

PENTECOST



St. Matthews Church

WHERE COMMUNITY GATHERS AND GROWS

October 2, 2022

Prayer Service for the Season of Creation**/

St. Francis of Assisi

Sunday, October 2, 2022

(* indicates the assembly stands)

Gathering

Prelude *"Trio in D minor"* J.S. Bach

Words of Welcome & Service Announcements

*Hymn 737 *"He Comes to Us as One Unknown"*

*Greeting

*Litany of lament and repentance (see page 4)

Word

First Reading Micah 6:6-8

Psalmody (Psalm 19)

A: Listen to creation tell of God, listen to God's Word in scripture.

Anthem *"All Things Work Together for Good"* J. Carter

Second Reading Galatians 6:14-18

*Gospel Acclamation *"Alleluia. Lord, to Who Shall We Go?"* p. 171

*Gospel Reading Luke: 12:22-34

Sermon

*Hymn of the Day 1071 (see page 5) *"In Sacred Manner"*

*Profession of Faith (see page 6)

Music for Reflection *"Loving Spirit"* S. Knarr

*Prayers of Intercession (see page 6)

*Peace (see page 7)

Thanksgiving

*Hymn of Thanksgiving 881 v. 1 *"Let All Things Now Living"*

*Thanksgiving for the Earth

*Lord's Prayer in paraphrase (see page 8)

Sending

General Announcements

*Blessing

*Hymn 835 *"All Creatures, Worship God Most High"*

*Dismissal **A: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude *"Prelude in G major"* J.S. Bach

**www.seasonofcreation.org "Celebration Guide 2022"

Cover image and liturgy from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB142079

September 1st was proclaimed as a day of prayer for the environment by the late Ecumenical Patriarch Dimitrios I in 1989. The Orthodox church year starts that day with a commemoration of how God created the world. On October 4, Lutherans, Roman Catholics and other churches from the Western traditions commemorate Francis of Assisi, known to many as the author of the Cantic of the Creatures.

The proposal to celebrate a Season of Creation during these five weeks was made by the Third European Ecumenical Assembly in Sibiu in 2007. The following year, the World Council of Churches (WCC) Central Committee invited churches to observe Season of Creation through prayers and actions. In 2015, Pope Francis has designated September 1st as a World Day of Prayer for Care of Creation for the worldwide Roman Catholic Church as well. In some circles, Season of Creation has also previously been known as Time for Creation.

For a few years now, the ELCIC has promoted the Season of Creation to congregations.

Leading Worship Today

Minister: Rev. Sebastian Meadows-Helmer

Diaconal Minister of Music: Deacon Scott Knarr

Lector: Karen Farrell

Choral Scholars: Nicole Hamilton, Laura Moolenbeek, Dylan Siebert, Jacob Steinmann

Broadcast: Jason Smolak

Building Monitor: Ron Roeder (519-895-6833)

Litany of lament and repentance

A: Hear our prayer

(After extinguishing of candles:)

A: Turn us O God, from our desire to turn in upon ourselves, refuse to hear the voices of our co- creatures. Call us again, open our ears. Gather us in to relationships of mutual care and listening. Enlighten us by your Spirit that renews the face of your Earth. Amen.

Worship Notes

In our prayers Bruce, John, Susan, Marie, Grace, Maureen, Frank and Bernice.

In Sacred Manner



1 In sa - cred man - ner may we walk up -
 2 In sa - cred man - ner may we see the
 3 In sa - cred man - ner may we touch the
 4 In sa - cred man - ner may we hear the



on the fair and lov - ing earth, in beau - ty move, in
 lu - mi - nous and lov - ing stars, with won - der and with
 sus - pir - ant and lov - ing green, give hon - or and give
 pound - ing waves, the sear - ing fire, the rush - ing wind, the



beau - ty love the liv - ing round that brought us birth. We
 awe be - hold their ev - er - new cre - a - tive pow'rs. The
 grat - i - tude for shade, for bloom, for gift un - seen. The
 sing - ing night, the for - est hymn, the lov - ing choir. The



stand on ho - ly ground. We stand on ho - ly ground.
 heav - ens show us God. The heav - ens show us God.
 trees shall shout for joy. The trees shall shout for joy.
 morn - ing stars shall sing. The morn - ing stars shall sing.

5 In sacred manner may we live
 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.

6 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.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953
 Music: SEATTLE, Robert Buckley Farlee, b. 1950
 Text © 1990 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress
 Music © 1997 Augsburg Fortress

Profession of Faith

**We believe in God, who creates all things,
who embraces all things, who celebrates all things,
who is present in every part of the fabric of creation.
We believe in God as the source of all life,
who baptises this planet with living water.
We believe in Jesus Christ, the suffering one, the poor one,
the malnourished one, the climate refugee,
who loves and cares for this world and who suffers with it.
And we believe in Jesus Christ, the seed of life,
who came to reconcile and renew this world and everything in it. We
believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God,
who moves with God and who moves among and with us today. We
believe in everlasting life in God.
And we believe in the hope that one day
God will put an end to death and all destructive forces.**

(Gurukul Theological college, India / adapted by Keld B. Hansen 2009)

Prayers of Intercession

Loving God, even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she places her young near Your altar. You are attentive to all you have made.

God, who listens to every living thing,
Help us listen as you do.

Loving God, help us provide refuge to every animal and plant with whom we live. Help us be attentive to all you have made.

God, in whom all creation subsists,
Help us listen as you do.

Loving God, when Jesus cried out and gave up his Spirit, the earth shook and the rocks split. You are known by the whole of creation that listens to you.

God, to whom all creation responds,
Help us respond to you.

Loving God, help us hear and know you just as the earth and rocks do. Help us to learn from the way in which we see creation recognise your glorious beauty.

God, to whom all creation responds,

Help us respond to you.

Loving God, you are present in your creation and seek to heal her wounds. You can be found walking in the garden. Open our eyes to see you, the gardener.

God, who is present with your creation,

Help us be present too.

Loving God, we often abandon your creation and cause its wounds. Help us to follow in your footsteps and learn to walk in the garden like you.

God, who is present with your creation,

Help us be present too.

Loving God, who hears every voice, knows each cry of injustice, and is attentive to the suffering of the earth: teach us to listen. Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may listen to the world you have created and not close ourselves off from it. Reveal to us the ways in which we have failed to hear your voice in how we treat the earth.

God, who listens to every living thing,

Help us listen as you do. Amen

Sharing of the Peace

If we are in Christ, we are becoming a new creation.

We see God around us. We see God within us. We give thanks to our Creator.

Let us show the caring nature you have instilled within us by greeting each other as a sign of God's justice of peace, love, forgiveness and grace. The peace of our Creator be with you in all things.

And also with you.

You are invited to care and share peace with your neighbor, and speak a word of peace to the land in which you gather, and the creatures who share this common home.

(adapted from Celebrating Creation: Honoring Indigenous People, Kelly Sherman-Conroy, ELCA)

The Lord's prayer in paraphrase:

**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 echoes 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 beloved community 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 forever.
Amen.**

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

Fire Exits: All Sanctuary fire exits remain operational during lower-level demolition and renovations. This includes the three Narthex (Entrance) doors, the mid-tower door (half-way up the right side), and the staircase at the front left, piano side.

Church Fire Plan For everyone's awareness, a copy of the Church Fire Plan for safe exit from the Sanctuary appears in the back of the worship books. Please take a moment to review for your own safety.

Important Information for today's worship

- **Self-Screening:** Members are reminded to continue to perform self-assessments if they have COVID symptoms.
- **Masks:** We support people's choice to wear a mask, and we strongly encourage the following of current guidelines.
- **Physical distancing:** Members are encouraged to continue physical distancing where possible indoors.
- **Offering:** *Please place your offering in one of the offering plates in the Narthex (entranceway) upon **entering**.* The offering plates will be again presented to the High Altar during the service.
- **The Peace:** We support people's choices for passing of the peace.
- **Guides to Worship:** Please place these in the recycling bins in the Narthex upon leaving, or take them home.
- **Exiting:** At the end of the service, please remain in place until the end of the postlude.
- **Coffee Hour** has resumed, organized jointly with UNA Church.
- **Pastors** will be greeting after the service outdoors (weather permitting) or indoors, maintaining physical distancing.
- **Thank you for helping to keep all of us as safe as possible during this pandemic, by following these directions!**

General Announcements

Update on Phone System Outage: We thank you for your patience with the broken phone system. Quotes are coming in and will be presented to the Board of Directors on Tuesday Sept 20th. Once the decision is made on what company to go with, we'll have a better understanding of the timing of when the phone will be operational again. Another update will be sent out once we have that information. Thank you, Ron Roeder and Kim Schaner

Space for your notes on today's service, for your personal reflection.



JOIN OUR MAILING LIST

Get the newsletter and email updates on upcoming church events, announcements, reminders and service changes.

Contact info@stmattskw.com today!

Contact Information

Office: 519-742-0462 Alt. Office: 226-566-6059
stmattskw.com

Rev. Carey Meadows-Helmer pastorcarey@stmattskw.com

Rev. Sebastian Meadows-Helmer pastorsebastian@stmattskw.com

Deacon Scott Knarr deaconscott@stmattskw.com

Leanne Vanderhout lvanderhout@stmattskw.com



[Facebook](#)



[Instagram](#)



[YouTube](#)



[Donate](#)



St. Matthews Lutheran Church

54 BENTON STREET
KITCHENER
N2G 3H2
519.742.0462

stmattskw.com
info@stmattskw.com