



*Please keep a prayerful quiet as we prepare for worship.
The People's responses are printed in bold.*

Henry Heron (c. 1725–1795)

Arnold B. Sherman (1948–2024)

Dix

—Text: Folliot Sandford Pierpoint (1835–1917), alt.

“Everything will live where the river goes. On the banks, there will grow all kinds of trees for food. The water for them flows from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for food and their leaves for healing.” — *Ezekiel 47:9, 12*

Song of Praise *seated*

Sing God a song of praise!
The Primary Choir ~ Kate Chappinelli, accompanist

Jeff Reeves
Composer and text

Sing! Sing! Sing unto the Lord! Sing God a song of praise!
Sing! Sing! Sing unto the Lord! Sing God a song of praise!

Sing with the birds that live in the trees. Sing with the fish that swim in the sea.
Sing with the mountains rising high. Sing with the clouds up in the sky. *Refrain*

Sing with the worms that crawl on the ground. Sing with the ants that don't make a sound.
Sing with the sun that shines so bright. Sing with the moon and stars at night. *Refrain*

The Primary Choir departs for the Great Hall. The People stand as they are able.

Collect of the Day

God be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

All-loving and everliving God, you are always more ready to give than we are to receive: Pour upon us your abundance of contentment with simple, faithful living; through Jesus Christ the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Collect for Saint Francis

Most high, omnipotent, good Lord, grant your people grace to renounce gladly the vanities of this world; that, following the way of blessed Francis, we may, for love of you, delight in your whole creation with perfectness of joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

First Reading *seated* Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

Then God spoke all these words: I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work. Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die." Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin."

For the Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us,
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 19:1-8

Antiphon: Marty Haugen (b. 1950)

The People sing the antiphon after it has been introduced by the Choir and where indicated.



The heavens declare your glory, O God, * and the firmament shows your handiwork.
One day tells its tale to another, * and one night imparts knowledge to another. *Antiphon*

Although they have no words or language, *
 and their voices are not heard,
 Their sound has gone out into all lands, *
 and their message to the ends of the world. *Antiphon*

In the deep you have set a pavilion for the sun; *
 it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
 it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
 It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; *
 nothing is hidden from its burning heat. *Antiphon*

Your law, O God, is perfect and revives the soul; *
 your testimony is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.
 Your statutes are just and rejoice the heart; *
 your commandment is clear and gives light to the eyes. *Antiphon*

Second Reading Philippians 3:4b-14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

For the Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us,
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Alleluia *standing as able*

Fintan O'Carroll (1922–1981) and Christopher Walker (b. 1942)



The Gospel Matthew 21:33-46

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew. **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.'

So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'? Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls." When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

All repeat the sung alleluia.

Storytime

Children ages 3–10 are invited to the Music Room after the Gospel for a Bible story, prayers, and music, returning at the Peace.

Sermon The Rev. Susan Flanders

Please be seated at the invitation of the preacher. A period of silence will be observed after the sermon.

The Nicene Creed *standing as you are able*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Intercessor leads the prayers, ending each petition with the following words

Intercessor Maker of heaven and earth,
People **Receive our prayer.**

Receive these prayers, O God Our Creator, and respond as may be best for us, guiding us in your path all the days of our lives; to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution *standing or kneeling as you are able*

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

Peace

The peace of Christ be always with you.
And also with you.

All greet one another in the name of Jesus Christ, and are seated for the announcements.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

At the Offertory

The Holy Spirit inspires us to give generously, to extend Christ's mission in this place and the wider world. Please visit <http://tinyurl.com/GivetoSCEC> to make your offering, or you can text to give using your phone. Text SCEC and AMOUNT to 73256 (QR code in Connections) and you will receive a text with instructions.

Anthem

"Badgers and Hedgehogs" from *Benedicite* Andrew Carter (1939–2026)
The Children's, Gallery, and Celtic Choirs Composer and text

O ye badgers and hedgehogs, bless the Lord.
O ye badgers and squirrels and hedgehogs, bless the Lord.
O ye badgers and squirrels and ferrets and foxes and hedgehogs, bless the Lord.
O ye parakeets and pelicans and porcupines and penguins,
guillemots and guinea pigs and gallinules and godwits and badgers and hedgehogs, bless the Lord.
O ye weasels and warthogs and wallabies and wombats, chipmunks and chuckawallas and
kookaburras and caterpillars and badgers and hedgehogs, bless the Lord.
O ye dromedaries and ye dragonflies and diddy little daddylonglegs, budgerigars and bumblebees
and bandicoots and bullfrogs and badgers and hedgehogs, bless the Lord!

Please stand as you are able as the offering is brought forward and blessed.

The Great Thanksgiving

God be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them unto God.**

Let us give thanks to our Sovereign God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.
Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us stewards of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, God, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

Therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus and Benedictus *sung by all*

Richard Proulx (1937–2010)

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

And so, Gracious God, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

God of our ancestors; God of Sarah, Hagar, Hannah, and Ruth; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Almighty God, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

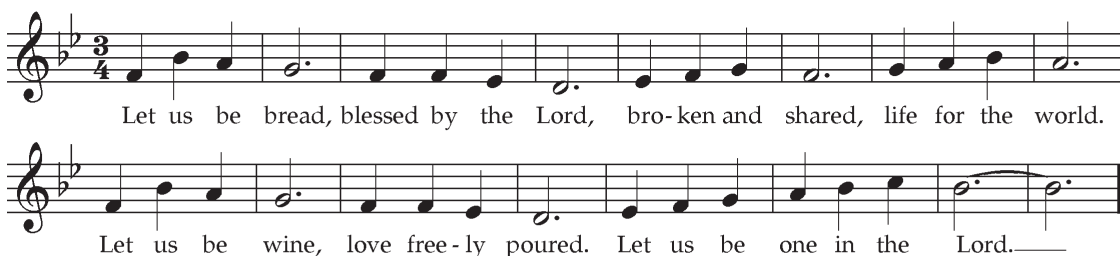
Breaking of the Bread

The bread is broken and silence observed.

Fraction Anthem

Let us be bread

Thomas Porter (b. 1958)



Choir verse I am the bread of life, broken for all. Eat now and hunger no more. *Refrain*

Invitation to Communion

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Whoever you are, wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith, you are welcome at Christ's table.

Communion

Christ welcomes all to communion. ■ Receive the bread in open and outstretched hands and sip the wine, guiding the chalice to your lips. ■ If you do not want to sip the wine, it is also appropriate to dip your wafer gently into the wine, or to receive the bread only. ■ Respond to communion by saying "Amen." ■ If you prefer a blessing, cross your hands over your chest. ■ Gluten-free wafers are available at each communion station. ■ Baptism is offered several times a year; speak to a priest to learn more.

Music

Prière

Noel Rawsthorne (1929–2019)

Hymn 398

I sing the almighty power of God

Forest Green

Prayer after Communion *standing as you are able*

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, creator of light and giver of life, to you be glory and praise for ever. In Jesus your light has shone out; and you have given your Holy Spirit as a mighty stream of life-giving water to refresh and renew the face of the earth. Let your light shine in us that we may be beacons of justice and bearers of hope. Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Sending Forth of Eucharistic Ministers *when scheduled*

In the name of St. Columba's we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that N. may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood. **We who are many are one body, as we all share one bread, one cup.**

Blessing

The People respond **Amen.**

Hymn 518

Christ is made the sure foundation

Westminster Abbey

Dismissal

The People respond **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Postlude

The heavens declare the glory of God Benedetto Marcello (1686–1739)

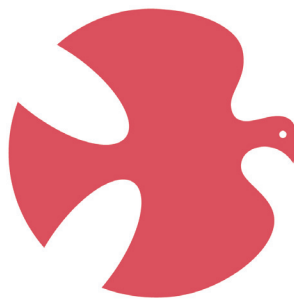
Liturgical Note

This is the final fall Sunday that St. Columba's is joining with ecumenical partners around the world in observing the Season of Creation. The theme for 2026 has been "Living Water," which you can see reflected in the opening sentences. Our prayers of the people and the eucharistic prayer also center themes of God's beautiful creation. Read more at seasonofcreation.org.

Land Acknowledgement

We meet today on the traditional land of the first people of Nacotchtank, who were custodians of the land for thousands of years, caring for and nurturing it. We give thanks for their stewardship and lament the ways the Nacotchtank were removed from their ancestral home. We pray for all who live on this land and pay our respects to the native leaders past, present, and emerging. We also remember and lament that this plot of land was given to St. Columba's Episcopal Church by an enslaver and that the wealth created by the labor of enslaved persons helped to build this sanctuary.

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