



St. Jude's Episcopal Church

Seeking and Worshipping God, Reaching out to Others

Sunday, September 6, 2026

The First Sunday in the Season of Creation

10:30 am Holy Eucharist

~ Everyone is WELCOME here, for everyone is beloved by GOD ~

The Season of Creation is an international and ecumenical celebration of the goodness of God's work in nature, as we commit to being better stewards of it. The theme for 2026 is "Living Waters," and we will remember the tremendous importance of clean water – in the right amounts – for life on our planet. Each week our lesson from the Hebrew Scriptures and our Psalm will reflect the day's emphasis on the blessing of water. Today, we will hear about God's creation of the Garden of Eden, including four rivers, and humankind's role in its care.

Are you new to our church? We'd love to get better acquainted. Please leave your name and email or phone number in one of our guestbooks, located at both entrances of the worship space; or by filling out one of the Welcome cards in the pew.

All persons who desire to receive Holy Communion are served here, no questions asked. We offer homemade Bread and gluten-free Rice Wafers, which may be dipped into the small bowl of wine; or, consume your bread and sip wine from the chalice that follows. Or neither: just cross your arms over your chest. You may also ask a blessing from the priest.

Hymn # These hymns are located in the blue Hymnal 1982 in your pew.

WLP # These hymns are located in the green hymnal books that will be handed out.

The Gathering of the Community

Prelude and Music Review _____

Opening Hymn #546 _____ *Awake, my soul, stretch every nerve*

Opening Acclamation _____ for the Season

Presider: Blessed be God: Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit;

Response: **And blessed be God's Kingdom, on earth as it is in heaven.**

Presider: Loving God, you created the world as a beautiful garden, and asked us to tend and care for it. Our hearts are fully known to you, and we cannot hide our failings. As we lament and pray for the earth, its creatures, and ourselves, cleanse our thoughts and open our spirit to your Holy Spirit, so that we can bless and praise you without shame or fear; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

Song of Praise _____ For Beauty of Meadows



1 For beau - ty of mead - ows, for gran - deur of trees, for
2 As stew - ards of beau - ty re - ceived at your hand, as
3 Teach us once a - gain to be gar - d'ners in peace; all



flow - ers of wood - lands, for crea - tures of seas, for
crea - tures who hear your most ur - gent com - mand, we
na - ture a - round us is ours but on lease; your



all you cre - at - ed and gave us to share, we
turn from our waste - ful de - struc - tion of life, con -
name we would hal - low in all that we do, ful -



praise you, Cre - a - tor, ex - tol - ling your care.
fess - ing our fail - ures, con - fess - ing our strife.
fil - ling our call - ing, cre - at - ing with you.

Collect of the Day _____

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray, together.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Proclamation of the Word

Please be seated.

The First Reading _____ *Genesis 2:4b-15*

Reader A Reading from the book of Genesis.

In the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens, when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no vegetation of the field had yet sprung up—for the LORD God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground, but a stream would rise from the earth and water the whole face of the ground— then the LORD God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being. And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. Out of the ground the LORD God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

A river flows out of Eden to water the garden, and from there it divides and becomes four branches. The name of the first is Pishon; it is the one that flows around the whole land of Havilah,

where there is gold, and the gold of that land is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there. The name of the second river is Gihon; it is the one that flows around the whole land of Cush. The name of the third river is Tigris, which flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates. The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm _____ *Psalm 104:1,10-16,37*

1 Bless the LORD, O my soul; *

O LORD my God, how excellent is your greatness!

you are clothed with majesty and splendor.

10 You send the springs into the valleys; *

they flow between the mountains.

11 All the beasts of the field drink their fill from them, *

and the wild asses quench their thirst.

12 Beside them the birds of the air make their nests *

and sing among the branches.

13 You water the mountains from your dwelling on high; *

the earth is fully satisfied by the fruit of your works.

14 You make grass grow for flocks and herds *

and plants to serve mankind;

15 That they may bring forth food from the earth, *

and wine to gladden our hearts,

16 Oil to make a cheerful countenance, *

and bread to strengthen the heart.

37 Bless the LORD, O my soul. *

Hallelujah!

The Second Reading _____ *Romans 13:8-14*

Reader A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans.

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn #581 _____ *Where charity and love prevail*

The Gospel Reading *Please stand as able* _____ *Matthew 18:15-20*

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

Response **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

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

The Sermon *Please be seated* _____ *The Rev. Dcn. Judy Marinco*
Please remain in silence for a moment of reflection following the sermon.

The Nicene Creed *Please stand* _____

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again, in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People: Season of Creation _____ *Please stand or kneel*

Deacon In the beginning, the Spirit of God hovered over the waters. The water that
God called into being is at the heart of all that lives. Mindful of the many

ways water affects our lives, let us pray for our waters and for the life of the world around us. *Silence*

Leader I ask your prayers for all people of faith, and for the transformations in their lives that are marked by the sacredness of water: at the Red Sea, in the Jordan River, in ritual baths, in the washing of feet, and in Holy Baptism. *Silence.* O God, Giver of life, **Hear our prayer.**

I ask your prayers for the leaders of nations, corporations, and communities around the world, that they may exercise wise stewardship over the waters of their land, so that all people may have clean water to drink and may live free from waterborne diseases. *Silence*
O God, Giver of life, **Hear our prayer.**

I ask your prayers for the wisdom to shape creative solutions to conflicts over water in the dry places of our planet, and for justice and peace in desert lands. *Silence*
O God, Giver of life, **Hear our prayer.**

I ask your prayers for all the waters of the earth: for oceans and seas, for rivers and streams, for lakes and ponds, for watersheds, marshes, and swamps, for the waters beneath the ground; and for all creatures that live in the waters of the earth. *Silence*
O God, Giver of life, **Hear our prayer.**

I ask your prayers for all who travel or work at sea or on inland waterways. *Silence*
O God, Giver of life, **Hear our prayer.**

I ask your prayers for all afflicted with too much water in flood or tsunami, storm or ice; and for the people and creatures who suffer as glaciers and ice floes melt and shrink. *Silence.* O God, Giver of life, **Hear our prayer.**

I ask your prayers for the creatures and the human beings of your world who are endangered, ill, in pain or special need; especially those we name ..., and for all who suffer from the unjust, violent, or wasteful use of the earth's resources, or from the devastation by war. *Silence*
O God, Giver of life, **Hear our prayer.**

I ask your prayers for all who have died and for all who mourn, that their tears of grief may be turned to wellsprings of joy. *Silence*
O God, Giver of life, **Hear our prayer.**

Presider Loving God, Creator of all, we thank you for the beauty of Creation; show us, we pray, how to respect the fragile balance of life. Guide by your wisdom those who have power to care for or to destroy the environment, that by the decisions we make, life may be cherished and a good and fruitful earth be preserved for future generations; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin, *please stand or kneel* _____

Deacon In order to find healing and peace for the Earth, let us confess the ways we have erred and strayed from God's good intentions. *Silent prayer*

God of all mercy:

All **God of compassion, have mercy upon us.
Heal our relationship with all creation.
Forgive us for our mistreatment and neglect
of the creatures who share the earth with us.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent
for what we have done to harm them,
and for what we have not done to help them.
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 Christ our Redeemer. Amen.**

Absolution *is pronounced by the priest* _____

Presider Almighty God, have mercy upon you and forgive you; heal your heart and guide your mind; and enable you to live in peace with all God's creatures and the Earth our common home. **Amen.**

The Peace *Please stand* _____

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Milestones and Announcements _____

The Offertory, following an invitation to generosity from the priest

If you wish to give online, point your phone's camera at the QR code to the right and tap the webpage that pops up. It will take you to the St. Jude's online giving form.



Offertory Hymn #574 _____ Before thy throne, O God, we kneel

The Doxology Please stand & join in singing _____ "Old 100th"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise him, all creatures here below.

Praise him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Supplemental Eucharistic Prayer for Creation _____

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

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

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

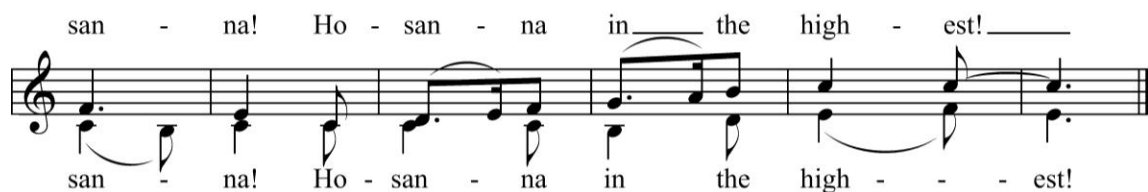
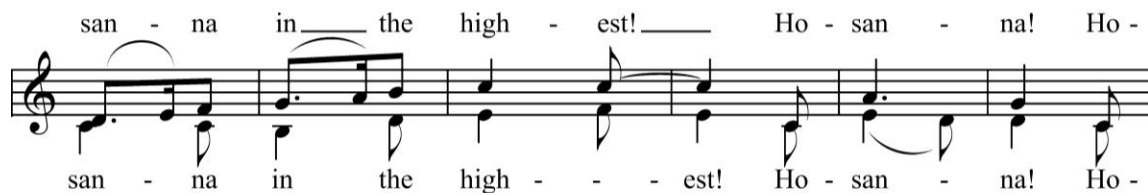
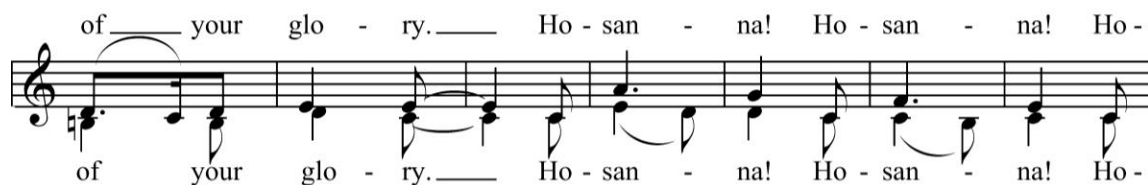
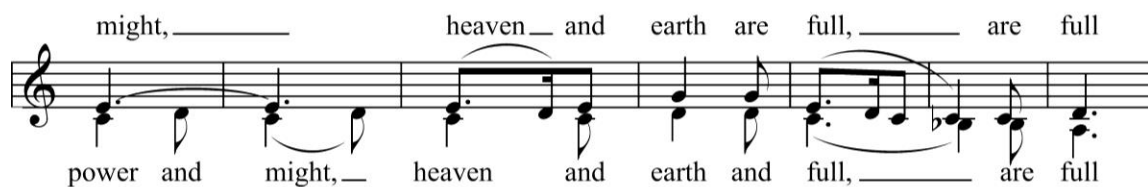
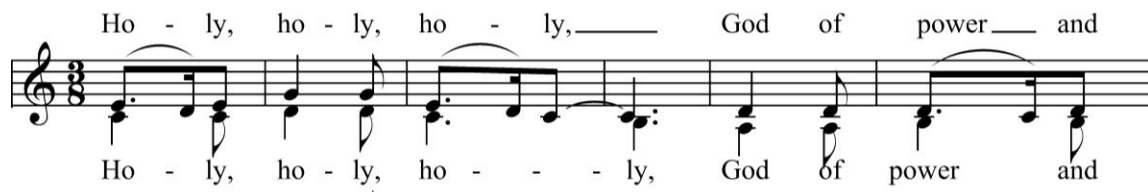
The Presider continues

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 a myriad of 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:

Sanctus _____ setting by John Bell

Music on next page



In the night that Jesus was betrayed, he took bread, and gave thanks to God. He broke the bread, gave it to his friends and said: "Take and eat, for this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

He took the wine, and gave thanks to God, Creator. 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, heal and empower us to restore your Creation and fulfill your will. Send your life-giving Spirit upon us, and upon this bread and wine, the sacraments of a community made new in Jesus Christ.

Stir in us the creative and redeem the destructive. Heal your stricken world, that the soil, the skies, and the seas may be filled with life anew. Fill every heart with the sure and certain hope that we shall enter into the fullness of your joy, when your whole Creation is released from its bondage to sin and sanctified by love, and you are all in all.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, everlasting God, now and forever. **AMEN.**

As our Savior taught us, we now pray:

Holy One, our only Home, hallowed be your name.

May your day dawn, your will be done, here as in heaven.

Feed us today, and forgive us as we forgive each other.

Do not forsake us at the test, but deliver us from evil.

For the glory, the power, and the mercy are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

The Breaking of Bread, *silence follows* _____

Fraction Anthem _____ *setting by John Bell*

Music on next page

This is the Bod-y of Christ, bro-ken that we may be
 whole; this cup, as prom-ised by God, true to his word,
 cra-dles our Lord: food for the good of the soul.

Invitation to Communion

Deacon These are the gifts of God for you, the beloved people of God.

The Communion

Please be seated until invited by the Ushers to come forward, or let them know if you would like Communion brought to you in the pew. **All are welcome** but no one is obliged to receive. If you would prefer not to receive Communion, please cross your arms across your chest indicating you would like to receive a blessing instead. Today we are blessing gluten-free bread. The wine may be sipped from the chalice, or wait to intinct (dip your bread) into the small bowl of blessed wine. Please do not intinct into the chalice.

Communion Music

Hymn #302 _____ Father, we thank thee who hast planted

Solo _____ *In the Fields of the Lord*

Prayer after Communion *Please stand as able* _____ EOW1

Priest Let us pray.

People God of abundance,
you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing _____ *Anglican Communion Resources*

May God, who brought water from the rock, refresh your spirit. **Amen.**

May Christ, who calls us from empty promises to faithful action, strengthen your resolve. **Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit flow through you like a life-giving river, bringing hope, healing, and renewal to every community and every corner of creation. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The Sending Out

Sending Out Hymn #544 _____ *Jesus shall reign where'er the sun*

Sending Out _____

Deacon Go now into a thirsty world. Protect the springs, restore the rivers.
Treasure every drop.

Speak for communities whose voices are unheard.

Stand with those who thirst for justice as well as water.

May your lives proclaim that water is sacred, creation is God's gift, and faithful discipleship is measured not only by what we believe but by how we care for the sources of life. Go forth to love and serve, in peace.

Thanks be to God!

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<u>Serving at the Liturgy Today</u>		<u>Next Sunday</u>
Presiding	Rev. Mike Marinco	Rev. Susan Anslow Williams
Preaching	Rev. Judy Marinco	Rev. Susan Anslow Williams
Deacon	Rev. Judy Marinco	Rev. Judy Marinco
Organist	Ron Spaulding	Ron Spaulding
Choir Director		Katie Young
Eucharistic Minister	Dee Grossmann	Lynn Hopper
Intinction Cup	Bill Anderson	Bob Hutchins
Reader	Jessica Miller	Dave Rayner
Prayers	Ellen Tripp	Denise Rayner
Ushers	Dave & Denise Rayner	Charlie J., Jessica M.
Live-streamer	Paul Dolza	Dave Rayner
Vestry P. of the Day	Charlie Johnston	Dave James
Altar Guild	Terri H., Francine J.	Sarah D., Lisa Cronk
Coffee Hour	The Andersons	Heather Ludwig

This Week at St. Jude's

Monday, 9/7	Labor Day - church office closed
Tuesday, 9/8	7 pm: Fenton Community Orchestra Board Meeting, library
Wednesday, 9/9	6 pm: Choir Rehearsal, sanctuary
	6 pm: Outreach, library
	7 pm: Finance & Endowment, library
Thursday, 9/10	2 pm: Holy Eucharist Service @ Abby Park

Godly Play will take place during the church service every 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month beginning Sunday, September 13. Godly Play uses storytelling, wonder and play to equip our school-age children with tools to express their own spiritual experiences. It will take place in the Godly Play room downstairs beginning at 10:25 am. Children will return to service during the Peace to receive Communion with their families. Thank you to our returning and new volunteers for shepherding and teaching our children!

Our Fall **“Inquirers’ Class”** for anyone interested in being confirmed, received, or just wanting to know more about the Episcopal Church, will have three in-person sessions. The dates are Wednesdays, September 23, October 14 and November 11, from 7:00 – 8:30 pm. Let Rev. Susan know if you want to attend. We will be using “Jesus was an Episcopalian (And you can be one, too)” by the Rev. Chris Yaw, and watching some YouTube videos, prior to each discussion session.

The **candidates for the first Bishop for the Diocese of the Great Lakes** have been announced. On **Friday, September 25**, there will be a couple of opportunities for a meet and greet with the candidates. One at **St. Paul’s in downtown Flint from 3 – 4:30 pm** and another on **Zoom 7 – 8:30 pm**. Both you need to pre-register to attend. To find out more about all of the meet and greet opportunities through the Diocese, go to greatlakesepiscopal.org/bishop-search/candidates/

If you are a student or educator returning to school this fall, bring your backpack or briefcase to church on **Sunday, September 13** for a special **Backpack Blessing** during the Holy Eucharist service.

The Alzheimer's Association of Michigan will return to downtown Fenton this fall, providing two sessions of information and support for carers of people living with dementia.

Saturday, September 26 at 10:30 a.m. - Understanding Alzheimer's-related Behaviors, how to respond appropriately, and recognizing when additional help is needed.

Saturday, October 10 at 10:30 a.m. - Communicating Effectively with family, friends and health care professionals, as your loved one’s communication skills change.

Persons living with dementia are welcome to join their caregiver at the class.

To register for either/both of the classes, please call the Alzheimer’s Association at its 24/7 helpline, **800-272-3900**.

Sock Sunday will take place Sunday, September 20. Bring \$5, \$10, \$20 or more to purchase socks for us to donate to Crossover Ministries in Flint. These socks go to keep people's feet warm who otherwise wouldn't be able to afford them.

Prayer List

Pray for Sean, our Presiding Bishop; for Anne, our Assisting Bishop; for all lay and ordained leaders in the Diocese of the Great Lakes; for Terri, Zack and Holly, candidates for our first Bishop; for Susan, our Priest-in-Charge; for Judy, our Deacon; for the Vestry.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Grace, Lapeer - Sarah Parks, Priest-in-Charge; Emmanuel, Petoskey - Kay Houck, Rector

Our prayers for healing and comfort are asked for: Donald, Chuck, Molly, Matt, Jenny, Jerry, Harvey, Melissa, Brian, Abby, Marilyn, Ron, Tony, Emily Jane, Francine, Anna, Jan, Nina, Ellen, Toñio and the Salcedo family, Kathy, Sarah, Charles, Genevieve, Bob.

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