



**The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
with the Commemoration of St. Francis of Assisi
and the Blessing of Animals**

October 2, 2022

WELCOME

to St. Mary's Episcopal Church

a member of the Central Michigan Episcopal Covenant

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Big Rapids, MI

Seeking every day to love God
with our whole heart, mind, and soul, and
to love our neighbors as ourselves.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

Cadillac, MI

We strive to live out the Great
Commandment: To love the Lord with all
our heart, soul, and mind and to love our
neighbors as ourselves.

If you have a faith or are seeking one, you are always welcome here.
If you are visiting or looking for a spiritual home, we'd love to get to know you.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: Enriching Our Worship

THE WORD OF GOD

All stand as able.

Processional Hymn

All things bright and beautiful, Hymnal, #405

Celebrant Blessed be the God of all creation.

People And blessed be God's holy Name forever.

Song of Praise

The Canticle of the Creatures, St. Francis of Assisi

Most High, all-powerful, good Lord, Yours are the praises, the glory, and the honor, and all blessing. To You alone, Most High, do they belong, and no human is worthy to mention Your name.

Praised be You, my Lord, with all Your creatures, especially Sir Brother Sun, who is the day and through whom You give us light. And he is beautiful and radiant with great splendor; and bears a likeness of You, Most High One.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars, in heaven You formed them clear and precious and beautiful. Praised be You, my Lord, through Brother Wind, and through the air, cloudy and serene, and every kind of weather, through whom You give sustenance to Your creatures.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Water, who is very useful and humble and precious and chaste. Praised be You, my Lord, through Brother Fire, through whom You light the night, and he is beautiful and playful and robust and strong.

Praised be You, my Lord, through our Sister Mother Earth, who sustains and governs us, and who produces various fruit with colored flowers and herbs.

Praised be You, my Lord, through those who give pardon for Your love, and bear infirmity and tribulation. Blessed are those who endure in peace for by You, Most High, shall they be crowned.

Praised be You, my Lord, through our Sister Bodily Death, from whom no one living can escape. Woe to those who die in mortal sin. Blessed are those whom death will find in Your most holy will, for the second death shall do them no harm.

Praise and bless my Lord and give Him thanks and serve Him with great humility.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant God be with you.

People And also with you

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Collect for St. 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 perfect joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons *All sit as able.*

First Reading

Job 12:7-10a

Reader A reading from the book of Job.

“But ask the animals, and they will teach you; the birds of the air, and they will tell you; ask the plants of the earth, and they will teach you; and the fish of the sea will declare to you. Who among all these does not know that the hand of the Lord has done this? In his hand is the life of every living thing and the breath of every human being.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People Thanks be to God.

The Psalm

Psalm 121

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; * from where is my help to come?
- 2 My help comes from the LORD, * the maker of heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not let your foot be moved *
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.
- 4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel * shall neither slumber nor sleep;
- 5 The LORD himself watches over you; *
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,
- 6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, * nor the moon by night.
- 7 The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; * it is he who shall keep you safe.
- 8 The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, *
from this time forth for evermore.

Second Reading

Galatians 6:14-18

Reader A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! As for those who will follow this rule—peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. From now on, let no one make trouble for me; for I carry the marks of Jesus branded on my body. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn *All stand as able.*

Thy Word, Pew Folder, p.107

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:25-30

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Hymn after the Gospel

I Love you Lord, Pew Folder, p.44

Homily

The Rev. Radha Kaminski

The Nicene Creed

Said in unison, all standing as 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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

The Prayers of the People

Honoring God in Creation, Form 2

During the silence after each bidding, the people offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.

Intercessor Let us pray for the revealing of the reign of God in the world,
now and always.

In the beginning,

People God was.

Intercessor Here and now,

People God is.

Intercessor In the future,

People God will be.

Intercessor Creator of earth, sea, and sky, kindle the fire of your Spirit within us
that we may be bold to heal and defend the earth, and pour your
blessing upon all who work for the good of the planet.

Silence God, Giver of life,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor For all people of faith, especially Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Prince,
our Bishop Provisional; Anne, our Canon Missioner; Radha, our Rector;
our Central Michigan Episcopal Covenant; St. John's, Sandusky -
Darlene, Sr. Warden, St. Paul's, Muskegon – Eileen, Priest-in-Charge;
For all those in our diocese discerning calls to ministry, both lay and
ordained. In particular, we pray for those in our dioceses preparing for
the Sacred Order of Priests, including Alicia, Joe, Barrett, Alex, Derek,
Matt, Joanna, Kurt, and Anne Marie; For those in our dioceses
preparing for the Sacred Order of Deacons, including: Joy and Linda;
with gratitude for the retired clergy of the diocese.

Silence God, Giver of life,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor Breath of life, receive our thanks for the beauty of our local habitat and
all who dwell in it, and grant us the wisdom and will to conserve it.

Silence God, Giver of life,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Source of life, heal and redeem the wounds of your creation, and visit the places and people who suffer from our indifference, neglect, and greed.

Silence God, Giver of life,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Lover of all you have made, we thank you for the wondrous diversity of your creatures, and we pray for their well-being.

Silence God, Giver of life,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Author of the book of nature, receive our gratitude for places of restoration and healing, and continue to bless those places that feed our lives and spirits.

Silence God, Giver of life,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Wise Creator, whose works are full of mystery, give us wonder and appreciation for your creatures with whom we find ourselves in conflict.

Silence God, Giver of life,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Giver of all good gifts, awaken us daily to our dependence upon your bounty, and make us always thankful for the abundance of your blessings.

Silence God, Giver of life,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Divine Physician, heal our communities, especially those where neglect, greed, or violence inflict suffering upon people and other creatures.

Silence God, Giver of life,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor For all who shape public policies affecting the planet and its creatures especially Joe, our president, Deb, our secretary of the interior, Michael, our EPA administrator, Gretchen, our governor, and Carla, our mayor, that they may consider wisely the well-being of all who come after us.

Silence God, Giver of life,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor Comforter of all the earth, sustain the people of this congregation who desire or need your presence and help, especially those in the St.

Mary's circle of prayer: Heather & Lonnie & Family, Erika, Taylor & Twins, Lori, Jamie, Pete & Nancy, Madi, Pat, Charlie & Sue;

those in the St. Andrew's circle of prayer: Betty, Autumn, Kim, Diane, Nogah, Jim, Shelley, Marty, Rachel, & Doug, Nawal, James & William, Carter & Gail, Don, Michelle & Anne;

our family and friends in the armed forces and who are first responders: Richard, Corey, Matt, Teylor, Tony, Kim, Drew, Jon, Sabastian, Noah, Eli, Jess.

Silence God, Giver of life,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor Rock and refuge of all your creatures, receive into everlasting mercy all those who have died, especially those creatures that have died yet remain dear to us, that they may rejoice in your new creation.

Silence God, Giver of life,

People Hear our prayer.

Celebrant Holy Immortal One: No sparrow falls without your knowing it; nothing dies but is remembered by you; nothing comes into being that you do not see. Give us courage and resolve to build up the common good, holding fast to the hope of a new creation in which all shall dwell eternally, through Jesus Christ, our Risen Savior. **Amen.**

The Confession of Sin *Said in unison, kneeling as able.*

Celebrant Let us confess our sins to God.

All 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.

Celebrant 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.**

The Blessing of the Animals

Celebrant God's animals inhabit the skies, the land, and the sea; we share the earth with them, and like them rely on God's blessing to sustain and preserve us. We gather today in communion and friendship with Francis of Assisi who preached to animals and moved throughout the known world sharing God's unconditional love for all beings. Remembering Francis' love for all God's creatures, bring forward the animals entrusted to your care that we may bless them.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy)

Pew Folder, p.87

The Celebrant continues

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with Francis and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer *said in unison*

It is our tradition to gather in a circle to say the Lord's Prayer. You are welcome to either stand and join hands, or remain seated and we will encircle you.

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

People **We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**

The Invitation *The celebrant says the invitation.*

Everyone is welcome to receive communion. There is no one who is too old or too young, no one who has too many doubts or too few beliefs. This is the altar prepared by a loving God for all creation by the power of Jesus Christ. You, who are part of that creation, are welcome.

Please come forward to the altar to receive communion. We ask that you sanitize your hands. If you need communion brought to you, let an usher know. If you do not wish to receive communion, but would like a blessing, please come forward and cross your arms over your chest. The wine is available from the common cup. For intinction, the Eucharistic minister will intinct the wafer for you, then place it back in your hand. Gluten-free wafers are available; let the priest know you need one when you come forward.

Communion Hymn *All Creatures of Our God and King, Hymnal, #400*

Prayer after Communion

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Celebration of Special Days and Announcements

The Blessing

All stand as able while the celebrant blesses the people.

May God give you grace to follow his saints in faith and hope and love; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee, Hymnal, #376

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia! Amen. Amen.



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