**September 17, 2023** Season of Creation 3 Wilderness Sunday (Outdoor Worship)

# PRELUDE

WELCOME



# **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORY**

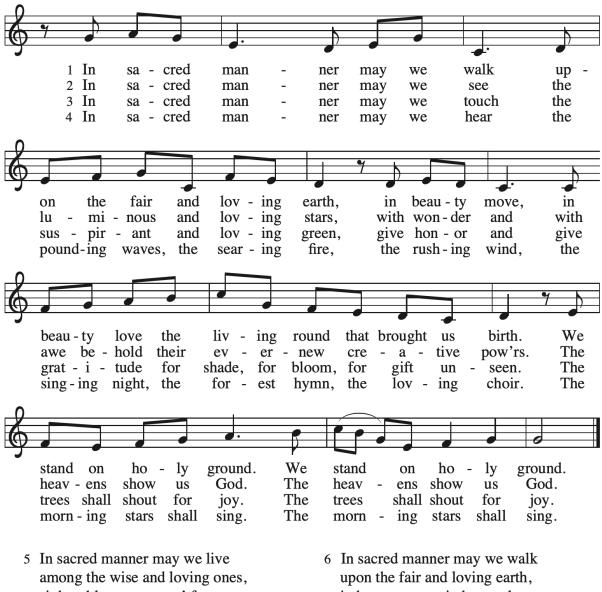
All Saints Lutheran Anglican Church exists on the traditional territory of the Attawandaron / Neutral People. We honour the original ancestors of this land and also offer respect to our Haudenosaunee, Anishinaabe, Mississauga and Métis neighbours. We give thanks for the First Peoples and all who have cared for the land and made it possible for us to dwell and do ministry on this land.

# **INTROIT** (Psalm 19:1-4)

Low voices:	The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of God's hands.
High voices:	Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge.
All:	Listen to creation declare the glory of God, listen to God's Word in scripture.
Low voices:	They have no speech; they use no words; they are not heard.
High voices:	Yet their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world.
All:	Listen to creation declare the glory of God, listen to God's Word in scripture.

**GATHERING HYMN** 

**In Sacred Manner** 



- among the wise and loving ones, sit humbly, as at sages' feet, by four-legged, finned, and feathered ones. The animals will teach. The animals will teach.
- In sacred manner may we walk upon the fair and loving earth, in beauty move, in beauty love the living round that brought us birth.
  We stand on holy ground.
  We stand on holy ground.

#### GREETING

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. And also with you.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

God, our Creator, whose glory fills our planet, help us to discern your vibrant presence among us, especially in the wonders of the wild in wilderness areas. Help us to be in solidarity with your wilderness creatures who are suffering. Lift our spirits to rejoice with the wild world of the wilderness. We ask this in the name of Christ, who reconciles and renews all things in creation. **Amen** 

## **CHOIR ANTHEM**

## FIRST READING: Joel 1:8-10, 17-20

<sup>8</sup> Lament like a virgin dressed in sackcloth for the husband of her youth. <sup>9</sup> The grain-offering and the drink-offering are cut off from the house of the LORD. The priests mourn, the ministers of the LORD. <sup>10</sup> The fields are devastated, the ground mourns; for the grain is destroyed, the wine dries up, the oil fails. <sup>17</sup> The seed shrivels under the clods, the storehouses are desolate: the granaries are ruined because the grain has failed. <sup>18</sup> How the animals groan! The herds of cattle wander about because there is no pasture for them; even the flocks of sheep are dazed. <sup>19</sup> To you, O LORD, I cry.

For fire has devoured

the pastures of the wilderness, and flames have burned all the trees of the field. <sup>20</sup> Even the wild animals cry to you because the watercourses are dried up, and fire has devoured the pastures of the wilderness.

> This is the word of God. Thanks be to God!

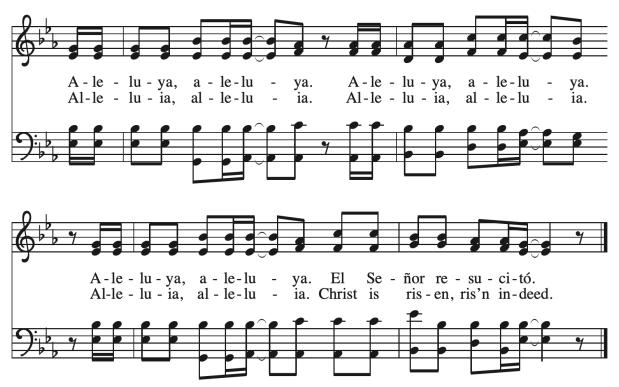
# SECOND READING: Romans 8:22–27

<sup>22</sup>We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; <sup>23</sup>and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup>For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? <sup>25</sup>But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

<sup>26</sup> Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. <sup>27</sup>And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Word of God. Word of Life. Thanks be to God!

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



GOSPEL: Mark 1:9-13

The holy gospel according to Mark. Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>9</sup> In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

<sup>12</sup> And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. <sup>13</sup>He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

The gospel of Christ. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

## HYMN OF THE DAY ROOTED IN FAITH

## Chorus:

Rooted in faith. Grounded in love. Growing together in this holy space, gathered as one. Rooted in faith. Grounded in love. Growing together exper'encing grace, sharing God's love.

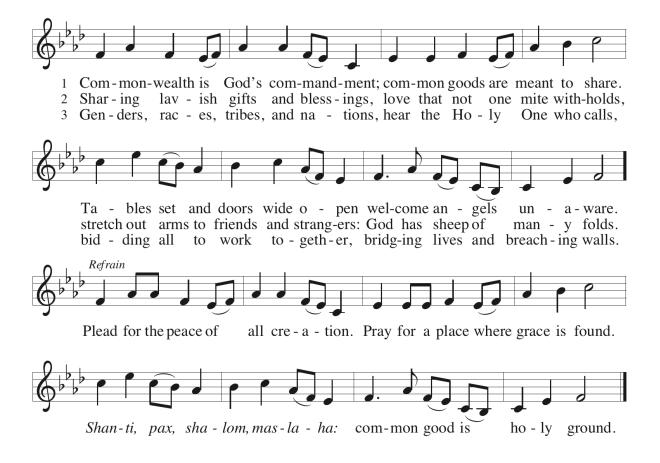
- In this place we offer thanks. For God's word and the forms that it takes. Thanks for the power and beauty of life. Thanks for the God who bring passion alive. Thanks for the gifts that are wond'rous expressions of love. *refrain*
- In this place we practice faith.
   Share our lives and the journeys we make.
   Supporting each other in times that are tough.
   Praying together when words aren't enough.
   Christian community builds up the body of Christ. *refrain*
- In our world we're offered grace, as we serve with hearts ablaze. Working for justice 'til all people thrive. Connecting our worship to the rest of our lives. Led by the Spirit we boldly respond to God's call. *refrain*

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

# PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you all! And also with you.

# OFFERTORY

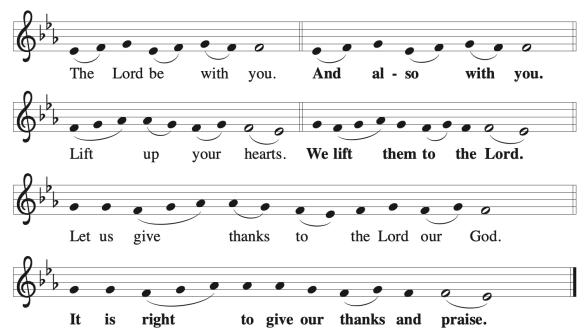


#### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray:

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

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**



## PREFACE

•••

Therefore, with angels and archangels, ancient voices in the forest, high voices from the sky, deep voices from the sea and the whole company of creation, we proclaim your presence among us.

#### SANCTUS



## **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Recalling his death, proclaiming his resurrection, and looking for his coming again and again to each of us and to all creation, we offer you this bread and this cup.

Send your Spirit upon us and this meal:

as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread, so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of life, Jesus Christ, through whom all glory and honour is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, now and forever. Amen.

#### LORD'S PRAYER

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver, Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!

The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us. In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test, strengthen us. From trials too great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and for ever. Amen.

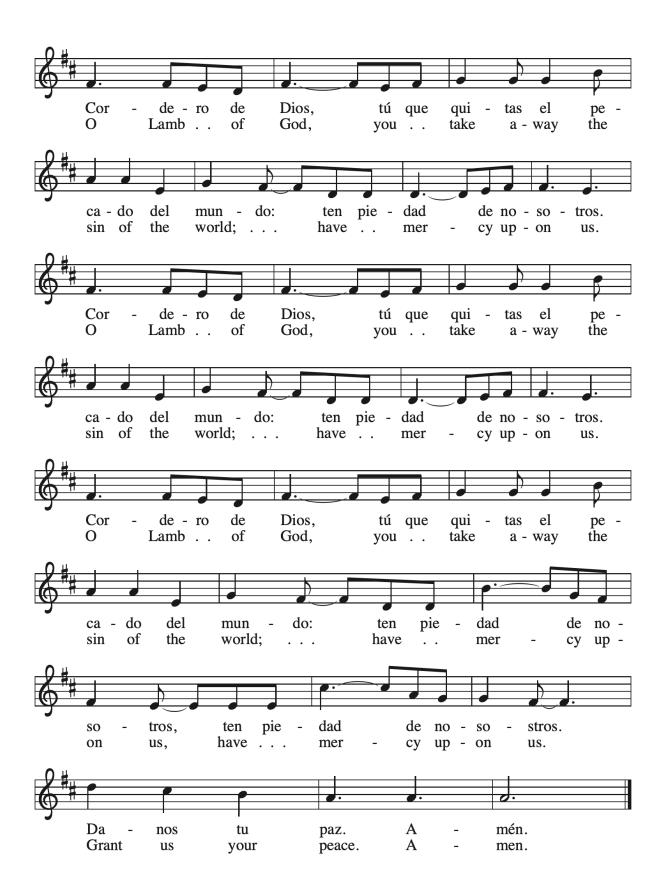
(Adapted from The New Zealand Book of Prayer | He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa for the 2022 Season of Creation Curriculum. This version of the Lord's prayer was influenced by Maori theologians.)

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Come, for all things are now ready. Come to the table with all your kin, and share with all in need: the gift of healing for those in pain, the gift of forgiveness for those in sin, the gift of assurance for those in doubt, and the gift of hope for those in tears. P

# May we who share these gifts share Christ with one another and all our kin.

**COMMUNION HYMNS** 



# I Feel the Winds of God Today



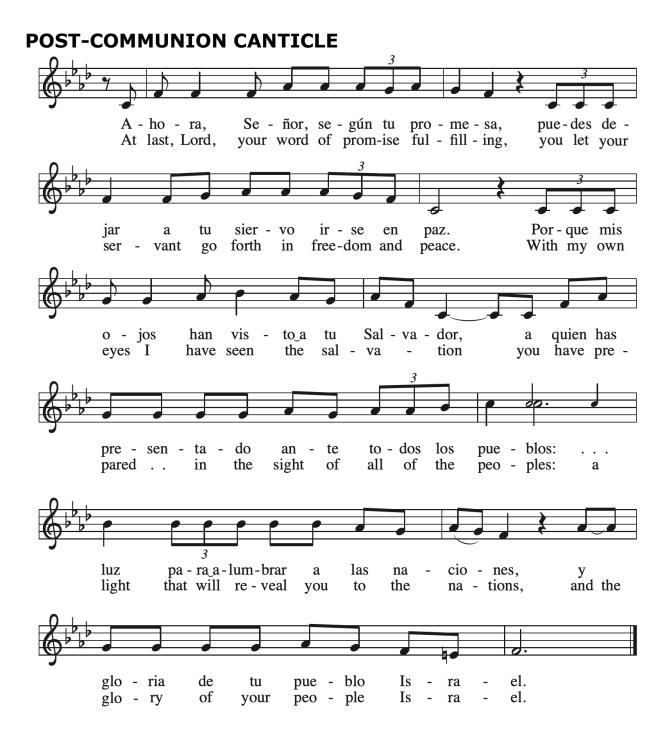


## **TABLE BLESSING**

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen, keep, and unite us now and forever. **Amen** 

## **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the One who is our dearest treassure, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen** 



#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### BENEDICTION

May the Spirit of God, who is above all and in all and through all, fill you with the knowledge of God's presence in the Earth and the impulse of + Christ within you. **Amen.** 

The blessing of the God of life be ours. The blessing of the loving Christ be ours. The blessing of the Holy Spirit be ours, To cherish us, to help us, to make us holy.

#### SENDING HYMN Earth is Full of Wit and Wisdom



## DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serving Christ and loving Earth! Thanks be to God!

## POSTLUDE

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



**From Bishop Susan Bell:** In recent months, Bishop Susan and our diocesan leaders have been engaging in careful study and planning to strengthen our parishes and missions in a way that will position us well in the years ahead. On September 25, a planning study will begin across our entire diocese to gather feedback. Part of the study involves a survey, and

you're invited to participate! The bishop wants to hear what you believe are most important priorities for our ministries, where you see the Spirit leading this diocese, and to gauge support for a major parish-focused fundraising campaign. Your participation in the survey is essential for the success of this planning process. In the next few weeks, we will share more details about the study, the projects, and about the possibility of a major fundraising effort to support our parishes and missions responding missionally to the needs of God's world.