



St. Jude's Episcopal Church

Seeking and Worshipping God, Reaching out to Others

Sunday, October 4, 2026

**The Last Sunday in the Season of Creation
and the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi**

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 has been "Living Waters," based especially on our first reading today from the prophet Ezekiel: His vision of the renewed Temple of God, now the source of a flowing river that provides life and healing to all people, animals, fish, trees and crops. God will provide for us all. This image is picked up by St John the Divine in *Revelation*, as the Temple and its miraculous waters are at the center of the new Jerusalem in his vision of heaven.

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 _____

Opening Hymn #400 vs 1,2,3,6 _____ *All creatures of our God and King*

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.

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Proclamation of the Word

Please be seated.

The First Reading _____ *Ezekiel 47:1-2,7-12*

Reader A Reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel.

Then [in my vision, God] brought me back to the entrance of the temple; there water was flowing from below the entryway of the temple toward the east (for the temple faced east), and the water was flowing down from below the south side of the temple, south of the altar. Then he brought me out by way of the north gate and led me around on the outside to the outer gate that faces toward the east, and the water was trickling out on the south side.

As I came back, I saw on the bank of the river a great many trees on the one side and on the other. He said to me, "This water flows toward the eastern region and goes down into the Arabah, and when it enters the sea, the sea of stagnant waters, the water will become fresh. Wherever the river goes, every living creature that swarms will live, and there will be very many fish once these waters reach there. It will become fresh, and everything will live where the river goes. People will stand fishing beside the sea from En-gedi to Englaim; it will be a place for the spreading of nets; its fish will be of a great many kinds, like the fish of the Great Sea. But its swamps and marshes will not become fresh; they are to be left for salt. On the banks, on both sides of the river, there will grow all kinds of trees for food. Their leaves will not wither nor their fruit fail, but they will bear fresh fruit every

month, because the water for them flows from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for food and their leaves for healing.”

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

The Psalm _____ *Psalm 65*

- 1 You are to be praised, O God, in Zion; *
to you shall vows be performed in Jerusalem.
- 2 To you that hear prayer shall all flesh come, *
because of their transgressions.
- 3 Our sins are stronger than we are, *
but you will blot them out.
- 4 Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there! *
they will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your temple.
- 5 Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation, *
O Hope of all the ends of the earth and of the seas that are far away.
- 6 You make fast the mountains by your power; *
they are girded about with might.
- 7 You still the roaring of the seas, *
the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.
- 8 Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs; *
you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.
- 9 You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; *
the river of God is full of water.
- 10 You prepare the grain, *
for so you provide for the earth.
- 11 You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; *
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.
- 12 You crown the year with your goodness, *
and your paths overflow with plenty.

- 13 May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, *
and the hills be clothed with joy.
- 14 May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,
and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; *
let them shout for joy and sing.

The Second Reading _____ *Philippians 3:4b-14*

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

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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

Sequence Hymn _____ *Like a mighty river flowing*

Music is on the following page

Like a mighty river flowing



1 Like a might - y riv - er flow - ing,
 2 Like the hills se - rene and e - ven,
 3 Like the sum - mer breez - es play - ing,
 4 Like the morn - ing sun as - cend - ed,
 5 Like the a - zure o - cean swell - ing,



like a flower in beau - ty grow - ing,
 like the cours - ing clouds of heav - en,
 like the tall trees soft - ly sway - ing,
 like the scents of eve - ning blend - ed,
 like the jew - el all - ex - cell - ing,



far be - yond all hu - man know - ing
 like the heart that's been for - giv - en
 like the lips of si - lent pray - ing
 like a friend - ship nev - er end - ed
 far be - yond our hu - man tell - ing



is the per - fect peace of God.

The Gospel Reading *Please stand as able* _____ Matthew 21:33-46

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

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

Jesus said, "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves

to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures:

'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes?'

"Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls."

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

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

The Sermon *Please be seated* _____ *The Rev. Mary Jo Schuetz*
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 Francis of Assisi underwent a transformation of life, from wealthy consumer to humble caretaker and spiritual guide. Following his example, let us pray for all God's creatures, for our loved-ones and for ourselves; and for the earth we share. *Silence*

Leader

I ask your prayers for all people of faith, especially all who follow St Francis as members of his Order; for our Diocese and the candidates for our first Bishop: Terri, Zach, Nurya and Holly; and for all who are discerning God's call to ministry. Help us to rebuild your Church, as you called Francis in his day. *Silence.*

O God, Giver of life, **Hear our prayer.**

I ask your prayers for the leaders around the world, that they may exercise wise stewardship of the waters and lands they impact. Bring justice to those who struggle to find clean water to drink, to water their crops and nurture their animals. *Silence*

O God, Giver of life, **Hear our prayer.**

I ask your prayers for the wisdom to peacefully solve conflicts over water in the dry places of our planet, and to share the use of rivers and underground waters. *Silence*

O God, Giver of life, **Hear our prayer.**

I ask your prayers as waters around the world rise and fall because of climate change. For communities affected by flood or drought, melting ice or record heat; and 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 the people we love who are ill, in pain or have special need; especially those we name ..., and for all creatures who suffer from the unjust, violent, or wasteful use of the earth's resources. *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 Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy.

All **Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. 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 Anthem _____ *Sing to the Mountains*

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.**

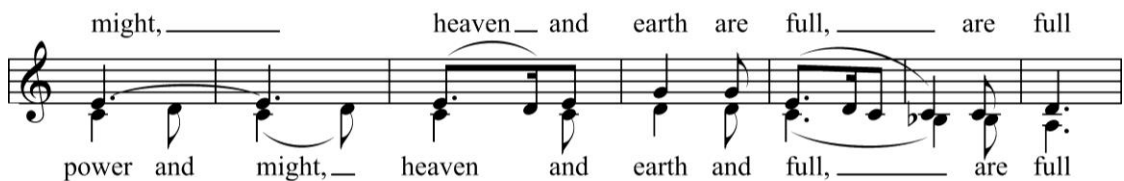
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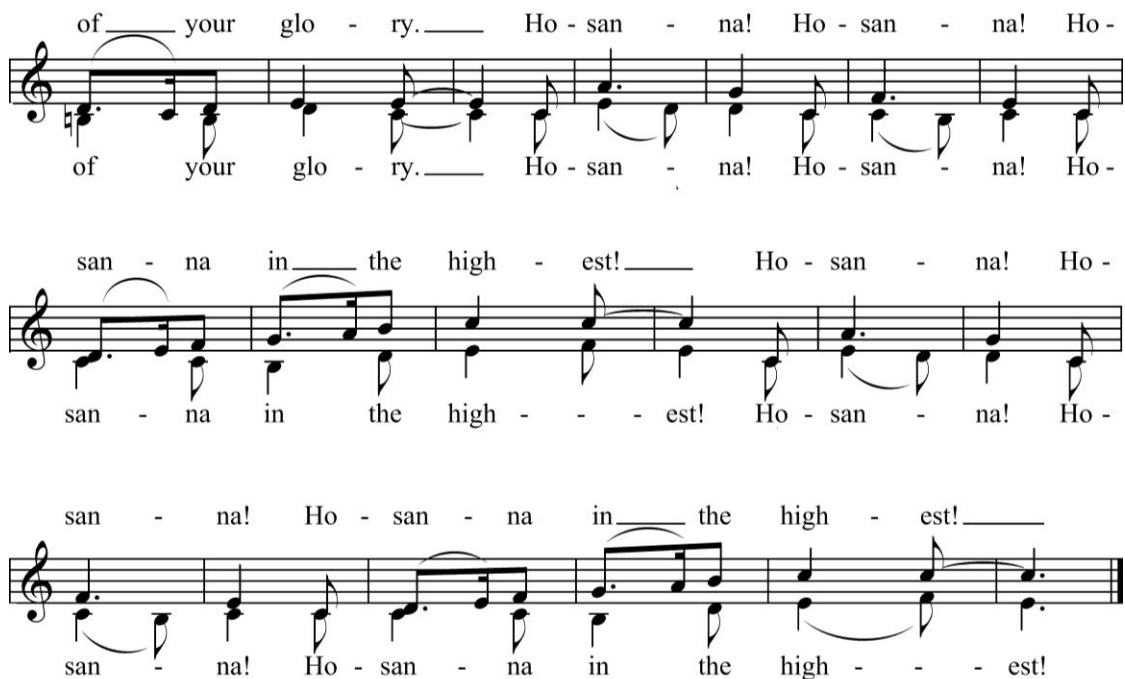
Praise and thanks are yours, our Creating God. From the dust of the earth you shaped human beings in your own image, and you filled the earth and seas and skies with a myriad of wonders. Yet we consistently turn your generosity into our scarcity, your elegance into our meanness, and your simplicity into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

Please note that the melody is the top line of text and music.





We praise you that in the night he was betrayed, Jesus and his friends gathered for the Passover meal. 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 also took the cup of wine, and gave thanks to God. He gave it to his friends saying: “This is my blood of the new covenant, shed for you and for all 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 world 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 your 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: _____ *Source: Mother Thunder Mission*

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*

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 Hymns

Come to the Water

1. O let all who thirst, let them come to the
2. And let all who seek, let them come to the
3. And let all who toil, let them come to the
4. And let all the poor, let them come to the

1. wa - ter. And let all who have noth-ing,
2. wa - ter. And let all who have noth-ing,
3. wa - ter. And let all who are wea - ry,
4. wa - ter. Bring the ones who are lad - en,

1. let them come to the Lord: with-out
2. let them come to the Lord: with-out
3. let them come to the Lord: all who
4. bring them all to the Lord: bring the

1. mon-ey, with-out price. Why should you pay the
2. mon-ey, with-out strife. Why should you spend your
3. la - bor, with-out rest. How can your soul find
4. chil-dren with-out might. Eas - y the load and

1. price, ex-cept for the Lord?
2. life, ex-cept for the Lord?
3. rest, ex-cept for the Lord?
4. light: 7 come to the Lord.

Make me a channel of your peace _____ Prayer of St Francis



1 Make me a chan-nel of your peace. Where
 2 Make me a chan-nel of your peace. Where
 4 Make me a chan-nel of your peace. It



there is ha-tred, let me bring your love. Where
 there's de-spair in life, let me bring hope. Where
 is in par-don-ing that we are par-doned, in



there is in-ju-ry, your par-don, Lord, and
 there is dark-ness, on-ly light, and
 giv-ing of our-selves that we re-ceive, and in



where there's doubt, true faith in you.
 where there's sad-ness, ev-er joy.
 dy-ing that we're born to e-ter-nal life.



3 O, Mas-ter, grant that I may nev-er seek so



much to be con-soled as to con-sole, to be



un-der-stood as to un-der-stand, to be



loved as to love with all my soul.

to Stanza 4

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: WLP #787 _____ *We are marching in the light of God*
2. *We are singing...* 3. *We are praying...* 4. *We are dancing... in the light of God.*

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.
Response **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude _____

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- Song of Praise: *For Beauty of Meadows*, Words by Walter Farquharson © 1971. Music: *Caniadau y Cyssegr*, Welsh melody, adapt.
- *Like a mighty river flowing*, Words by Michael Perry © 1982 Jubilee Hymns. Music: *Quem Pastores Laudavere*, German melody, arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams.
- *Sing to the Mountains*, by Bob Dufford, S.J. © 1975 Robert J. Dufford, S.J., and N. Amer. Liturgy Resources.
- *Sanctus* by John Bell © 1988 WGRG c/o Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc.
- *The Lord's Prayer*, text by Rev. Martha Blacklock for Mother Thunder Mission, a project of inclusive language and imagery for worship.
- *Fraction: This is the body of Christ* by John Bell © 1998 WGRG / The Iona Community.
- *Come to the water*, by John Foley, S.J. © 1978, John Foley and OCP Publishing.
- *Make me a channel of your peace*, by Sebastian Temple, arr. Jane Holstein, © 1967 OCP.

Serving at the Liturgy Today

Presiding	Rev. Mary Jo Schuetz
Deacon	Rev. Judy Marincio
Organist	Ron Spaulding
Choir Director	Katie Young
Eucharistic Minister	Amy Freeman
Intinction Cup	Annette Boyd
Reader	Deb James
Prayers	Dolores Ruby
Ushers	Dave & Deb James
Live-streamer	Dave James
Vestry P. of the Day	Dave James
Altar Guild	Terri H., Fran J.
Coffee Hour	??

Next Sunday

Rev. Susan Anslow Williams
Rev. Judy Marincio
Ron Spaulding
Katie Young
Dee Grossmann
Lynn Hopper
Pedro Melchor
Ellen Tripp
Dave & Denise Rayner
Lynn Hopper
Charlie Johnston
Sarah D., Lisa Cronk
??

Today: Pet Blessings outside after the service; the annual **CROP Walk** begins at 1:00 pm at Bush Park!

Rev. Susan will be back from her vacation next Sunday Oct. 11. In case of pastoral emergency, please call Deacon Judy.

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