

**The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
St. Andrew's Church
September 27, 2026**



*St. Andrew's Episcopal Church is called to love God and to love one another
through worship, fellowship, education, and outreach; and looks for opportunities
to collaborate and serve throughout our community and the world.*

All stand.

Opening Hymn #439

What wondrous love is this

Unison



1 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing, to
3 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won - drous love is this that
God and to the Lamb, I will sing. To God and to the Lamb who
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free I'll



caused the Lord of bliss to lay a - side his crown for my
is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
sing and joy - ful be, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to lay a - side his crown for my soul.
sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme I will sing.
on, I'll sing on, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Harmony (the melody is in the tenor)

1 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
 2 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing, to
 3 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and

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soul, for my soul, to lay a - side his crown for my soul.
 sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme I will sing.
 on, I'll sing on, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Words: American folk hymn, ca. 1835. Music: *Wondrous Love*, from *The Southern Harmony*, 1835; alt. acc. Carlton R. Young, (b. 1926).

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Creator, Redeemer, and Giver of Life.

All: And blessed be God's reign, now and forever. Amen.

Song of Praise Hymn #400 *This week we will sing verse 3 only*

All creatures of our God and King



- 1 All crea - tures of our God and King, lift up your voic - es, let us
*2 Great rush - ing winds and breez - es soft, you clouds that ride the heavens a -
*3 Swift flow - ing wa - ter, pure and clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to
4 Dear mo - ther earth, you day by day un - fold your bless - ings on our
5 All you with mer - cy in your heart, for - giv - ing o - thers, take your
*6 And ev - en you, most gen - tle death, wait - ing to hush our fi - nal
7 Let all things their cre - a - tor bless, and wor - ship him in hum - ble -



- 1 sing: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Bright burn - ing
2 loft, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Fair ris - ing
3 hear, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Fire, so in -
4 way, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! All flowers and
5 part, O — sing now: Al - le - lu - ia! All you that
6 breath, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! You lead back
7 ness, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God the



- 1 sun with gold - en beams, pale sil - ver moon that gen - tly gleams,
2 morn, with praise re - joice, stars night - ly shin - ing, find a voice,
3 tense and fierce - ly bright, you give to us both warmth and light,
4 fruits that in you grow, let them his glo - ry al - so show:
5 pain and sor - row bear, praise God, and cast on him your care:
6 home the child of God, for Christ our Lord that way has trod:
7 Fa - ther, praise the Son, and praise the Spi - rit, Three in One:



O praise him, O praise him, Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The refrain may be sung antiphonally, by phrase; all join in the final Alleluia.

Words: St. Francis of Assisi (1182-1226); tr. William H. Draper (1855-1933), alt. Music: *Lasst uns erfreuen*, melody from *Auserlesene Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng*, 123; adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). By permission of Oxford University Press.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: **O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Please be seated.

LEM

A Reading from the Book of Exodus

Exodus 17:1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

LECTOR

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16

read responsively, by half verse.

- 1 Hear my teaching, O my people; *
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- 2 I will open my mouth in a parable; *
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.

- 3 That which we have heard and known,
and what our forefathers have told us, *
we will not hide from their children.
- 4 We will recount to generations to come
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the LORD, *
and the wonderful works he has done.
- 12 He worked marvels in the sight of their forefathers, *
in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.
- 13 He split open the sea and let them pass through; *
he made the waters stand up like walls.
- 14 He led them with a cloud by day, *
and all the night through with a glow of fire.
- 15 He split the hard rocks in the wilderness *
and gave them drink as from the great deep.
- 16 He brought streams out of the cliff, *
and the waters gushed out like rivers.

LECTOR

A Reading from the Letter to the Philippians

Philippians 2:1-13

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death--
even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

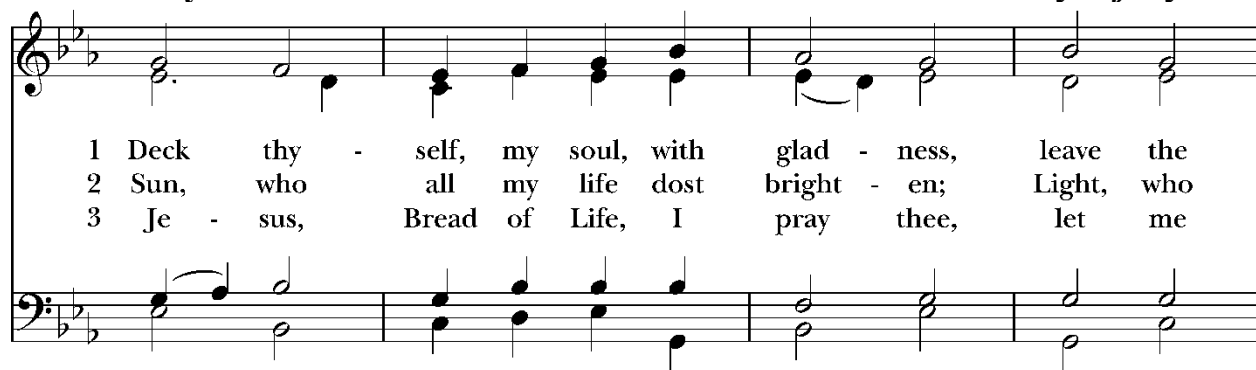
Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

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

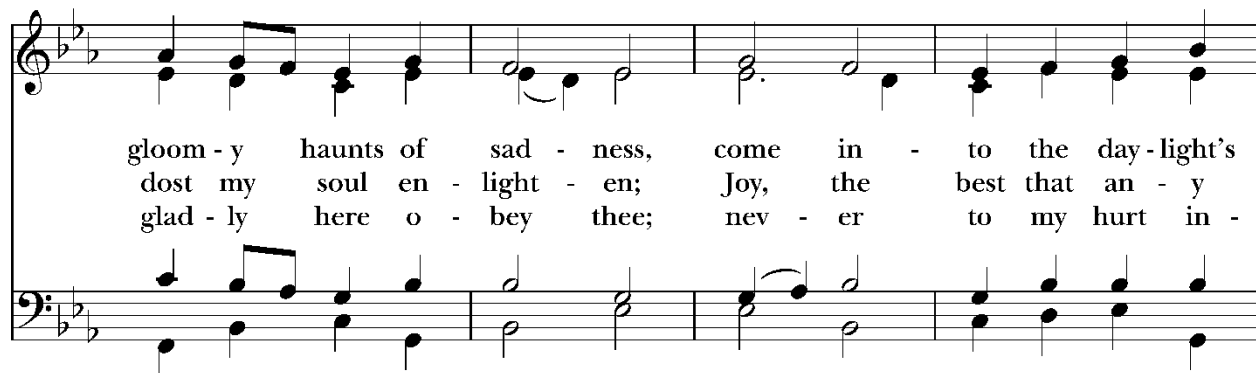
All: **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn #339

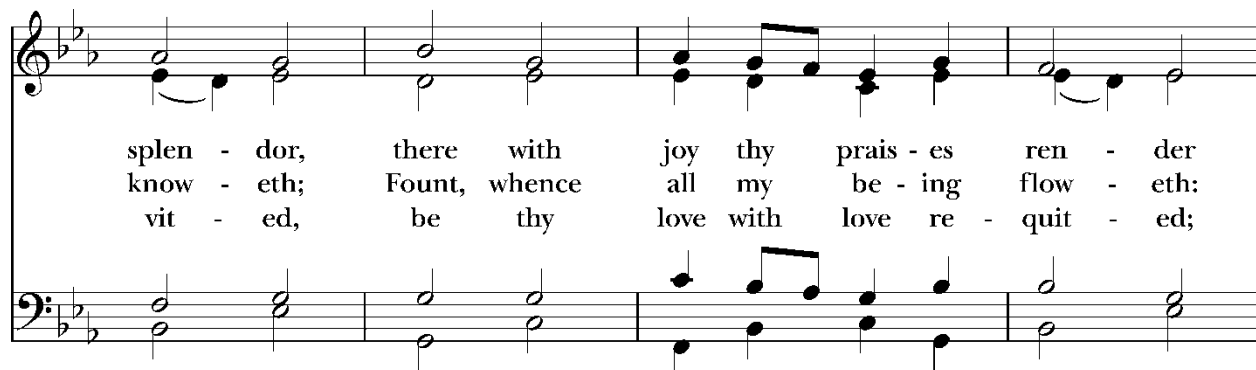
Deck thyself my soul



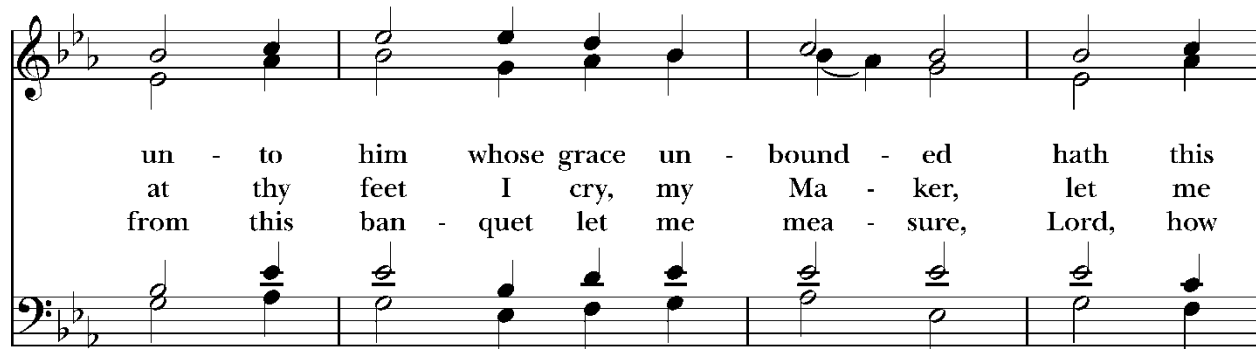
1 Deck thy - self, my soul, with glad - ness, leave the
 2 Sun, who all my life dost bright - en; Light, who
 3 Je - sus, Bread of Life, I pray thee, let me



gloom - y haunts of sad - ness, come in - to the day - light's
 dost my soul en - light - en; Joy, the best that an - y
 glad - ly here o - bey thee; nev - er to my hurt in -



splen - dor, there with joy thy prais - es ren - der
 know - eth; Fount, whence all my be - ing flow - eth:
 vit - ed, be thy love with love re - quit - ed;



un - to him whose grace un - bound - ed hath this
 at thy feet I cry, my Ma - ker, let me
 from this ban - quet let me mea - sure, Lord, how

won-drous ban-quet found-ed— high o'er all the heavens he
 be a fit par-ta-ker of this bless-ed food from
 vast and deep its trea-sure; through the gifts thou here dost

reign-eth, yet to dwell with thee he deign-eth.
 hea-ven, for our good, thy glo-ry, giv-en.
 give me, as thy guest in heaven re-ceive me.

Words: Johann Franck (1618-1677); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt. Music: *Schmücke dich*, melody Johann Crüger (1598-1662); harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 21:23-32

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

All: **Glory to you, O Christ.**

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John

came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.”

Celebrant: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon

Profession of Faith

(South Indian)

Please stand and face the cross.

**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 baptizes 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.**

The Prayers of the People

Remain standing. The people are encouraged to add their own petitions.

LEM: Eternal God: We thank you for the beauty of the World: for the teeming life of the seas, the flight of birds, and the diversity of animal life. Grant us grace to treat Creation with respect and care; to protect endangered species, to preserve the variety of habitats, and to honor the delicate balance of nature.

All: **God of life, hear our prayer.**

LEM: We thank you for the wealth of blessings from land and sea; for the power of wind, and the warmth of sun. We pray for the nations of the earth, give us the will to cherish this planet and to use its resources sustainably for the welfare of all.

All: **God of justice, hear our prayer.**

LEM: We pray for this nation; for the President of the United States, the Governor of New York, and all in authority. Grant them wisdom and strength to know and to do your will, and fill them with the love of truth and righteousness. Guide the people of the United States in the election of officials and representatives; that, by faithful administration and wise laws, the rights of all may be protected and our nation be enabled to fulfill your purposes.

All: **God of wisdom, hear our prayer.**

LEM: We pray for the faithful witness of the Church, called to reconcile and heal: For this parish and our vestry as we move through a process of transition. For Allison our Priest-in-Charge, for Matt and Allen our Bishops, for the diocesan ministry team, for Sean our Presiding Bishop and for Sarah Mullally, Archbishop of Canterbury.

All: **God of grace, hear our prayer.**

LEM: We pray for the human family. As every human being is known and loved by you, may we care for one another with love and respect. We pray especially for those commended to our care: ***Charles, Edna, Sheila, Lisa, Mary, Gabriel, Joan, Gwenn, Nancy, Patricia, Ola, Joe, Janet, Charles, Martha, Elizabeth, James, Linda, Christine, Jen, Jacob, Gisela, Miles, Rodger, Jennifer, Ann, Laura, Terrell, Davette, all facing exclusion or harm,*** and those we now name.*[Pause]*. God of compassion,

All: **hear our prayer.**

LEM: We pray for those celebrating birthdays or anniversaries, *especially Nate & Natasha on their first anniversary and Vicky on her birthday*; and those we now name. *[Pause]*. God of delight,

All: **hear our prayer.**

LEM: We pray for those who have died, *especially Renee Hack* and those we now name. *[Pause]* and for all who mourn.

All: **God of peace: hear our prayer.**

LEM: Creating God, your name is written in every leaf, every bird, every river, every stone, every living being. Thank you for calling us by name. Thank you for your continued creating power in water, rivers, forests and oceans. Make us attentive to the wounds of the earth and willing to work for the healing of all creation, that our children may enjoy its abundance, and a long life on your beloved earth. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Celebrant: Let us pray for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence

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.**

Marriage Blessing for Jenna and Martin

Celebrant: O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send therefore your blessing upon Martin and Jenna, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you; the Lord mercifully with his favor look upon you, and fill you with all spiritual benediction and grace; that you may faithfully live together in this life, and in the age to come have life everlasting. **Amen.**

The Peace

Remain standing.

Celebrant: Peace with yourself.
Peace with Creation.
Peace with one another.
The peace of Christ be always with you.

All: **And also with you.**

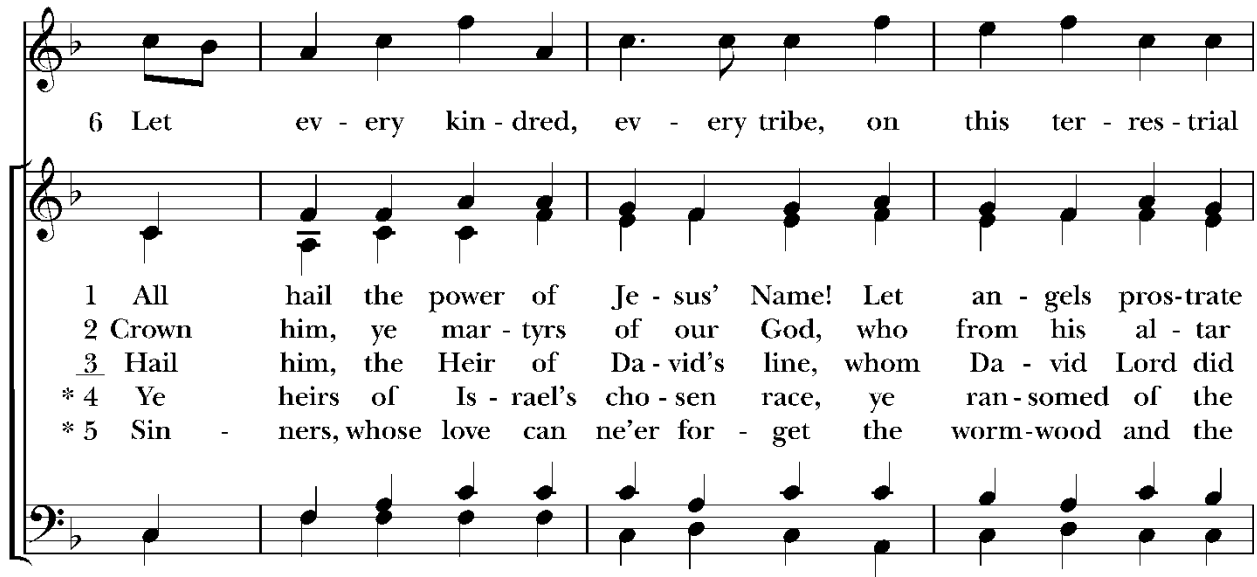
The Holy Communion

The Offertory Sentence

Celebrant: All that we are and all that we have are yours, O God, and you are all this. We offer ourselves to you for your glory and the well-being of all creation.

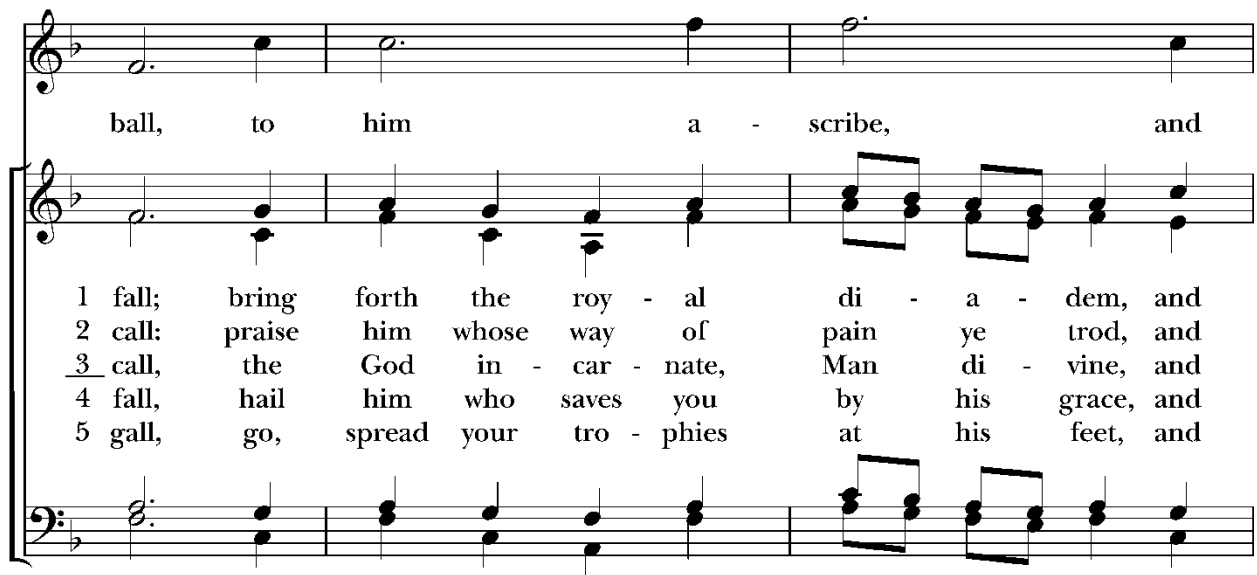
Offertory Hymn #450

All hail the power



6 Let ev - ery kin - dred, ev - ery tribe, on this ter - res - trial

1 All hail the power of Je - sus' Name! Let an - gels pros - trate
 2 Crown him, ye mar - tyrs of our God, who from his al - tar
 3 Hail him, the Heir of Da - vid's line, whom Da - vid Lord did
 * 4 Ye heirs of Is - rael's cho - sen race, ye ran - somed of the
 * 5 Sin - ners, whose love can ne'er for - get the worm - wood and the



ball, to him a - scribe, and

1 fall; bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem, and
 2 call: praise him whose way of pain ye trod, and
 3 call, the God in - car - nate, Man di - vine, and
 4 fall, hail him who saves you by his grace, and
 5 gall, go, spread your tro - phies at his feet, and

crown him Lord of all! to him a -

1 crown him Lord of all! bring forth the roy - al
 2 crown him Lord of all! praise him whose way of
 3 crown him Lord of all! the God in - car - nate,
 4 crown him Lord of all! hail him who saves you
 5 crown him Lord of all! go, spread your tro - phies

scribe, and crown him Lord of all!

1 di - a - dem, and crown him Lord of all!
 2 pain ye trod, and crown him Lord of all!
 3 Man di - vine, and crown him Lord of all!
 4 by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!
 5 at his feet, and crown him Lord of all!

6 Let every kindred, every tribe,
 on this terrestrial ball,
 to him all majesty ascribe,
 and crown him Lord of all!

Words: Edward Perronet (1726-1792), alt. Music: *Coronation*, Oliver Holden (1765-1844), alt.; desc. Michael E. Young (b. 1939). Descant, Copyright © 1979, G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

Eucharistic Prayer with Creation II

Celebrant: May God be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God.

All: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: It is right in all times and in all places to thank and praise you Creator of all. We praise you here between the Shawangunk Ridge and the Hudson River, Great Lakes to the Atlantic Ocean. We praise you at a time when the body of earth is broken again and again.

All: **We give thanks for our place in the story of salvation.**

Our ancestors journeyed with you in creation and migration.

They depended on the land, were displaced from the land and displaced others from their lands.

They knew you in tents and cities, on mountains and by wells, in families and in dreams, and through wilderness prophets who spoke of cedars and listened to ravens.

Celebrant: Together with angels and ancestors, bluebirds and beavers, roses and sugar maples, we join our voices with all creation in this ancient honor song:

Sanctus *LEVAS #256*

Holy, holy, holy

(piano) *Leader* Ho - ly,

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

pow'r— and might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. —

Music: Betty Carr Pulkingham (b. 1928), *Freedom Mass*. Based on traditional African melodies. Copyright © 1989 Celebration, Aliquippa, PA 15001. All Rights Reserved. International Copyright Secured. Used by permission.

Celebrant: We give thanks to you for Jesus, whose first bed was a feed trough. He was baptized in the Jordan, tested in the wilderness, he traveled in fishing boats and told parables of famers and seeds, labor and wages, yeast and bread.

On the night before he died, Jesus took bread, food of the poor, the work of field and hearth, he gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his friends saying: Take and eat, this is my body, given for you, do this to remember me.

Again after supper he took the cup of wine, fruit of the land, gave thanks and gave it to his friends saying: This is my blood, which is shed for you. When you do this, do it in memory of me.

Remembering Jesus' life, death and resurrection and awaiting his coming kingdom, we offer you this bread and this cup.

Creator, send your Spirit on these gifts so that we know Jesus in them and are gathered together with everyone who shares this sacred meal of justice and community.

All: **Fill us with the courage and love of Jesus, that we may strive for justice and peace, respect the dignity of every human being, and safeguard the integrity of creation.**

Celebrant: Bring us with St Andrew and all your saints to your commonwealth of sparrow and lily, child and beggar which is both now and yet to come.

All honor and glory are yours, Creator, Christ, and Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

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

Lord's Prayer

**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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant: Alleluia. Creator God, you fed us from the beginning.

All: **You invite all to the Supper of Creation. Alleluia!**

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the people of God.

All: **May we who share these gifts be found in Christ and Christ in us.**

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: **Loving God,
we give you thanks
for restoring us in your image
and nourishing us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.**

**Create in us a new heart and a new vision, O God,
that the gifts of your Spirit may work
in us and renew the face of the earth.
May we be one with you
so that our work is yours
and your work is ours.
Lead us to transform our lives
to reflect your glory in Creation;
through Jesus Christ our Savior
who is alive with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God now and for ever. Amen.**

The Blessing

Celebrant: May God who established the dance of creation,
Who marveled at the lilies of the field,
Who transforms chaos to order,
Lead us to transform our lives and the Church
To listen to the voice of all creatures
That reflect God's glory in creation. **Amen.**

Announcements

Closing Hymn #344

Lord dismiss us with thy blessing

1 Lord, dis - miss us with thy bless - ing; fill our hearts with
2 Thanks we give and a - dor - a - tion for thy Gos - pel's
3 so that when thy love shall call us, Sa - vior, from the

joy and peace; let us each, thy love pos - sess - ing,
joy - ful sound: may the fruits of thy sal - va - tion
world a - way, fear of death shall not ap - pall us,

tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace: O re - fresh us,
in our hearts and lives a - bound: ev - er faith - ful,
glad thy sum - mons to o - bey. May we ev - er,

O re - fresh us trav - eling through this wil - der - ness.
ev - er faith - ful to thy truth may we be found;
may we ev - er reign with thee in end - less day.

Words: Att. to John Fawcett (1739/40-1817). Music: *Sicilian Mariners*, Sicilian melody; first published *The European Magazine and London Review*, 1792, alt.

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Tend the earth,
care for God's good Creation;
as you have received freely,
so give freely.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

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LAY MINISTER SCHEDULE FOR TODAY

Celebrant:	Rev. Allison Moore
LEM:	Rae Slingerland
Lector:	Annette Johnson
Usher:	David Slingerland
Altar Guild:	Jennifer McPherson
Organist:	Janet Frommer
Live Stream Tech:	Jane Conger

Sources of Worship:

Episcopal Church Creation Care Website

https://newcreationliturgies.org/seasonofcreation/#_idTextAnchor019

St. Stephen's, Pittsfield, MA <https://www.ststephenspittsfield.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/Creation-Season-Booklet-2025.pdf>

Book of Common Prayer

By action of the State Legislature, the bluebird, beaver, brook trout, sugar maple, rose, nine spotted lady beetle, bay scallop, eurypterid, and garnet officially represent the state's birds, mammals, fish, insects, mollusks, trees, wildflowers, fossils, and minerals.