

*The Holy Spirit
gathers us in unity on the
first day of the week.*



HOLY COMMUNION

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Creation by the Word

Sunday, September 12, 2021

10:30 a.m. Choral Eucharist

Exploring the promise of God for all

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Allegro assai from the Concerto in E

Johann Sebastian Bach

(Please stand)

OPENING SENTENCES

P Surely the Lord is in this place.

All And we cry out, "Here I am. Here I am."

P Even when the place is far in the distance,

All The Lord will provide.

P On this day God has rested

All So that God's promises are fulfilled

P And we are as numerous as the stars of heaven.

All We are like the sand on the seashore and the dust of the earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Creator God, you have made all things and called them good. Help us to recognize your goodness in ourselves, each other, and all of your creation.

Settle us into you on this day of rest to hear your word that brings all things to life. In all the holy names of God we pray.

All Amen.

(Please be seated)

WORD

CHILDREN'S TIME

FIRST READING

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

Today's narrative reading is from the book of Genesis:

¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the

darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

⁶And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." ⁷So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. ⁸God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. ¹⁰God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. ¹¹Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. ¹²The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. ¹³And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

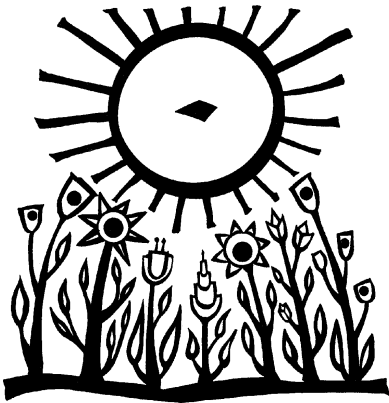
¹⁴And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. ¹⁶God made the two great lights — the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night — and the stars. ¹⁷God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

²⁰And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." ²¹So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. ²²God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." ²³And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

²⁴And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. ²⁵God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."

²⁷So God created humankind in his image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.





Sung by the choir in a setting by Italian composer Giuseppe Pitoni. Although he was one of the leading Roman composers of the late Baroque era, many of his compositions reflect the style of the high Renaissance, this Psalm setting included.

This fall, as we embark on the second year of the Narrative Lectionary in which we trace God's work among us from Creation up to the birth of Christ, we sing Carl Daw's hymn that so beautifully highlights this journey.

²⁸God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth."
²⁹God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. ³⁰And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. ³¹God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

^{2:1}Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. ²And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. ³So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

⁴These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

Word of God. Word of life.

AD **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 149:1-2

(sung in Latin): Sing to the Lord a new song. Praise him in the community of the faithful. Let Israel rejoice in their Lord, their Creator. Let the children of Zion rejoice in their King.

(Please stand)

GOSPEL READING

John 1:1-5

The Holy Gospel according to John.

AD **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

The Gospel of the Lord.

AD **Praise to you, O Christ.**

(Please be seated)

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

(see end of bulletin)

"As Newborn Stars Were Stirred to Song" Stanzas 1 – 3, choir; 4 – all (masked)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- A** Let us pray for the church and for the world giving thanks for God's goodness.

(Brief Silence)

Each petition concludes:
For your love and goodness:
We give you thanks O God.

The prayers are concluded:

- P** Having gathered our prayers, we offer them to you O God, confident that they are received and held in your holy name.

A Amen.



MEAL

PEACE

- P** The peace of Christ be with you always.
A And also with you.

(Please remain standing)

GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P** The Lord be with you.
A And also with you.
- P** Lift up your hearts.
A We lift them to the Lord.
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
A It is right to give our thanks and praise.
- P** Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord. . .
. . . be all honor and glory, now and forever.
A Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

- P** Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to 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 forever. Amen.**

Born in Vilnius, Lithuania, Heifetz (1901-1987) emigrated to the United States as a young man and became one of the twentieth centuries leading performers.

*God blesses us
and sends us in mission to
the world.*

Bach's setting of this Lutheran Chorale served as a movement from his Cantata 79. Several organists including Virgil Fox, E. Power Biggs and Claude Means have arranged it for organ. The version you hear today is a hybrid.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

MUSICAL REFLECTION

"Deep River"

Spiritual, arr. Jascha Heifetz

(Please stand)

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A Let us pray.
Lord of life,
in the gift of your body and blood
you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation.
Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy,
bearing witness to the abundance of your love
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All Amen.

SENDING

BENEDICTION

P People of God,
you are Christ's body,
claiming new life in a complicated world.
The holy Trinity, † one God,
bless you now and forever.

All Amen.

CLOSING HYMN *(all sing – masked)*

"Now Thank We All Our God"

Hymn 840

Stanza 1 – unison; 2 – harmony; 3 – unison.

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace, serve the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Now Thank We All Our God"

arr. Johann Sebastian Bach

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Opening Sentences, Prayer of the Day & Benediction © 2021 Central Lutheran Church

*Following today's service
lunch is served in the
Great Room.*

SERVING TODAY

Pastor Melissa Pohlman	<i>presiding</i>
Pastor Peter Nycklemoe	<i>preaching</i>
Ann Oyen	<i>assisting minister</i>
Ben Longman	<i>reader</i>
Pastor Stephanie Friesen	<i>hospitality</i>
Deacon Mark Sedio	<i>cantor/organist</i>
Isaac Drewes	<i>organist</i>
Central Choir	<i>choir</i>
Ian Snyder	<i>violinist</i>
Mark Kieffer	<i>sound operator</i>
Richard Stegall, Diane Olson, Bill Masche	<i>sacristans</i>

This service is being streamed live on the internet at www.centralmpls.org.

Chancel flowers this weekend are given by Christopher Haug and Karl Starr in celebration of the 28th anniversary of their original service of blessing (9/11/93) and the 8th anniversary of their legally recognized marriage (9/14/13). If you wish to donate flowers, contact Judy Korogi at 612-788-1288.



Central Lutheran
MINNEAPOLIS

Exploring the promise of God for all
333 South 12th St, Minneapolis, MN 55404
612-870-4416 | centralmpls.org

Stanzas 1 – 3, choir; 4 – all (masked)
You may remain seated until stanza 4.

As Newborn Stars Were Stirred to Song



Choir: 1. As new - born stars were stirred to song when all things came to be,
2. In psalms that raise the sing - er's sense to un - i - ver - sal truths,
3. When God's re - deem - ing Word took flesh to make sal - va - tion sure,
ALL: 4. But si - lence won no vic - t'ry there; a rest was all it scored



as Mir - i - am and Mos - es sang when Is - rael was set free,
in pro - phet's dark - toned o - ra - cle or hymn of three brave youths:
un - heed - ing hearts at - tuned to strife re - fused love's o - ver - ture.
be - fore glad al - le - lu - ias rose to greet the Ris - en Lord.



so mu - sic bursts un - bid - den forth when God - filled hearts re - joice,
the song of faith and praise en - dured through those God called to be
Yet to the end the song went on: a sup - per's part - ing hymn,
The Church still keeps that song a - live, for death has lost its sting.



to wak - en awe and grat - i - tude and give mute faith a voice.
a cho - sen peo - ple bear - ing light for all the world to see.
a psalm in - toned on dy - ing lips when sun and hope grew dim.
and with the gift of life re - newed the heart will ev - er sing.

Words: Carl P. Daw, Jr.

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Music: *Alexandra*, John Karl Hirten

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