

Celebration Lutheran Church

Pastor: Sarah Toney Pianist: Kathy Jo Evans

19th Sunday after Pentecost Worship: 10:00am October 4, 2026

We Gather to Encounter God

Songs for a New Creation Hymnal

Prelude Music

Welcome and Announcements

Litany of Praise of Creation

L: Glory to you, O God: you speak a word of power, and so you create the world. We praise you, O God:

C: **We praise you, O God.**

The litany continues with call and response

Gathering Hymn:

Coming Alive

34

1. Com-ing a - live like the fruit of the earth;
2. Com-ing a - live like the green of the spring;
3. Com-ing a - live to the scent of the air;

Com-ing a - live to the joy of re - birth.
Lov-ing and liv-ing the rich-ness it brings.
Sweet are the blos-som-ing flow-ers so fair.

Drink-ing the warmth and the light of the sun:
Sing-ing of one who has done a new thing:
Praise the Cre - a - tor whose love we can share:

We are com-ing a-live! — We are com-ing a-live! — And

nev - er more will we die. — Bud-ding and grow-ing we

reach for the sky: We are com-ing a-live! —

Greeting

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Hymn of Praise:

A Place in the Choir

2

Chorus:



All God's crit-ters got a place in the choir, Some sing low and



some sing high-er, some sing out loud on the tel-e- phone wire and



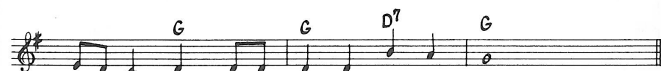
some just clap their hands or paws or an-y-thing they got now.



1. Lis-ten to the bass, it's the one on the bot-tom where the



bull-frog croaks and the hip-po-pot-a-mus moans and groans with a



big- t'- do, and the old cow just goes moo. ♪

2. The dogs and the cats they take up the middle
While the honey bee hums and the cricket fiddles,
The donkey brays and the pony neighs
And the old coyote howls. (Chorus)

3. Listen to the top where the little birds sing
On the melodies with the high notes ringing,
The hoot owl hollers over everything
And the jaybird disagrees.

4. Singin' in the night time, singin' in the day,
The little duck quacks, then he's on his way,
The 'possum ain't got much to say
And the porcupine talks to himself. (Chorus)

5. It's a simple song, a livin' song everywhere
By the ox and the fox and the grizzly bear,
The grumpy alligator and the hawk above,
The sly raccoon and the turtle dove. (Chorus)

Prayer of the Day

L: Beloved God,

C: ... from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

We Hear God's Word

First Reading: Genesis 2:18-25

¹⁸ Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." ¹⁹ So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air and brought them to the man to see what he would call them, and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰ The man gave names to all cattle and to the birds of the air and to every animal of the field, but for the man^[d] there was not found a helper as his partner. ²¹ So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²² And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. ²³ Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones

and flesh of my flesh;
this one shall be called Woman,
for out of Man this one was taken."

²⁴ Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh. ²⁵ And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

Psalms 148:1-14

¹ Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise God in the heights.

² Praise the Lord, all you angels;
sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.

³ Praise the Lord, sun and moon;
sing praise, all you shining stars.

**⁴Praise the Lord, heaven of heavens,
and you waters above the heavens.**

**⁵Let them praise the name of the Lord,
who commanded, and they were created,**

**⁶who made them stand fast forever and ever,
giving them a law that shall not pass away.**

**⁷Praise the Lord from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps;**

**⁸fire and hail, snow and fog,
tempestuous wind, doing God's will;**

**⁹mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars;**

**¹⁰wild beasts and all cattle,
creeping things and flying birds;**

**¹¹sovereigns of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the world;**

**¹²young men and maidens,
old and young together.**

**¹³Let them praise the name of the Lord,
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.**

**¹⁴The Lord has raised up strength for the people and praise for all
faithful servants,
the children of Israel, a people who are near the Lord. Hallelujah!**

Second Reading: Acts 17:24-28a

The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of
heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands,

²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything,
since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things.

²⁶ From one ancestor^[a] he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth,
and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the
places where they would live, ²⁷ so that they would search for God^[b]
and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is
not far from each one of us. ²⁸ For 'In him we live and move and have
our being'.

Gospel Acclamation: Spirit of the Living God

134



Spir-it of the Liv-ing God, fall a-fresh on me! Spir-it of the



Liv-ing God, fall a-fresh on me! Melt me, mold me, fill me,



use me. Spir-it of the Liv-ing God fall a-fresh on me!

Holy Gospel: John 1:1-5

L: The holy gospel according to St. John in the 1st chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life,^[a] and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

L: The gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

We Respond to God's Word

Hymn of the Day:

The Butterfly Song

Ushers Gather Prayer Requests



If I were a but-ter - fly I'd thank you, Lord, for giv'in' me wings. And



if I were a rob-in in a tree, I'd thank you, Lord, that I could sing. And



if I were a fish in the sea, I'd wig-gle my tail and I'd



gig-gle with glee, but I just thank you, Fath-er, for mak-in' me me!



'cause you gave me a heart and you gave me a smile, you gave me Je-sus and you



made me your child, but I just thank you, Fath-er, for mak-in' me me!

2. *If I were an elephant, I'd thank you, Lord, by raising my trunk,
And if I were a kangaroo, I'd just hop right up to you,
And if I were an octopus, I'd thank you, Lord, for my good looks,
But I just thank you, Father, for makin' me, me. (Chorus)*

3. *If I were a wiggly worm, I'd thank you, Lord, that I could squirm,
And if I were a crocodile, I'd thank you, Lord, for my big smile,
And if I were a fuzzy wuzzy bear, I'd thank you, Lord, for my fuzzy wuzzy hair,
But I just thank you, Father, for makin' me, me. (Chorus)*

Prayers of Intercession

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

A brief silence.

9

God of every generation, we give thanks for all who have sought to renew and transform your holy church (especially Theodor Fliedner, renewer of society). Inspire us to follow their example in our own day. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of every creature, bless and protect the earth and all those who dwell within it. We give thanks for those who have helped us to see your Spirit in creation (especially Francis of Assisi, renewer of the church). Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of every tribe and nation, restore peace to the world's conflict zones (regions in crisis may be named), and shelter those who live within them. We pray especially for the safety of displaced people and refugees. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of every comfort, you made us in your own image. Grant healing and relief to all who are sick or suffering (especially). Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great**

God of every truth, you draw us nearer to you through your holy word. We give thanks for teachers of the faith (congregational formation ministries may be named). Fill their hearts with your Spirit, that they inspire others with your truth. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**
Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of every soul, you are the one who calls us home. We give thanks for all the saints who have been restored to perfect unity with you (especially). Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

L: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Blessing of the Animals

People with pets, pictures, or remembrances of pets, please come forward for a blessing

Greeting of Peace

L: The peace of the Lord be with you.

C: And also with you

We Offer Our Gifts

Offertory Hymn:

Spirit

16 v. 1

1. You moved on the wa - ters, You called to the deep,
 2. You swept through the des - ert, You stung with the sand
 3. You sang in a sta - ble, You cried from a hill,

Then you coaxed up the moun - tains From the val - leys of sleep;
 And you goad - ed your peo - ple With a law and a land;
 Then you whis - pered in si - lence When the whole world was still;

And o - ver the e - ons You called to each thing:
 And when you were blind - ed With their i - dols and lies,
 And down in the cit - y You called once a - gain,

Wake from your slum - bers And rise on your wings,
 Then you spoke through your proph - ets To o - pen their eyes.
 When you blew through your peo - ple On the rush of the wind.

Spir - it, spir - it of gen - tle - ness, blow through the wild - er - ness

call - ing and free, Spir - it, spir - it of rest - less - ness,

Stir me from plac - id - ness, Wind, wind on the sea.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

L: O God, maker of heaven and earth,

C: ... your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

We Share Christ's Meal

The Great Thanksgiving

L: The Lord be with you

C: And also with you

L: Lift up your hearts

C: We lift them to the Lord

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Communion Prayers and The Story of Our Lord's Supper

The Lord's Prayer

L: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C: 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Distribution of our Lord's Supper

Communion Hymns: Let Us Break Bread Together # 91

1. Let us break bread to-gether on our knees; — Let us break bread to-
 2. Let us drink wine to-gether on our knees; — Let us drink wine to-
 3. Let us praise God to-gether on our knees; — Let us praise God to-

geth-er on our knees. — When I fall on my knees with my
 geth-er on our knees. —
 geth-er on our knees. —

face to the ris-ing sun, O Lord, have mer-cy on me. —

Come, Let Us Eat # 93

1. Come, let us eat for now the feast is spread. —

Come, let us eat for now the feast is spread. —

Our Lord's bod-y, let us take to-gether. —

Our Lord's bod-y, let us take to-gether. —

2. Come, let us drink for now the wine is poured. (Repeat)
 Jesus' blood poured, let us drink together. (Repeat)
3. In his presence now we meet and rest. (Repeat)
 In the presence of our Lord we gather. (Repeat)
4. Rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty Word. (Repeat)
 Jesus risen will bring in the Kingdom. (Repeat)

Post-Communion Prayer & Blessing

Sending Hymn: All Things Bright and Beautiful WOV #767



All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea - tures great and small,



all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all.



- 1 Each lit - tle flow'r that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
- 2 The pur - ple-head - ed moun - tains, the riv - er run - ning by,
- 3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun,
- 4 God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell



God made their glow - ing col - ors, God made their ti - ny wings.
the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright - ens up the sky.
the ripe fruits in the gar - den, God made them ev - 'ry one.
how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Flourish with creation.

C: Thanks be to God.

We go to love as Jesus loves us!