

# Season of Creation

September 6, 2026



**St. Luke's Episcopal Church**

1101 Bay Ridge Avenue  
Annapolis, Maryland 21403  
[www.stlukeseastport.org](http://www.stlukeseastport.org)

## **Welcome to St. Luke's Eastport**

We are glad to have you worshipping with us today. If you need any assistance, please see one of the greeters. If you are a guest, please fill out a Welcome Card and hand it to the Rector or a greeter after the service.

### **Large print booklets are available upon request.**

**Congregational Health.** We take precautions to minimize transmission of illnesses as we gather for indoor worship. Masks are not required, but those attending in person are very welcome to wear masks if they feel more comfortable doing so. We do not require social distancing. However, please refrain from making physical contact (i.e., handshakes or hugs) with those outside your household, including during the passing of the peace, unless you are sure that it is welcome.

**Hybrid Worship.** Whether worshipping in person, on Zoom, by phone, or through Facebook Live, we gather as one community. Our worship services are livestreamed on Zoom and at [www.facebook.com/stlukeseastport](https://www.facebook.com/stlukeseastport).

**Holy Communion.** The Episcopal Church, like all churches rooted in the historic Christian faith, affirms that the sacrament of Holy Baptism is the traditional entry point for receiving the sacrament of Eucharist. We at St. Luke's also believe that anyone who desires to receive the body and blood of Christ is always welcome at God's table. If you have not been baptized, we invite you to explore with us what baptism could mean for your life. To learn more, please speak with the Rector after the service.

We use an option for Holy Communion known as "shallow intinction." The celebrant alone dips each wafer into the wine before placing it in the hands of the recipient. Intinction by individual worshipers is not permitted due to associated health risks. Communion under one kind, i.e., the bread or the wine alone, is the full reception of Holy Communion. If you prefer to receive only the wafer, please extend a single hand when you come forward. Our wafers are gluten free. If you would prefer to have communion brought to you in your pew, please notify a greeter.

**Children.** All ages worship together at St. Luke's. The Children's Corner is reserved for our youngest worshipers and their caregivers. Childcare is available downstairs during the service upon request.

**Restrooms.** Two non-gendered restrooms are located downstairs. Please see a greeter if assistance is needed.

## The Liturgy of the Word

### Prelude

#### Opening Hymn

"Morning Has Broken"

H-8

*See insert for selections. Please stand as you are able.*

*Celebrant* This is the day the Creator has made.  
*People* **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

*Celebrant and People* **Most High, all-powerful, all-good Lord, all praise is Yours, all glory, all honor and all blessings.  
To you alone, Most High, do they belong, and no mortal lips are worthy to pronounce Your Name.  
Praised be You my Lord with all Your creatures, especially Sir Brother Sun, who is the day through whom You give us light. And he is beautiful and radiant with great splendor, of You Most High, he bears the likeness.  
Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars, in the heavens you have made them bright, precious and fair.  
Praised be You, my Lord, through Brothers Wind and Air, and fair and stormy, all weather's moods, by which You cherish all that You have made.  
Praised be You my Lord through Sister Water, so useful, humble, precious and pure.  
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, producing varied fruits with colored flowers and herbs.  
Praised be You my Lord through those who grant pardon for love of You and bear sickness and trial. Blessed are those who endure in peace, by You Most High, they will be crowned.  
Praised be You, my Lord through Sister Death, from whom no one living can escape. Blessed are they She finds doing Your Will. No second death can do them harm. Praise and bless my Lord and give Him thanks, and serve Him with great humility.**

*Celebrant* Our Creator be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*The Celebrant says the collect.*

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

**First Reading**

**Ezekiel 33:7-11**

*Please be seated.*

You, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" Say to them, As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

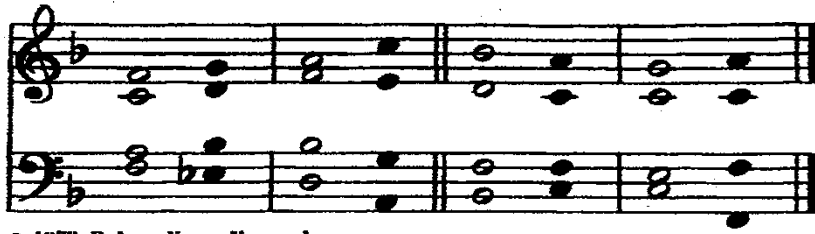
*Response after the reading:*

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to all God's Creation.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm

*Please remain seated. The Psalm may be read or sung to this setting:*



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## Psalm 119:33-40

- 33 Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes, \*  
and I shall keep it to the end.
- 34 Give me understanding, and I shall keep your law; \*  
I shall keep it with all my heart.
- 35 Make me go in the path of your commandments, \*  
for that is my desire.
- 36 Incline my heart to your decrees \*  
and not to unjust gain.
- 37 Turn my eyes from watching what is worthless; \*  
give me life in your ways.
- 38 Fulfill your promise to your servant, \*  
which you make to those who fear you.
- 39 Turn away the reproach which I dread, \*  
because your judgments are good.
- 40 Behold, I long for your commandments; \*  
in your righteousness preserve my life.

## Second Reading

*Please remain seated.*

## Romans 13:8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to all God's Creation.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able as the Gospel is processed.*

## The Gospel

Jesus said, "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the

offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

*Response after the reading:*

*Celebrant*     The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*        **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*The Gospel Acclamation is sung again as the procession returns.*

### **Sermon**

*After the sermon, silence may be kept.*

### **The Nicene Creed**

*BCP, pg. 358*

*Please stand as you are able.*

*Cantor*        We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Creator of  
                          heaven and earth.

*Celebrant*     **We believe in one God,**  
*and*                **the Father, the Almighty,**  
*People*           **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.**

### **The Prayers of the People**

*Cantor*      Let us pray for the revealing of God in Creation, now and always.

*Leader*      Let us offer our prayers to God who gives life and breath to all creatures, saying, "God of glory, hear us." I ask your prayers for the mission of the church throughout the world, for sharing the promise of abundant life and working toward it for all.

*People*      **God of glory, hear us.**

*Leader*      I ask your prayers for the leaders of the nations, and for all who make or influence decisions for the health of our planet and the well-being of its people.

*People*      **God of glory, hear us.**

*Leader*      I ask your prayers for peace with justice around the world, especially for an end to violent competition for limited resources.

*People*      **God of glory, hear us.**

*Leader*      I ask your prayers for those who suffer illness, want, or exile because of environmental degradation.

*People*      **God of glory, hear us.**

*Leader*      I ask your prayers for the environmental concerns that you may lift up now, either silently or aloud. *Silence, during which the people may offer their concerns.* We offer our fears.

*People*      **God of glory, hear us.**

*Leader* I ask your prayers for those who in their daily work are stewards and protectors of God's creation in ways large and small; for gardeners, farmers, and ranchers; for rangers and park managers; for fishers and foresters; for climate scientists, ecologists, and activists, and for all who work to restore and heal our wounded Earth.

*People* **God of glory, hear us.**

*Leader* I ask your prayers for the departed, especially for those holy women and men who taught us to marvel in all God's works.

*People* **God of glory, hear us.**

*Leader* We pray also for the special needs and concerns of this church community. Dear God, Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, we give thanks for the gift of our St. Luke's community and for the many blessings you have bestowed upon us. For the lives we have touched and for the opportunity to serve you in ways both large and small. We pray to you for guidance and strength as we look to the future. Help us to trust in you to lead us to new places we cannot yet see. Instill us with vision to discern the path you have laid for us, and grant us strength and courage to walk it with you. Have mercy on us, O God of loving kindness. Forgive our weakness and fears, and let us remember that all things are possible through your Holy Spirit. Help our members and our leaders to shine with your light. Help us to think boldly and to never underestimate all we can do with your grace. Help us to be an inspiration to others: a city on a hill, singing and dancing with all our might like David before your ark. In your holy name we pray, O Lord of light and truth, of overflowing abundance and boundless wisdom.

For the Anglican Communion, especially \_\_\_\_\_.

For the Diocese of Maryland, especially \_\_\_\_\_.

For those on our parish prayer list, especially \_\_\_\_\_, and for those we name at this time, aloud or in our hearts.

*The people may add their own petitions. The Celebrant offers additional prayers and a concluding Collect.*

## The Confession of Sin

*Cantor* Let us confess our sins against God and God's Creation.  
*Silence is kept, during which some may wish to kneel.*

*People* **Holy and merciful God, we confess that we have failed to honor you by rightly claiming our kinship with all your creatures. We have walked heavily on your earth, overused and wasted its resources, taken for granted its beauty and abundance, and treated its inhabitants unjustly, holding future generations hostage to our greed. Have mercy on us and forgive us our sins. Renew in us the resolve to keep and conserve your earth as you desire and intend, with grateful and compassionate hearts, through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. 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.

*People* **Amen.**

## The Peace

*Please stand as you are able.*

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

*People* **And also with you.**

*Please share a sign of peace with one another.*

## Parish Notices

*Please be seated.*

## The Holy Communion

### Offertory Sentence

*Celebrant* O Lord our God, you are worthy to receive glory and honor and power; because you have created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being. *Revelation 4: 11*

### Offertory Anthem

*Please remain seated.*

*As part of our worship, offerings are received to support the work of the Church locally, nationally, and globally. Offerings may be placed in the plate at the back of the church or given online. For online giving, scan the QR code to the right or visit [www.stlukeseastport.org](http://www.stlukeseastport.org) and click on "Giving". Blue online giving cards are also available in your pew and may be placed in the plate as a tangible sign of your online gift.*



### **Doxology**

**H-380, v. 3**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

*Please remain standing as you are able.*

|                  |                                                   |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Celebrant</i> | Our Creator be with you.                          |
| <i>People</i>    | <b>And also with you.</b>                         |
| <i>Celebrant</i> | Lift up your hearts.                              |
| <i>People</i>    | <b>We lift them to our Creator.</b>               |
| <i>Celebrant</i> | Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.           |
| <i>People</i>    | <b>It is right to give God thanks and praise.</b> |

*Celebrant* It is right in all times and in all places to thank and praise you, Creator of all. We praise you here, where the Severn River meets the Bay, where city, farm, and wilderness rest side by side. We praise you at a time when the body of earth is broken again and again. 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 to trees and listened to birds. Together with angels and ancestors, osprey and deer, terrapin and crab, we join our voices with all Creation in this ancient honor song:

*People*      **+ Holy, + holy, + holy Lord,  
God of power and might.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

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. 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. Bring us with St. Luke, the Blessed Mother 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.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*Celebrant*      And now, as the Wisdom before Creation teaches us, we pray,

*People*      **Holy One, our only Home, hallowed be your name. May your day dawn, your will be done, here as in heaven. Feed us today, and forgive us as we forgive each other. Do not forsake us at the time of test, but deliver us from evil. For the glory, the power, and the mercy 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* This is Living Bread, given for all Creation.+  
*People* **All who eat this bread share in Christ's Body.**

*Everyone is welcome to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion. To receive the bread, extend your hands palms up. Any individual who prefers not to receive the bread may instead request a blessing by crossing their arms across their chest. Children of any age are invited to receive at the discretion of their parents.*

**Communion Hymn** "God is love, let heaven adore him" **H-379**  
*Please remain seated.*

## Post-Communion Prayer

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*People* **Holy One, you feed us with bread from heaven and the gifts of Mother Earth. In this communion, you have drawn us into your embrace and you call us to friendship with one another. You have given us the gift of reconciliation. May we who have tasted that gift from you offer ourselves in peace and humility to one another, and may you always walk among us as a friend. Amen.**

## Blessing

**Closing Hymn** "Forgive our sins as we forgive" **H-674**  
*Please stand as you are able. See insert for selections.*

## Dismissal

*Celebrant* Let us bless our God and all Creation.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

*Thank you for worshiping with us today. Please return this worship booklet to the basket in the foyer unless you wish to take it with you for personal use.  
You are encouraged to take any inserts with you.*

The texts in this service are from *The Book of Common Prayer 1979* (BCP) and *Season of Creation: A Celebration Guide for Episcopal Parishes* (Perennial Ed. 2025). Hymns and service music are from *The Hymnal 1982*, *Wonder Love and Praise*, *Lift Every Voice and Sing II* and other sources identified in *Season of Creation*. Used by permission. OneLicense.net #A-722440. Fall 2026



A wrong attitude towards nature implies somewhere a wrong attitude towards God, and the consequence is an inevitable doom. For a long enough time, we have believed in nothing but the values arising in a mechanised, commercialised, urbanised way of life: it would be as well for us to face the permanent conditions upon which God allows us to live upon this earth.

T.S. Eliot, *The Idea of a Christian Society*