

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
A CELEBRATION OF ST. FRANCIS – OCTOBER 8, 2023

FLOWERS ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD BY KATHIE GROSCHNER AND FAMILY
IN LOVING MEMORY OF THE REV. PETER GROSCHNER, PRIEST

THE WORD OF GOD

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Alleluia! The Lord is glorious in all the saints; **Therefore let us sing their praises. Alleluia!**

All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voices, let us sing: alleluia, alleluia!

Bright burning sun with golden beams, pale silver moon that gently gleams,
O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Great rushing winds and breezes soft, you clouds that ride the heavens aloft, O praise him, Alleluia!

Fair rising morn, with praise rejoice, stars nightly shining, find a voice: (refrain)

Swift flowing water, pure and clear, make music for your Lord to hear, Alleluia, alleluia!

Fire, so intense and fiercely bright, you give to us both warmth and light, (refrain)

Dear mother earth, you day by day unfold your blessings on our way; O praise him, Alleluia!

All flowers and fruits that in you grow, let them his glory also show: (refrain)

Let all things their creator bless, and worship him in humbleness, O praise him, Alleluia!

Praise God the Father, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit, Three in One:

O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

Most high, omnipotent, good Lord, grant your people grace to renounce gladly the vanities of this world; that, following in 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.**

A Reading from the Book of Genesis

On the fifth day of creation, 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. *(continued)*

On the sixth day of creation, 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." 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, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good.

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



Glo-ri-fy the Lord, all you works of the Lord.

PSALM 148

TONE VIII_g



Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea-monsters and all deeps;
Fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing his will; **R.**

Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;
Wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and winged birds; **R.**

Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;
Young men and maidens, old and young together. **R.**

Let them praise the Name of the LORD, for his Name only is exalted,
his splendor is over earth and heaven.

He has raised up strength for his people and praise for all his loyal servants,
the children of Israel, a people who are near him. Hallelujah! **R.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ, according to Matthew. **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

As Jesus was teaching and preaching, he 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, Lord Christ.**

Blessed are You, Holy Source of all life, Maker of all living creatures. On the fifth and sixth days of creation, You called forth fish in the sea, birds in the air and animals on the land. You inspired us to call all animals brothers and sisters. We ask You to bless these animals, our loved pets and friends. By the power of Your love, enable them to live fully in praise to Your Name. May we always praise You for all Your beauty in creation. Blessed are You, Lord God, in all your creatures! We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION

Hymn 405, All Things Bright and Beautiful

Prayers of the People

For the marvelous grace of creation, we offer our prayers to God, responding, "We give you thanks, O Lord."

We pour out our thanks to You: For sun and moon and stars, for rain and dew and winds, for winter cold and summer heat; for the change of seasons and for the beauty of autumn; let us pray; **R.**

We pour out our thanks to You: For mountains and hills, for springs and valleys, for rivers and seas; for this earth, created by you and given into our care; let us pray; **R.**

We pour out our thanks to You: For life inhabiting lakes and seas, for life creeping in soil and land, for creatures living in wetlands and waters, for life flying above earth and sea and dwelling in woods and fields; for our pets and animals that bring us joy, comfort and companionship; let us pray; **R.**

We pour out our thanks to You: For all who work to heal your broken creation; for our efforts to sustain the world that you have entrusted to us; for veterinarians and caregivers of animals; for those who volunteer in animal shelters; for those who have adopted rescue animals; let us pray; **R.**

We pour out our hearts to You: For Francis, your servant, who gave up a life of wealth and privilege to serve the poor, the needy and the lost; whose example he sets for us that we should also care for the least among us; let us pray. **R.**

We pour out our hearts to You: For those who have died, and especially for Peter Groschner, in whose memory the flowers are given this morning; and for Ted Colborn, who died last week; let us pray. **R.**

We pour out our hearts to you: For those in trouble or sickness, those known to you alone and those we remember by name: Lori, Donald, Lynn, Susan, Ed, Karen, Jim. For those recovering from surgery, especially Dianne, Al, Jan. We pray also for others who are carried in our hearts and who we remember silently or by name. (pause)

For all these and more, let us pray: **We give you thanks, O Lord.**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

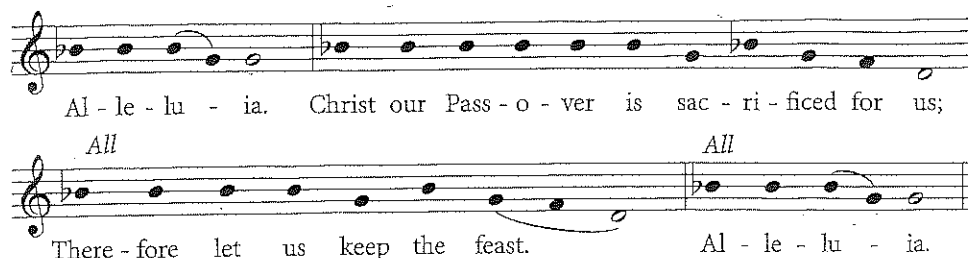
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right and a wonderful thing to give you thanks, Lord God, for the splendor and wonder of your creation . . . And so with all who have followed you in ages past, with Francis, caretaker of the poor and sustainer of life, with angels and archangels and all the heavenly host, we join with them in proclaiming your glory, as we sing:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest. Blessed are they who come in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

The celebrant continues with the Prayer of Consecration, Memorial Acclamation, and Great Amen.



The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you.
Feed on him in your hearts by faith, and be thankful.

Music during Communion: Sweet, Sweet Spirit – words and music, Doris Akers

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place, and I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord; There are sweet expressions on each face, and I know they feel the presence of the Lord.

Sweet Holy Spirit, Sweet heavenly Dove, stay right here with us, filling us with Your love, and for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise; Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived, when we shall leave this place.

There are blessings you cannot receive 'till you know Him in His fullness and believe; You're the one to profit when you say "I am going to walk with Jesus all the way." (refrain)

If you say He saved you from your sin, now you're weak, you're bound and cannot enter in, you can make it right if you will yield, you'll enjoy the Holy Spirit that we feel. (refrain)

After all have received Communion, please stand and pray together:

Eternal God; You have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Deep peace of the running wave to you; Deep peace of the flowing air to you;
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you; Deep peace of God's creatures to you;
Deep peace of the shining stars to you; Deep peace of the gentle night to you;
Deep peace of Christ the light of the world to you; Deep peace of Christ to you.

Let us go forth to love and serve the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Hymn (insert): In Christ There Is No East or West, In Him No South or North

Our Mission: We share the light of Christ by loving and serving our neighbors in the world.
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