

Sunday September 1st, 2024
15th Sunday after Pentecost
Anglican Parish of Lantz



TO HOPE AND ACT WITH CREATION

SEASON OF CREATION 2024

The firstfruits of hope
(Rom 8:19-25)

Our Mission

*To be a diverse ministering community
making Christ's presence known in the world around us.*

Sunday Morning Worship

9:30 St. George's Church: 1089 Highway 277, Dutch Settlement
11:00 Christ Church: 14 Church St., Lantz

Parish Clergy

Rev'd Dr. Jane Magrath
Rev'd Patty McKenna

Our Worship Today

Call to Worship: *(standing)*

Blessed be the One who creates all things.

The Holy One's love is new every morning.

This is the day the Creator has made. **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

God of all people, of all creatures: We thank you for the world that you have created, where each ecosystem lives in delicate balance, and where the world produces the food and the clean water that we all need to sustain life. The bounty of the harvest is a testament to the wonder of creation; and yet we know that all creation is groaning. The weather isn't what it was, and that throws out the created balance making it harder for farmers to grow the food we all need.

Thank you for the efforts of people locally, nationally and globally to care for your world, for the people who use their creative energy to work for solutions, for the people who raise their voices to call for justice, and for the people who make small changes every day to tread more lightly on the earth.

May we all learn to live simply, so that others can simply live. **Amen**

Collect for Purity:

Almighty God: **to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. 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.**

Opening Hymn: All Creatures of Our God and King

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!

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

The flowers and fruits that in you grow; Let them His glory also show.
O praise Him, O praise Him! alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

All you with mercy in your heart, forgiving others, take your part,
O sing now Alleluia!

All you that pain and sorrow bear; Praise God and cast on Him your care;
O praise Him, O praise Him! alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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 Collect for the Season of Creation:

Holy God, living in all life, heartbeat of the Universe; give us the grace to wonder at your gifts, to cherish the earth, and to work this day for justice -- that all your creatures might be restored, renewed and loved through Jesus Christ, the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God - now and forever. **Amen.**

Prayer for Illumination:

Creator God, we come to you having heard creation groaning in despair. Speak to us through your holy word that with insight and compassion we may care for all creation and change the fate of our planet. Amen.

Proclamation of the Word:

The 1st Reading: A Reading from the Song of Solomon (2:8-13)

(After the reading)

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm (45: 126, 7-10):

My heart is stirring with a noble song; let me recite what I have fashioned for the king; my tongue shall be the pen of a skilled writer. You are the fairest of humans; grace flows from your lips, because God has blessed you for ever. **God has blessed you for ever.**

Your throne, O God, endures for ever and ever, a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of your kingdom; you love righteousness and hate iniquity. Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness above your fellows. **God has blessed you for ever.**

All your garments are fragrant with myrrh, aloes, and cassia, and the music of strings from ivory palaces makes you glad. Kings' daughters stand among the ladies of the court; on your right hand is the queen, adorned with the gold of Ophir. **God has blessed you for ever. Amen**

The Gospel:

God be with you. **And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of Jesus the Christ according to Mark (7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23)

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

(After the reading)

The Gospel of Christ. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon

Creation Creed:

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 malnourished one, the climate refugee, 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

Prayers of the People:

We pray for the church, the world, our community, and those known to us, remembering especially those in particular need. We respond to each petition saying, 'Hear our Prayer'.

Confession & Absolution:

Let us confess our sins against God and God's creation: Holy and merciful God, we confess that we have failed to honor you by rightly claiming our kinship with all your creatures. We have walked heavily on your earth, overused and wasted its resources, and treated its inhabitants unjustly, holding future generations hostage to our greed.

We confess our lack of gratitude for the beauty and bounty of your creation: teach us to see that your earth sustains us and all that lives.

We confess that we have taken the abundance of your world for granted: make us urgent now for its protection.

We confess that we have been intemperate in our appetites: strengthen us in self-control.

God of compassion, have mercy upon us. Heal our relationship with all creation. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may care for one another and for all creatures, according to your will and in the fullness of your love; through Jesus the Christ. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon:

May the loving God of creation forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life in Jesus the Christ. Amen

Celebrations:

We celebrate special occasions in the lives our parish family

O God, our times are in your hand: look with favour, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace; and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Exchanging of the Peace:

The God of heaven has made a home on earth.

Christ dwells among us and is one with us.

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

Offertory Hymn: This is My Father's World

**This is my Father's world; And to my listening ears
All nature sings, and round me rings, the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas -- His hand the wonders wrought.**

**This is my Father's world: the birds their carols raise,
The morning light, the lily white, declares their Maker's praise.
This is my Father's world: He shines in all that's fair;
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass; He speaks to me everywhere.**

**This is my Father's world: O let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Ruler yet.
This is my Father's world: the battle is not done.
Jesus who died, shall be satisfied; and earth and heav'n be one!**

Prayer over the Gifts:

God, our Creator, through your love you have given us these gifts to share. Accept our offerings as an expression of our thanksgiving and as a sign of our concern for those in need, including all our fellow creatures on planet Earth. Amen

Eucharistic Prayer for the Season of Creation

May God be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to God our Creator.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Praise and thanks are yours, our Creating God. From the dust of the earth you shaped human beings in your own image, and you filled the earth and seas and skies with myriad wonders. Yet we consistently turn your generosity into our scarcity, your elegance into our meanness, and your simplicity into our corruption.

Though we poison and destroy your good Creation, you continue to offer us your abundance. In your mercy, you have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus, transforming death into life. Through the Spirit you continue to call us into covenant with you—for the restoration of Creation and the reconciliation of all people. And so we give you thanks, rejoicing with all of Creation, as we join the saints and angels in their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

On the night that Jesus was betrayed, he took bread, work of human hands, gift of our earth; and he gave thanks to God. He broke the bread, to speak to us of the breaking of his body upon the cross. He gave it to his friends and said: “Take and eat, this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

He took the wine, work of our human hands, gift of our earth; and he gave thanks to God. He poured out the wine to speak to us of the pouring out of his blood. He gave it to his friends saying: “This is my blood of the new covenant, shed for you and for all creation for the forgiveness of sins. Every time you drink of the wine, do this in remembrance of me.”

So we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

Merciful God, we come to this table seeking reconciliation: with you, with one another, and with all creation. Through these mysteries reconcile us to our world and empower us to restore your Creation and fulfill your will. In being broken, poured out and buried, life sprang forth again. In the breaking, there is an opening up; in the pouring out, there are the roots of sharing; in death and burial, there is the seed of the new life to come.

Send your life-giving Spirit -- who first moved upon the waters of the deep -- upon us, and upon this bread and upon this wine, that we may be transformed and become agents to transform our world. Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory are yours, Creator of all, and we bless your holy name forever. **AMEN.**

And now, as the Wisdom before Creation teaches us, let us pray:

**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.**

Creator God, you fed us from the beginning.
Happy are all, called to the Supper of Creation.
The gifts of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.**

All are welcome to share in the bread and/or the wine. People are invited to sit while awaiting Communion

Announcements:

As Jesus calls us as disciples, God sends us out to serve others in the world. Let us share with one another the events of our parish and community this week.

Closing Prayers: *Standing, let us return our thanks to God.*

Faithful God: in the wonder of your wisdom and love
you fed your people in the wilderness with the bread of
angels, and you sent Jesus to be the bread of life.
We thank you for feeding us with this bread.
May it strengthen us that by the power of the Holy Spirit
we may embody your desire and be renewed for your service
through Jesus the Christ our Savior. **Amen**

Glory to God

**Whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can
ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in
the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Blessing:

God of the galaxies, God of the starburst and sunlit morning, God of the forest and shining seas, God of the blooming desert and rolling grasslands – shine on us today and bless us – Creator, Liberator, Sustainer – with your presence.

Closing Hymn: Living Christ, Bring us Hope

Living Christ, bring us hope, hope for every nation;

Living Christ, bring us hope, hope for all creation.

Living Christ, bring us peace, peace with God and neighbour;

Living Christ, bring us peace, peace in all our labour.

Living Christ, bring us joy, joy of earth and heaven;

Living Christ, bring us joy, joy of sin forgiven.

Living Christ, bring us love, love for every stranger;

Living Christ, bring us love, love from cross and manger.

Living Christ, born in us, we will tell your story;

living Christ, born in us, we will show your glory!

Dismissal:

Let us go out as people open to the way of the Christ -- walking in the footsteps of Jesus. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Parish Notices and Announcements

Next Sunday's Readings: Ex 12:1-14; Ps 149; Rom 13:8-14; Mt 18:15-20

Weekly Wisdom: *"The greatest threat to our planet is the belief that someone else will save it."* Robert Swan

Contact Information:

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What's Happening in the Parish- What Do We Need to Know?

- **Service Hours:** Normal service hours and locations resume next Sunday

- Prayer Ministry - Prayer Chain

If you, or someone you know would like to be put on the prayer list, please send information to carolyn.mcnally@ns.sympatico.ca

- **September 1st: Food Bank Sunday**

- **September 6 & 7:** Yard sale at St. George's. Items can be dropped off the week prior to the sale. For more information see the insert.

- **September 7th:** Saturday Music Jam @ St. George's in support of the yard sale.

- **September 8th @6:30:** Blessing of the Backpacks (bags & Briefcases) @St. George's. This year's theme is "curiosity" – bring a friend!