

...where there is more than one way to *be, believe and belong*

THE SEASON OF CREATION

12 September 2021

Worshipping in Person and Online
9:30 in the morning

The earth is charged with the Grandeur of God...

The Season of Creation is being adopted by Christian denominations around the world. It intends to celebrate the presence and action of God in all people, creatures and the earth. Along with many Episcopal communities we have adopted this new liturgical season and direct our hearts, minds, prayers and actions in a celebration of Ordinary Holiness that pervades the multiverse. The Season of Creation will continue through Sunday, October 3rd.

Welcome to Church of the Apostles

We are glad you are here and welcome you to fully participate in God's mission and ministry at Church of the Apostles. All are welcome, without exception or reservation. We are an inclusive Christian community that makes a difference in peoples' lives.

A prayer for the Season of Creation

God who created the world in joy, establish and strengthen in us the habits of rejoicing, together with all created beings. May all that we do—our work and our resting, our movement and stillness, our words and our silence—increase in us a reverence for your creation and a shared vocation of exultation. Amen.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Prelude *Now thank we all our God* Georg Friedrich Kaufmann

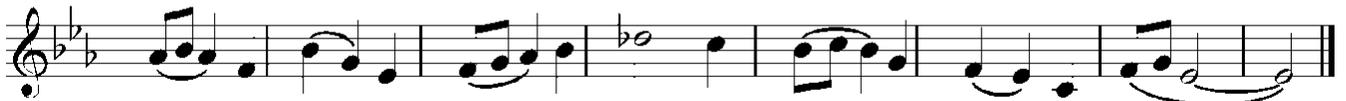
The Processional *The stars declare his glory* 431



1 The stars de - clare his glo - ry; the vault of hea - ven springs
 2 The dawn re - turns in splen - dor, the hea - vens burn and blaze,
 3 So shine the Lord's com - mand - ments to make the sim - ple wise;
 4 So or - der too this life of mine, di - rect it all my days;



mute wit - ness of the Mas - ter's hand in all cre - a - ted things, and
 the ris - ing sun re - news the race that me - asures all our days and
 more sweet than hon - ey to the taste, more rich than an - y prize, a
 the med - i - ta - tions of my heart be in - no - cence and praise, my



through the si - lenc - es of space their sound - less mu - sic sings. _____
 writes in fire a - cross the skies God's ma - jes - ty and praise. _____
 law of love with - in our hearts, a light be - fore our eyes. _____
 rock, and my re - deem - ing Lord, in all my words and ways. _____

Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926); para. of Psalm 19 Copyright ©1981 by Hope Publishing Company.
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LITURGY OF THE WORD

Presider Blessed be the One, Holy and Living God.
People **And blessed be God's kingdom now and forever. Amen.**

Song of Praise *For the beauty of the earth...*

1. For the beau-ty of the earth, For the glo-ry of the skies,
 2. For the won-der of each hour Of the day and of the night,
 3. For the joy of ear and eye, For the heart and mind's de-light,
 4. For the joy of hu-man love, Broth-er, sis-ter, par-ent, child,

For the love which from our birth O-ver and a-round us lies,
 Hill and vale, and tree and flower, Sun and moon, and stars of light,
 For the mys-tic har-mo-ny Link-ing sense to sound and sight,
 Friends on earth, and friends a-bove, For all gen-tle thoughts and mild,

Refrain
 Lord of all, to Thee we raise This our hymn of grate-ful praise.

The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord is with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

Mysterious God, whose imagination and desire embrace all: We seek to discern you in the interplay of forces, in the order and the chaos of the universe, and in the complexities of every living system. Give us grace to honor your goodness in what we know and in what we do not know, in the world's harmonies and turbulence, and in its promise and change. For you are in, through, and beyond all that is: one God, made known to us in Jesus the Christ, through the Holy Spirit, our inspiration and guide.
Amen.

Wisdom cries out in the street;
 in the squares she raises her voice.
At the busiest corner she cries out;
 at the entrance of the city gates she speaks:
“How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple?
How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing
 and fools hate knowledge?
Give heed to my reproof;
I will pour out my thoughts to you;
 I will make my words known to you.
Because I have called and you refused,
 have stretched out my hand and no one heeded,
and because you have ignored all my counsel
 and would have none of my reproof,
I also will laugh at your calamity;
 I will mock when panic strikes you,
when panic strikes you like a storm,
 and your calamity comes like a whirlwind,
 when distress and anguish come upon you.
Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer;
 they will seek me diligently, but will not find me.
Because they hated knowledge
 and did not choose the fear of the LORD,
would have none of my counsel,
 and despised all my reproof,
therefore they shall eat the fruit of their way
 and be sated with their own devices.
For waywardness kills the simple,
 and the complacency of fools destroys them;
but those who listen to me will be secure
 and will live at ease, without dread of disaster.”

The Psalm

Let us say the psalm responsively by half verse.

19

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

In the deep has he 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.

The law of the LORD is perfect
and revives the soul; *
the testimony of the LORD is sure
and gives wisdom to the innocent.

The statutes of the LORD are just
and rejoice the heart; *
the commandment of the LORD is clear
and gives light to the eyes.

The fear of the LORD is clean
and endures for ever; *
the judgments of the LORD are true
and righteous altogether.

More to be desired are they than gold,
more than much fine gold, *
sweeter far than honey,
than honey in the comb.

By them also is your servant enlightened, *
and in keeping them there is great reward.

Who can tell how often he offends? *
cleanse me from my secret faults.

Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me; *
then shall I be whole and sound,
and innocent of a great offense.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my
heart be acceptable in your sight, *
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

1 Morn - ing glo - ry, star - lit sky, soar - ing
 2 O - pen are the gifts of God, gifts of
 3 Love that gives, gives ev - er more, gives with

1 mu - sic, schol - ar's truth, flight of swal - lows,
 2 love to mind and sense; hid - den is love's
 3 zeal, with ea - ger hands, spares not, keeps not,

1 au - tumn leaves, mem - ory's trea - sure, grace of youth:
 2 a - go - ny, love's en - deav - or, love's ex - pense.
 3 all out - pours, ven - tures all, its all ex - pends.

The Gospel

Mark 8.27-38

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus the Christ according to Mark **People Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to

gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

Deacon The gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you Lord Christ.

The Sermon

A period of silence follows the sermon.

The Rev. Debra Asis

Words for the Wordless

Please stand as we say Words for the Wordless together.

**We believe Divine Presence, that we call One God,
is the essence and substance of all that is.
It transcends every image of human understanding.**

**We believe Jesus is an unprecedented revelation
of living in accord with Divine Presence,
He is an exemplar of the life giving and affirming potential
of being in full enunciation.**

**We believe the Spirit of life that is present with all persons
is of the essence and substance of God.
It is the spark that transforms creaturely brutality
into inspired humanity.**

**We believe the Church exists to foster world transforming love;
by exercising ‘power with’ rather than ‘power over,’
by cultivating community rather than conformity,
and by propagating unity rather than uniformity.**

**We believe questions are more valuable than answers
and humbly submit all that we believe
to prayerful examination.**

*** This statement of faith is a contemporary reflection on the mysteries of the Christian faith and an invitation to each of us to continue pondering the inexplicable presence and action of God in our world.*

The Prayers of the People

Holy Father, Divine Mother,
from whom all creation emerges,
we bow before you in wonder and adoration.

**We marvel that in this past week
we have travelled seven million miles outward
into the mystery of dark space.**

Where to, on this ride in our ever-expanding cosmos?
Why here, on Earth,
and now, in this day and age?

**We turn to the Christ within to get our bearings
and glimpse a purpose,
but never to lessen the mystery.**

We turn to the Spirit of Wisdom,
divine radiance,
to guide us through time's evolving story.

**Honored at being chosen
to be both storytellers and collaborators
in this great drama-
and thankful for this brief and breath-taking ride
on our holy planet.**

Holy Father, Divine Mother,
bless every person that we meet, every face we see,
every voice we hear, where ever they be.

**Bless every city, every town, every bless-ed bit of ground,
everything we see and touch, day and night, every sound.**

**Bless us to let Your Grace flow through everything we say and do.
Amen.**

Adapted from Wisdom of Solomon 7.26-29 in If Darwin Prayed by Bruce Sanguin

The Confession

Deacon Let us confess our sin against God and creation.

**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 sin.**

**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 the Christ. Amen.**

The Peace

Prisider The peace of the Lord is always with you.
People **And also with you.**

The people greet one another with the sign of peace. You may type PEACE in your ZOOM or Facebook Live chat.

*Birthday and Anniversary Blessings, Other Reasons for Giving Thanks.
Please let Rev. Debra know if you would like to receive a blessing while worshipping online
dasis@ovapostles.org*

LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Offertory Anthem

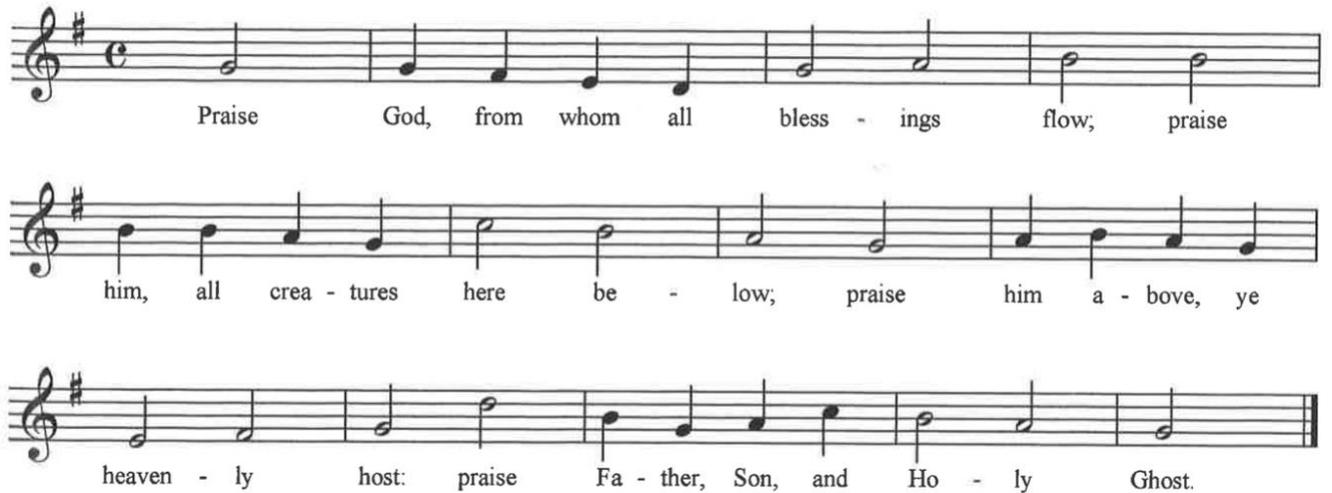
O love, how deep, how broad, how high

English carol, ca. 1415

In church or online, we thank you for your generous financial support of Apostles ministries. Please consider making automatic payments from your checking account to avoid Pay Pal fees or send your checks to us at 12111 N. La Cholla Blvd. Oro Valley, AZ 85755. Thank you for your generosity. If you give online, please take and place a widow's mite in the Alms Basket to participate in the offertory.

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The Doxology



The Great Thanksgiving

Rite II Prayer C

Presider The Lord is with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God 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 the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, 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 fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us.

By his wounds, we are healed.

And 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:

The Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly,
ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
heaven 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.

And so, 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 the 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 many for the forgiveness of sin. 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.

Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, Sarah, Rachel and Rebecca, God and Father of our Lord Jesus the 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 the 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, Father, through Jesus the 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.**

And now, as our Savior the Christ has taught us, we pray
Pray either version of the Lord's prayer in your preferred language.

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.

Our Father in heaven, holy is your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our sin as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil for yours is the kingdom and power and glory forever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Behold what you are, become what you eat.

All who seek Christ are welcome to receive the bread and wine made Holy. If you prefer to receive a blessing please come forward and cross your hands over your chest when the host is offered to you. Gluten free wafers are available. We affirm that all who worship with us online fully receive the spiritual presence.

Communion Music *O Lamb of God most innocent* Johann Pachelbel

The Post-Communion Prayer

Presider Let us pray.

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn

Christ for the world we sing!

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1 Christ for the world we sing! The world to
 2 Christ for the world we sing! The world to
 3 Christ for the world we sing! The world to
 4 Christ for the world we sing! The world to

Christ we bring with lov - ing zeal; the poor, and
 Christ we bring with fer - vent prayer; the way - ward
 Christ we bring with one ac - cord; with us the
 Christ we bring with joy - ful song; the new - born

them that mourn, the faint and o - ver - borne,
 and the lost, by rest - less pas - sions tossed,
 work to share, with us re - proach to dare,
 souls, whose days, re - claimed from er - ror's ways,

sin - sick and sor - row - worn, whom Christ doth heal.
 re - deemed at count - less cost from dark de - spair.
 with us the cross to bear, for Christ our Lord.
 in - spired with hope and praise, to Christ be - long.

Words: Samuel Wolcott (1813-1886) Music: *Moscow*, melody Felice de Giardini (1716-1796); harm. *The New Hymnal*, 1916 based on *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1875, and Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

The Dismissal

Weekly Prayer List

We pray, O God, for Bp. Jennifer, Steve, Bruce, Larry, Sara, Phyllis, Katy, Fred, Anna, and all those suffering the effects of violence, hatred and fear, including the peoples of Afghanistan.

We continue to pray for Terry, Virginia, N., Todd, Bill, John, Karter, Jenny, Earl, Fran, Carol W., Franco, Laurie, Dawn & her family and Garnet.

For the President Joe and Governor Doug.

For our Presiding Bishop Michael, Bishop Jennifer, and our clergy, Rev. Debra, Rev. Sherry and Deacon Linda.

Almighty God, you proclaim your truth in every age by many voices: Direct in our time, we pray, those who speak where many listen and write what many read; that they may do their part in making the heart of this people wise, its mind sound, and its will righteous; to the honor of Jesus the Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For those who are serving in the Armed Forces at home or abroad, particularly Campbell Kerr, Robert Graham, Zack Rodriguez, Tom Marshall, Tim Jeffers and Thomas Aragon.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer St. Thomas, Clarkdale
Anglican Cycle of Prayer The Anglican Church of Tanzania

Prayer request forms are available at the Greeters' Table. You may complete and place them in the offering basket. People will remain on the prayer list for three weeks. Please contact the office to extend if needed. If you would like private prayer, please contact The Rev. Debra Asis. You may also request prayers through our Prayer Connections. Notify Terry Rosato at ter.rosato@gmail.com

The Congregation, Ministers of God's Church

| | | | |
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| The Rev. Debra Asis | 480 695 5921 | dasis@ovapostles.org | Vicar |
| The Rev. Sherry Dunn | 520 395 2236 | dunnatlast@gmail.com | Retired Priest |
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| Julia Dear | 520 544 9660 | admin@ovapostles.org | Parish Admin |

The Bishop's Committee

| | | | |
|------------------|--------------|--|------------------|
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