

The Season of Creation



The Season of Creation, September 1st through October 4th, is celebrated by Christians around the world as a time for renewing, repairing and restoring our relationship to God, one another, and all of creation. During the ecumenical Season of Creation, Trinity Church will reuse this bulletin every Sunday. Please return it to the ushers after worship.

ENTRANCE HYMN (see hymn board)

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Please stand or sit as best helps you sing and pray.

Celebrant Blessed is God, who creates all things.

People **And blessed be God's creation, now and for ever.**

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant and People

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.

SONG OF PRAISE

S 280

Please stand or sit as best helps you sing and pray.

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you

take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. (See insert for the Collect of the Day)

People **Amen.**

The Lessons (see insert for full texts)

FIRST READING

PSALM

SECOND READING

SEQUENCE HYMN (see hymn board)

GOSPEL

THE SERMON

THE CREED

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 of the Virgin Mary and was made human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Please stand or sit as best helps you pray.

Deacon Let us pray for the revealing of the reign of God in the world, now and always.

Intercessor In the beginning,
People **God was.**

Intercessor Here and now,
People **God is.**

Intercessor In the future,
People **God will be.**

Intercessor Creator of earth, sea, and sky, kindle the fire of your Spirit within us that we may be bold to heal and defend the earth, and pour your blessing upon all who work for the good of the planet. God, Giver of life,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Breath of life, receive our thanks for the beauty of our local habitat and all who dwell in it, and grant us the wisdom and will to conserve it. God, Giver of life,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Source of life, heal and redeem the wounds of your creation, and visit the places and people who suffer from our indifference, neglect, and greed. God, Giver of life,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Lover of all you have made, we thank you for the wondrous diversity of your creatures, and we pray for their well-being. God, Giver of life,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Author of the book of nature, receive our gratitude for places of restoration and healing, and continue to bless those places that feed our lives and spirits. God, Giver of life,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Wise Creator, whose works are full of mystery, give us wonder and appreciation for your creatures with whom we find ourselves in conflict. God, Giver of life,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Giver of all good gifts, awaken us daily to our dependence upon your bounty, and make us always thankful for the abundance of your blessings. God, Giver of life,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Divine Physician, heal our communities, especially those where neglect, greed, or violence inflict suffering upon people and other creatures. God, Giver of life,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Comforter of all the earth, sustain the people of this congregation who desire or need your presence and help especially (*see back of insert for names*). God, Giver of life,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Rock and refuge of all your creatures, receive into everlasting mercy all those who have died especially (*see back of insert for names*). God, Giver of life,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Celebrant Gracious God: Grant that your people may have in them the same mind that was in Christ Jesus, and guide us into harmony of relationship through loving-kindness and the wise use of all that you have given; for you are drawing all things into communion with you and with each other by the power of the Holy Spirit.
People **Amen.**

Celebrant Let us say together the Trinity Mission Prayer.
People **Loving God, we give you thanks that you have called Trinity Church to be a caring, Christ-centered community, empowered to worship, serve, and grow in faith. Guide us and strengthen us to be ever more welcoming and inclusive, and to encourage all people to love God and one another. Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

People **God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

People **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and the People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Announcements & Blessings

Birthdays: O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant/s 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.**

Anniversaries: O God, who has given us the sacrament of marriage that we may know you through the intimacy of married love; send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and kindness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Travelers: O God, our heavenly Father, whose glory fills the whole creation, and whose presence we find wherever we go: Preserve those who travel especially these your children; surround them with your loving care; protect them from every danger; and bring them in safety to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Celebrant Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. *Psalm 50:14*

OFFERTORY HYMN (see hymn board)

DOXOLOGY

8:00AM

"All things come of thee, O Lord, and of thine own have we given thee."

10:15AM

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above, ye heav'nly host. Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

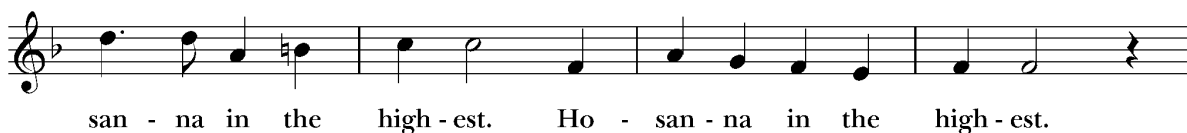
People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in the mystery of Christ's incarnation you have gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, calling your people to be ministers of reconciliation and to proclaim the Good News to all creation. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

S125



Please stand or sit as best helps you sing and pray.

Celebrant Holy and gracious Creator: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; etc.
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:

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

Celebrant 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. Send your life-giving Spirit upon us, and upon this bread and wine that they may be for us the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Send your Spirit also upon us to in us the creative and redeem the destructive. Heal your stricken world, that the soil, the skies, and the seas may be filled with your 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 justified by faith 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.

People **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

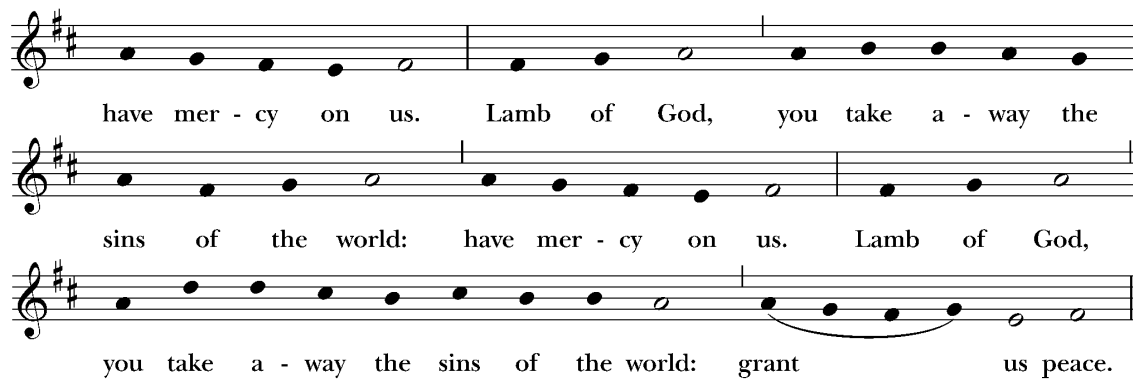
People **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**





INVITATION

Celebrant The gifts of God for the people of God. This is the Table not of the Church but of the Lord. It is made ready for those who love God and those who want to love God more. So come you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who have not been here long, you who have tried to follow and you who have fallen short. Come; it is Christ who invites you. It is His will that those who wish to meet Him should find him here.

DISTRIBUTION

What follows is Holy Communion or the Eucharist, the Christian faith's sacred meal of thanksgiving. The Episcopal Church affirms that the sacrament of Baptism is the ancient and normative entry point for receiving the sacrament of Holy Eucharist, but no one who comes forward to receive the bread and wine at communion is ever turned away from God's table. Wherever you are in your spiritual journey, Trinity Church welcomes you, and we invite you to explore with us what baptism may mean for you. Want to know more? Please see one of the clergy following the service.

When receiving the Holy Communion, you may take just the bread if you prefer, or request a gluten-free wafer. If you wish to receive the wine also, our normative practice is to drink from a larger common cup. If you would prefer to intinct, please use one of the shallow chalices. If you would prefer not to receive communion at all for any reason, you are still invited to come forward at the time of communion to receive a blessing from the priest. Please place your arms across your chest to indicate your desire to receive a blessing.

COMMUNION HYMN(S) (see hymn board)

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant 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.**

BLESSING

Celebrant May God who established the dance of creation, who marveled at the lilies of the field, who transforms chaos to order, lead us to transform our lives and the Church to listen to the voice of all creatures that reflect God's glory in creation. The blessing of God Almighty, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit.

People **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN (see hymn board)

DISMISSAL

Deacon Alleluia, alleluia! Let us bless our God and all Creation.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 24, 2023

Welcome! Restrooms are available in Memorial Hall across the driveway. Assistive hearing devices are available in the Narthex, just see one of our greeters to receive one. Children are ALWAYS welcome at ALL services. If you you'd like them, there are "quiet" activities such as crayons and Sunday coloring papers available from the greeters in the back of the church, but we love your kids just as much when they squeal or squirm.

The Altar Flowers this Sunday are dedicated by Jean & Michael Close in celebration of the marriage of Sara Close & Rob Micun.

After the 10:15am service today, all are welcome to join us for coffee hour in Memorial Hall. At noon, our **Gifts of Music Luncheon** will begin with musical performances and a celebration of our donors. The luncheon is sponsored by the Rev. Charles Cloughen, Ms. Ann Graham, the Rev. Dr. Henrietta Wiley and First Butch Mary Sykes, Trader Joe's of Towson, Trinity Episcopal Preschool, the Surprise Shop and an anonymous donor. Please join us!

HYMNS

H 433

H 677

H 325

H 693

H 397

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

FIRST READING: Jonah 3:10-4:11

A reading from the Prophet Jonah.

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the

bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 145:1-8

St. Helena Breviary

1 I will exalt you, O holy God,
and bless your Name for ever and ever.

**2 Every day will I bless you
and praise your Name for ever and ever.**

3 Great are you, O God, and greatly to be praised;
there is no end to your greatness.

**4 One generation shall praise your works to another
and shall declare your power.**

5 I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty
and all your marvelous works.

**6 They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts,
and I will tell of your greatness.**

7 They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness;
they shall sing of your righteous deeds.

**8 You are gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger and of great kindness.**

SECOND READING: Philippians 1:21-30

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians.

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well-- since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 20:1-16

Please stand as you are able.

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

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

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

PRAYERS

THE SERMON

The Rev. Elizabeth Masterson

Intercessory prayer “is about love, and learning to love. Intercession is about love that is both expressed and learnt. We express our love for another when we pray for them, and we learn to love them even more, even our enemies. – Br. James Koester, SSJE

We pray for those with immediate needs:

Lourdes Mejia	Burke S.	people enduring natural
Linda Gorman		and man-made
Robert Foster		disasters everywhere

We pray for those with long-term needs:

Dolores Andrew	Ann Eder	David Paulus
Jean Armstrong	Ken Eder	Gini Patterson
Kevin Austin	Marina Gavrelis	Price Family
Phoebe Bacon	Jack Gillett	Ruth Stahl
Mary Lou Bates	Dottie Hagan	Rob Stahl
Sonya Brown	Barbara Harris	Wendy Stahl
Ned Christopher	Nancy Hinson	Michael Thompson
Larry Davis	Catherine Hogg	Ebbie Wheeler
Betty Denison	Sue Miskimon	Rob Lyons
Richard Dixon	Dorothy Mundy	Ryan Swartz
Richard Eckerd	Brendon Nicholson	

We pray for our students attending college/university:

Mason Ayotte	Nicholas Lewis	Cooper Grable
Charlie Bouloukos	Sophie Mwaisela	Jack Pawluk
Izzy Grable	Owen Ayotte	Rowan Gardner
Tom Hinson	Darah Schillinger	
Andrew Jenkins	Annie Swindell	

We pray for those serving in our military: Jordan Clark and Toni Myatt

We pray for those with birthdays this week:

Madeline Grable	Cole Weihs	Susie Swindell
Laura Gabell	Maddie Weihs	Elizabeth Masterson

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Church of Ireland

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Ascension, Scarboro

Christ Church, Rock Spring

Emmanuel, Bel Air

Please help us keep our list up to date by alerting the office at office@trinitychurchtowson.org when you or someone you know needs prayer, and also when special prayers are no longer needed. If your birthday is not listed, please let us know so that we can celebrate you!