



*Creation Care
Sunday
September 17, 2023*

Gathering Around the Word

Prelude

Meditation

Benoit

Welcome

Call to Worship

All you works of the Lord: **bless the Lord.**

Angels and all heavenly hosts: **bless the Lord.**

Sun, moon, and stars: **bless the Lord.**

Rain and dew, wind and cloud: **bless the Lord.**

Fire and ice, summer and winter: **bless the Lord.**

Night and day, light and darkness: **bless the Lord.**

Mountains and hills, all that grows in the ground: **bless the Lord.**

Rivers and seas, all that has life in the water: **bless the Lord.**

Birds of the air, wild beasts, and tame animals: **bless the Lord.**

People on earth, you servants of the Lord: **bless the Lord.**

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, **for his mercy endures forever.**

—text from “Prayer of Azariah”

Songs of Praise

“Let Justice Flow”	#295
“Come, Holy Ghost”	#232
“Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus”	Lemmel

Prayer of Confession

Before our existence your Spirit hovered over the waters, and we declare our world belongs to God. You created life and breath, light and dark, land and sea, every sight, every sound. Our world belongs to God. You declared creation good. Our stewardship brought you glory. Our world belongs to God.

But we turned away from you—thinking only of ourselves, in spite of ourselves. Our relationship with you, with creation, with one another was broken. We lost sight of you, but you did not forget us. Our world belongs to God.

We need your salvation. We fall in front of you in honest awareness that the gift you gave, though still full of beauty and every good thing we could ever need, is polluted. The water, the soil, the air are not the way you meant them to be. We dump, emit, and pollute. We flounder out of harmony with the way you meant the world to be. We don't know how to move back into tune, but we do know that our world belongs to God.

Teach us again to live in sync with your creation. May your Spirit move in the hearts of leaders, giving courage in the face of the climate crisis. May your Spirit move in the voices of youth who call on us to consider future generations. May your Spirit empower the poor with resilience to weather storms, drought, and floods. May your Spirit lift the conscience of the church to do what is right. May our actions bear witness that our world belongs to God. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God!

Passing of the Peace

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Please greet one another with the peace of Christ.

Proclaiming the Word

Scripture Reading Amos 5:18-24 Martha Bell

Time for Young Disciples Barb and Bob Pappas

Scripture Reading John 1:1-14

Sermon “A New Beginning with Creation” Pastor Matt

Responding to the Word

Hymn of Response “For the Healing of the Nations” #289

Moment for Creation Care

Offering

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

praise him all creatures here below.

Praise him above ye heav'nly host;

praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Bearing and Following the Word into the World

Closing Hymn “We Sing the Mighty Power of God” #10

Benediction

Postlude Andantino Franck

Leading in Today’s Service

Worship Leaders: Pastor Matt, Martha Bell

Pianist/Organist: Anna Nichols, Michael Rivers

Worship Music Team (varies): Beverly Brown, Jim Buckmaster, Pam Carnahan

Media Team (varies): Paul Stutesman, Todd Haworth, Wayne Brown,
Bruce McCloskey, Bonnie McCloskey, Dorita Reed, Bret Curtis, Dona Hair,
Barb Pappas, Bob Pappas, Sadie Miller

Slides: Lauren Corder, Cathi Hughes

Next Sunday’s Worship - September 24, 17th Sunday after Pentecost
Philippians 4:2-7, “The Strength of Gentleness”; Bob Slater will be preaching.
Gentleness is a powerful characteristic of followers of Jesus. Choosing to be
gentle calms our anxieties in an anxious age.

Announcements

Sizzling Super Sale received \$4402.93 in donations to support Olympic Angels!

Session, Monday, September 18, 7 pm, Zoom

FISH Company, Tuesday, September 19, 8 am, Zoom

Deacons’ Meeting, Tuesday, September 19, 4 pm, Fellowship Hall

Praise Team, Tuesday, September 19, 6:45 pm, Sanctuary

Women’s Bible Study, Wednesday, September 20, 9 am, Fellowship Hall

Book Club, Thursday, September 21, 10:30 am, Fellowship Hall

Prayer Shawl Ministry, Thursday, September 21, 1 pm, Rosalie Doty’s

Youth Event, Saturday, September 23, 4 pm - 6 pm, Downstairs Youth Room