September 24, 2023

Season of Creation Rivers Sunday

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

Come, Thou Foun of Every Blessing



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 riches of our rivers. Help us to stand in solidarity with your river creatures who are suffering. Lift our spirits to rejoice with the vibrant world of the rivers. We ask this in the name of Christ, who reconciles and renews all things in creation. Amen

CHOIR ANTHEM Hallelujah! Sing Praise

FIRST READING: Genesis 8:20-22; 9:12-17

²⁰ Then Noah built an altar to the LORD and took of every clean animal and of every clean bird and offered burnt offerings on the altar. ²¹And when the LORD smelt the pleasing odour the LORD said in his heart, 'I will never again curse the ground because of humankind, for the inclination of the human heart is evil from youth; nor will I ever again destroy every living creature as I have done.

²² As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease.'

¹²God said, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the rainbow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become

a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶When the rainbow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.' ¹⁷God said to Noah, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.'

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God!

PSALM: Psalm 104:24-31



- ²⁴How manifold are your | works, O LORD!

 In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full | of your creatures.
- ²⁵Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too man- | y to number,

living things both | small and great.

- ²⁶There go the ships | to and fro, and Leviathan, which you made for the | sport of it.
- ²⁷All of them | look to you to give them their food | in due season. R
- 28You give it to them; they | gather it; you open your hand, and they are filled | with good things.
- ²⁹When you hide your face, ¹ they are terrified; when you take away their breath, they die and return ¹ to their dust.
- 30 You send forth your Spirit, and they | are created; and so you renew the face | of the earth.
- 31May the glory of the Lord en- 1 dure forever; O Lord, rejoice in 1 all your works. R

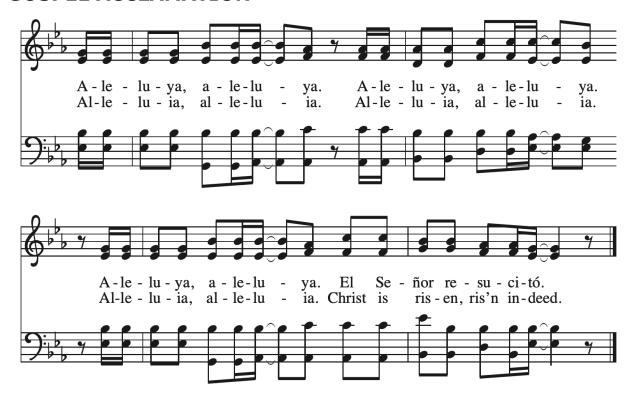
SECOND READING: Revelation 22:1-5

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ²through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³Nothing accursed will be found there anymore. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; ⁴they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign for ever and ever.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: John 7:37-39

The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³⁷ On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, he cried out, 'Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, ³⁸and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, "Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water." ' ³⁹Now he said this about the Spirit, which believers in him were to receive; for as yet there was no Spirit, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

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

HOMILY

HYMN OF THE DAY O HEALING RIVER BLUE 578

O healing river, send down your waters, send down your waters upon this land. O healing river, send down your waters, and wash the blood from off the sand.

This land is parching, this land is burning, no seed is growing in the barren ground. O healing river, send down your waters, O healing river, send your waters down.

Let the seed of freedom awake and flourish, let the deep roots nourish, let the tall stalks rise. O healing river, send down your waters, O healing river, from out of the skies.

CREDO

I believe in you, Holy One,
Womb of creation,
Mother and Father of us all.
In you we live
and move
and have our being.

I trust in your compassionate love flowing through the universe, taking human form in Jesus and calling us to wholeness.

I believe in your renewing Spirit,
who broods over chaos,
brings forth life,
and leads her dance in the wilderness.

And I stand before your call to justice,
I labour with you for the birth of compassion
And I open my heart
to enter
the ocean
of you.

The Rev. Canon Lucy Reid, from <u>She Changes Everything: Seeking the Divine on a Feminist Path</u>, © 2005, Lucy Reid – reprinted with permission.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION.

PEACE

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

OFFERTORY



- 1 Com-mon-wealth is God's com-mand-ment; com-mon goods are meant to share.
- 2 Shar-ing lav ish gifts and bless-ings, love that not one mite with-holds,
- 3 Gen-ders, rac es, tribes, and na tions, hear the Ho ly One who calls,



Ta - bles set and doors wide o - pen wel-come an - gels un - a - ware. stretch out arms to friends and strang-ers: God has sheep of man - y folds. bid - ding all to work to - geth-er, bridg-ing lives and breach-ing walls.



Plead for the peace of all cre - a - tion. Pray for a place where grace is found.

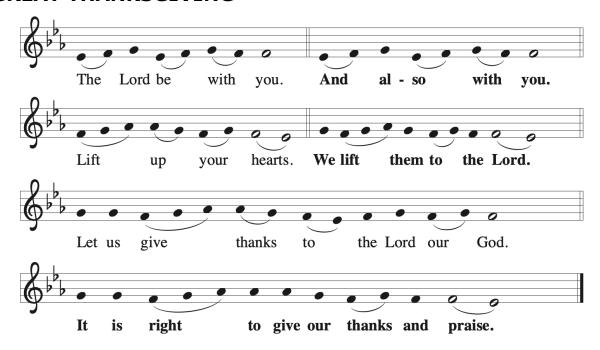


OFFERTORY PRAYER

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

...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.

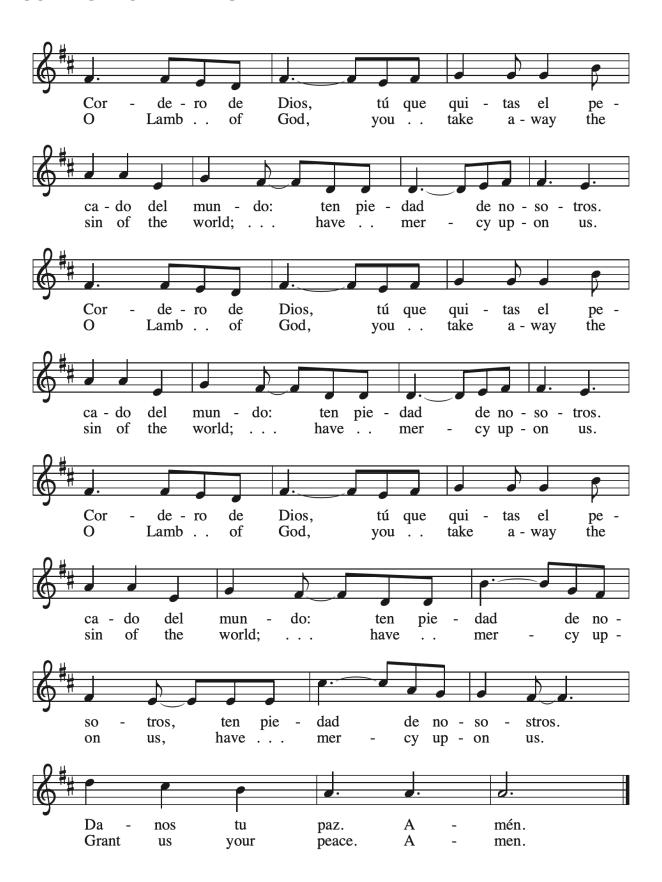
(Adapted from The New Zealand Book of Prayer | He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa for the 2022 Season of Creation Curriculum. This version of the Lord's prayer was influenced by Maori theologians.)

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



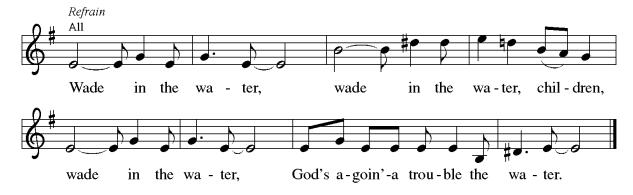
Eat This Bread

Red 472 or Blue 63

Christ Has Risen

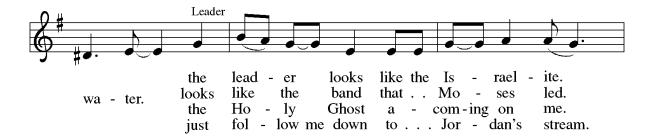


Wade in the Water





- 1 See that host all dressed in white,
- 2 See that band all dressed in red, 3 Look o - ver yon - der, what do I see? God's a-goin'-a trou-ble the
- 4 If you don't be-lieve I've been re deemed,



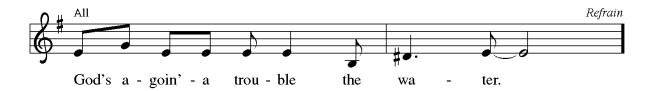


TABLE BLESSING

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**

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



ANNOUNCEMENTS

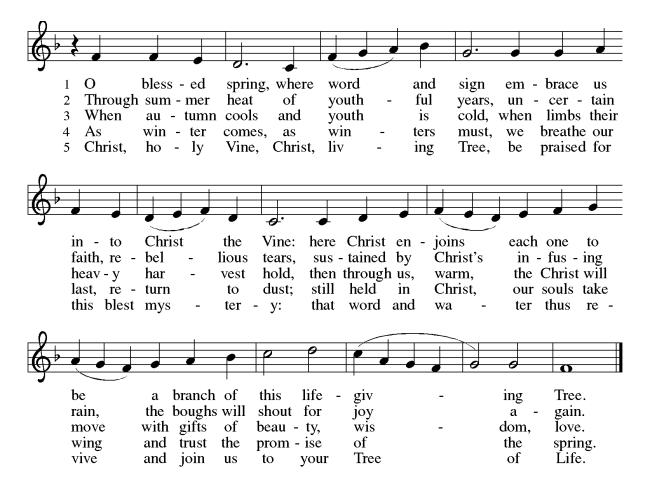
BENEDICTION

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

O Blessed Spring



DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

Announcements and Information

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.

Blessing of the Animals: On Sunday Oct. 1, 2023 at the 10:00 a.m. service a Blessing of the Animals will take place near the beginning of the service. Please bring your furry, feathery, scaly and other friends with you for this special service. Dog and cat treats will be provided by Deborah Szymanski-Potts.

ECM visitors: Andrew Hyde, the Ecumenical Campus Minister, will be bringing some students to worship with us on Sunday October 1st. There will be time after the service for the students to learn a bit about All Saints and the Lutheran and Anglican traditions, and we will also provide a lunch for them.

If you would like to stay for the lunch and can contribute some food, please sign up on the sheet taped to the easel in the narthex. Thank you.

Silvercreek Community Market: We have given out most of the food collected since the Spring Food Drive so please feel free to donate all non-perishable items again, except breakfast cereal. We are always in particular need of **rice**, **red lentils**, **pasta sauce** and **cooking oil**. Other needed items include canned fruits and vegetables, peanut butter, canned legumes, meat and fish. Thank you.