



St. Jude's Episcopal Church

Seeking and Worshipping God, Reaching out to Others

September 7, 2025
The 13th Sunday after Pentecost,
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 designation in which many churches celebrate the goodness of God's work in nature, and commit to being better stewards of it. Today we welcome The Rev. Mary Jo Schuetz back to St Jude's, and also our choir after their summer hiatus! They will lead us in fresh settings for the *Gloria* and *Sanctus*, based on English folk tunes. These are found on a separate handout.

The Lectionary readings are thematically mixed today. Jeremiah learns about God's creative power by visiting the local potter. Paul writes to slave-owner Philemon about meeting his escaped slave, Onesimus, who has become a Christian. And Jesus advises planning ahead!

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 gluten-free Bread, 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 _____

Opening Hymn #433 _____ *We gather together*

Open Acclamation _____ *based on Job ch. 12*

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

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

Presider: In God's hand is the life of every living thing;

Response: **And the breath of every creature comes from God.**

Presider: Ask the animals and they will teach you;

Response: **Ask the birds of the air, and they will tell you.**

Presider: Ask the plants of the earth and they will teach you;

Response: **And the fish of the sea will declare to you.**

Presider: O God, Creation is full of your praise, and we are called to join in with joy.

Response: **May our prayers rise like the dawn and our worship be a song of love.**

Song of Praise: *To God be the Glory* _____ *English Folk Song Mass*
See music insert

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 _____ *Jeremiah 18:1-11*

Reader A Reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah:

The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: "Come, go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words." So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel. The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him.

Then the word of the Lord came to me: Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the Lord. Just like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it. Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the Lord: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

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

The Psalm _____ *Psalms 139:1-5, 12-17*

- 1 Lord, you have searched me out and known me; *
you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.
- 2 You trace my journeys and my resting-places *
and are acquainted with all my ways.
- 3 Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, *
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.
- 4 You press upon me behind and before *
and lay your hand upon me.
- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; *
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.
- 12 For you yourself created my inmost parts; *
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
- 13 I will thank you because I am marvelously made; *
your works are wonderful, and I know it well.

- 14 My body was not hidden from you, *
while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths of the earth.
- 15 Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb;
all of them were written in your book; *
they were fashioned day by day, when as yet there was none of them.
- 16 How deep I find your thoughts, O God! *
how great is the sum of them!
- 17 If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand; *
to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours.

The Second Reading _____ *Philemon 1-21*

Reader A Reading from Paul's Letter to Philemon.

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love~ and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother~ especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

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

Sequence Hymn: *music insert* _____ *As the Wind Song*

The Gospel Reading *Please stand as able* _____ *Luke 14:25-33*

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

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

Now large crowds were traveling with Jesus; and he turned and said to them, "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions."

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

The Sermon *Please be seated* _____ *The Rev. Susan Anslow Williams*

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 O Lord, our God, help us to call on you in the communion of your Church, with
 one heart and one mind, according to your dream for the creation.

Leader We pray for your created world. You generated the universe and all that exists in
 it. The Earth is filled with your life. You make the grass, plants, and fruit-bearing
 trees to grow, you feed the birds of the sky, you care for all your creatures on Earth.
 Out of your love you created human beings: give us the strength to faithfully tend
 and keep the world according to your will. For the sake of Jesus we ask,

Response **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader We pray for humanity: for every nation, community, and every person in them.
 Grant that we may treat our fellow human beings with respect; that we may accept
 all people in their diversity; that we may support and uphold the human dignity

of our neighbors. Give us grateful hearts, that we may see ourselves as part of the great and rich whole of the Earth, from which you created humankind. Grant us deeper understanding, responsible thinking, and valuable work to do. For the sake of Jesus we ask,

Response **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for your Church everywhere, that she may be a messenger of life and an agent of your love throughout the world. Instill courage in the hearts of those who follow Jesus, that we may dare to proclaim hope to those who live in fear, encouragement to those who doubt, and comfort to those who despair. Give your Church the strength of unity to bring your Gospel to them in word and deed, as participants in a world in crisis. For the sake of Jesus we ask,

Response **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for the sick, the destitute, the oppressed and the vulnerable. We pray for our fellow human beings, and for all our fellow creatures, affected by war, conflict, genocide, and ecocide. Send justice to those who cry out to you, O God, and also to those who have no ability to speak. We ask for your healing of those on our Prayer List, and others we name aloud: For the sake of Jesus we ask,

Response **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for the departed, knowing you hold them in your loving arms. Especially we remember the people we name... Comfort those who grieve, and inspire us with a vision of your eternity, where there is no more pain and you will wipe away every tear from our eyes. For the sake of Jesus we ask,

Response **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Humble our hearts enough to relate to our fellow creatures in distress, as St Francis named them true brothers and sisters. Give us the courage to act on behalf of those who silently endure injustice, and guide our steps in the way of righteousness and long-lasting peace. Enact in our world your life-giving will, O God, and may peace come to all of nature. For the sake of Jesus we ask,

Response **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Presider Beloved Christ, who spoke “Shalom” to frightened hearts, hear our prayers and stir us to action. Inspire us to work for the end of conflict, and for the full restoration of

our broken relationships — with you, with the ecumenical community, with the human family, and with all Creation. We ask in your name. **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 intentions. *Silent prayer*

God of all mercy:

All **We confess that we have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We confess that our greed and destructive impulses have fractured our relationships with you, with others, and with the Earth.**

Deacon Fertile fields have become barren, forests lie desolate, oceans and rivers are polluted. Thriving communities have become places of suffering, and the earth cries out.

All **Forgive us for betraying your trust. Forgive us for our greed and arrogance. Forgive us for what we have done to your Earth. Forgive us for what we have done to your lakes and oceans. Forgive us for what we have done to your creatures — on the land, in the sky, and in the depths. God of Life, have mercy on us and heal your wounded Earth.**

Deacon Empower us to choose the road that leads to life, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways. We long to experience your Shalom in the land and in the waters.

All **All this we ask in the name of the One who came that we may have life in abundance — your Son, our Savior, Jesus the Christ. 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 _____ To His Garden

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 2 _____ EOW1

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

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

"Holy, Holy, Holy" _____ *English Folk Song Mass*

Found in the Music Insert, back page

The people remain standing or may kneel. The Presider continues

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, blessed Jude, and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

All **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,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of Bread, *silence follows* _____

Priest The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord, and you give them their food in due season. You open wide your hand, and fill all things living with plenteousness.

People **With grateful hearts we celebrate the goodness of God.**

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 Hymn #654* (sing 3x) _____ Day by day

Song _____ Change my heart, O God



A Change my heart, O God, _ make it ev-er true. _



Change my heart, O God, _ may I be like you. _



B You are the Pot - ter, I am the clay. _



Mold me and make me, this is what I pray. Repeat A

Prayer after Communion *Please stand as able* _____

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 _____ *Celtic tradition*

Priest Bless to us, O God, the moon that is above us, the earth that is beneath us,
the friends who are around us, your image deep within us; O Triune God:
Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Sending Out

Sending Out Hymn #675 _____ *Take up your cross*

Sending Out _____

The Deacon dismisses the congregation, after which the people respond:

Thanks be to God!

MUSIC Copyrighted music in the bulletin is printed with permission through
OneLicense.net, subscription #723843-A; or CCLI license #11253555.

Gloria and *Sanctus* from “The English Folk Song Mass,” © 2004, St James Music Press. See Music Insert.

“As the Wind Song through the Trees,” © 2005 Hope Publishing Company. See Music Insert.

“To His Garden,” anon. Kentucky Harmony, 1826. Arr. by Susan Matsui, © 2012 St. James Music Press.

“Change my heart, O God” © 1982 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing, admin. Music Services

St. Jude’s Episcopal Church
106 E. Elizabeth Street, Fenton, MI 48430
(810) 629-5681 ★ www.stjudesfenton.com