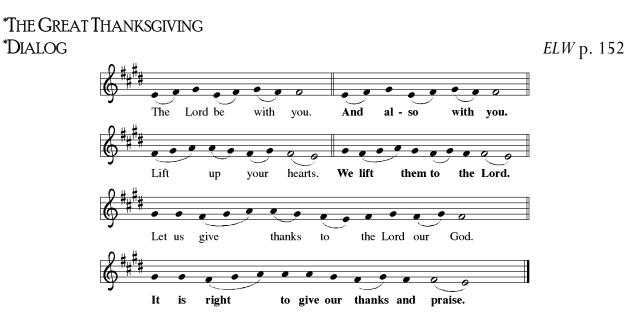
As the Grains of Wheat

#465

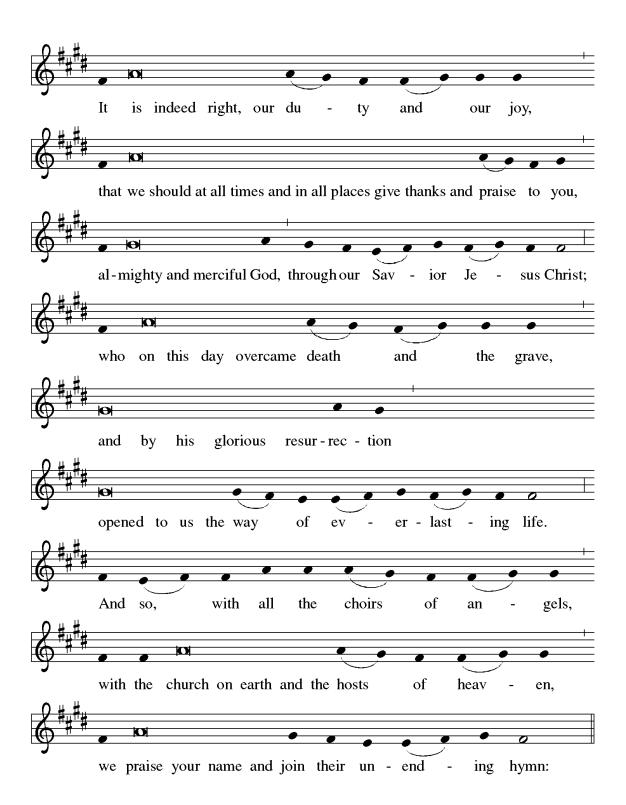
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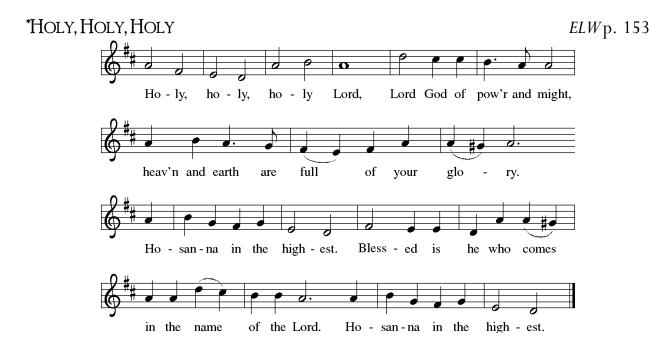
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*OFFERIORY PRAYER Gracious God, in your great love you richly provide for our needs. Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing, and make us ready to share with all in need; through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all. Amen.



*PREFACE





*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE 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.**

*LORD'S PRAYER

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 echoes 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 beloved community 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.

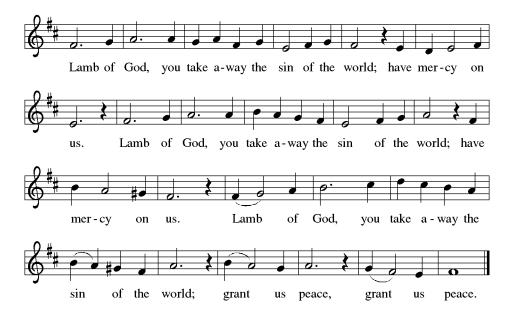
*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ invites you to this table. Come, taste and see.

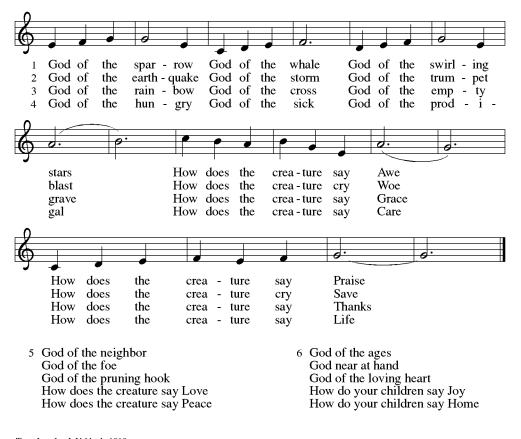
COMMUNION

This is Christ's Table and Christ himself is present when we share this Meal. All Christians are welcome to receive the bread and wine, Christ's Body and Blood given and shed for the sake of the world. Communion is by pouring chalice. You may come forward, at the direction of the ushers. Take a small cup from the front of the aisle, and proceed to the Presiding Minister. Receive the bread in your open palm. Then, please hold your cup steadily for the assisting minister to pour into. You may then drink. As you return to your seat, please dispose of the cup in the provided bowl. For those who so desire, gluten-free bread is available. Please indicate such desire to the presiding minister. For those who would like to participate, but not to receive the Bread and Wine, please come forward for a blessing. Please indicate this desire by crossing your arms in front of you. If you are unable to come forward to the altar rail and would like Communion brought to you in your seat, please let the usher know.

A New Zealand Prayer Book



God of the Sparrow



Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919
 Music: ROEDER, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929
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Text: Guillermo Cuéllar, b. 1955, *Misa popular salvadoreña*; tr. Bret Hesla, b. 1957, and William Dexheimer Pharris, b. 1956 Music: VAMOS TODOS AL BANQUETE, Guillermo Cuéllar, b. 1955 Text and music © 1994, 1996 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358, All rights reserved. Used by permission.

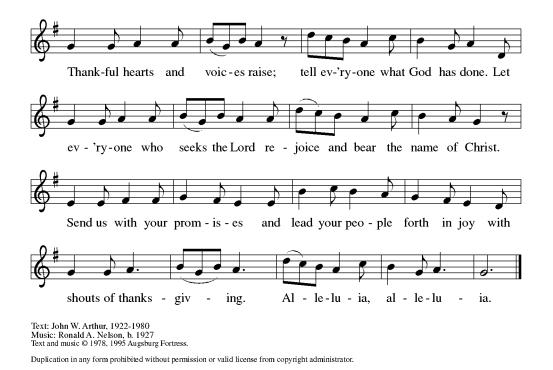
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TABLE BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you, keep you in all goodness and health, and bring you to everlasting life. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION God of the abundant table, you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for the journey. Give us your grace on the road that we might serve our neighbors with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.** #207

<u>SENDING</u>

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*BLESSING

May God bless you with a restless discomfort about easy answers, half-truths and superficial relationships, so that you may seek truth boldly and love deep within your heart.

May God bless you with holy anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, so that you may tirelessly work for justice, freedom, and peace among all people.

May God bless you with the gift of tears to shed with those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation, or the loss of all that they cherish, so that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and transform their pain into joy.

May God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you really CAN make a difference in this world, so that you are able, with God's grace, to do what others claim cannot be done.

And the blessing of God the Supreme Majesty and our Creator, Jesus Christ the Incarnate Word who is our brother and Savior, and the Holy Spirit, our Advocate and Guide, be with you and remain with you, this day and forevermore. **Amen.**

Soli Deo Gloria



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*DISMISSAL Go in peace. Tend to creation. Thanks be to God!