



# Season of Creation

July 10, 2022 + Storm Sunday

An asterisk (\*) invites you to stand in body or in spirit.

In call and response sections, the congregation is invited to read the **bold** print all together.

Welcome to First Lutheran Church!

## Gathering in God's Presence

**Prelude** — “Earth and All Stars”

David N. Johnson  
Steve Kidder, guitar and voice

**Refrain: God has done marvelous things. I too sing praises with a new song!**

**Welcome**

**\*Confession & Forgiveness** — *see Green Supplement*

**\*Opening Canticle** — *see Green Supplement*

“God of Stars and Distant Planets”

**\*Opening Litany for Storm Sunday**

We invite the elements of the storm to worship with us.

**The wild winds and the dark clouds,  
the lightning flash and the thunder roll.**

We invite the hurricane to join us in wonder:

**The fierce gales and blinding rains,  
the crashing waves and swaying trees.**

In the name of God, present in the thunder of the storm, the name of Christ, present in the stillness after the storm, and the name of the Spirit, present in the winds of the storm. Amen.

**Holy! Holy! Holy! Earth is filled with God's presence.**

Christ, as we come into this sanctuary today, we enter your presence even in the storm.

**Holy! Holy! Holy! Earth is filled with your presence.**

**\*Prayer of the Day**

May God be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

God, our Creator, **as we face the storms of this world, we celebrate the wonders of the wind and the weather. Help us to see your presence, not only in the forces of nature, but also among those who suffer from natural disasters. In the name of Christ who is the Wisdom of God renewing all things in creation, gratefully we pray. Amen.**

# Hearing & Responding to Scripture

**Scripture Readings** – you are invited to open your own bible to the passage or to listen to the lessons

Job 28:20-27

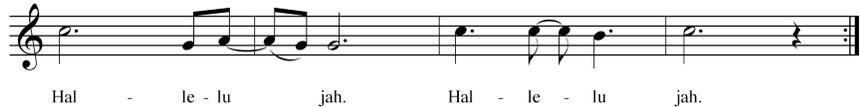
Psalm 29

1 Corinthians 1:21-31

**\*Gospel Acclamation**



**\*Gospel** — Luke 8:22-25



**Sermon** — “The Way of the Storm”

Gordon Long

**\*Song** —

“God of Creation”

Sung to “Herzliebster Jesu” (music only found at Hymn no. 349)

1. God of creation, we have seen the horror -  
Great devastation, overwhelming sorrow!  
Hear now your people - homes and loved ones taken -  
Feeling forsaken.

2. Christ of compassion, you who calmed the rough sea -  
Hurricane crashing, we prayed for your mercy!  
Comfort your people! hold them close, now giving  
Hope for their living.

3. Give to your children  
food to end their hunger,  
Clean water's blessing,  
news of those they long for!  
And by your Spirit,  
use our gifts and labors  
To help our neighbors.

**\*A New Creed**

**We are not alone,  
we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God:  
who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus,  
the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others  
by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:  
to celebrate God's presence,  
to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us.**

**We are not alone. Thanks be to God**

## **\*Prayers of Intercession**

*You are invited to sing the refrain found on the Green Supplement to lead us into prayer and again at the close of our prayers.*

Your creation abounds with flowing waters and diverse creatures, yet we feel the imbalance as storms strengthen and cause more devastation around the world. Guide the work of climate scientists as they develop and advocate ways to restore earth's natural balance. Motivate humankind to adopt lifestyles that protect and sustain the earth. **Hear us, O Creator.**

You desire abundant life for all. We mourn for those around the world who are experiencing the catastrophic effects of climate change and causing great harm and loss of life: fires, extreme heat waves, floods, storms, and droughts. Inspire us to help those in need. **Hear us, O Creator.**

You guard the nations; let no leaders exalt themselves, but lift up the most vulnerable and work for the good of all. Send your Spirit to eradicate classism and inequity, violence and war, poverty and hunger. **Hear us, O Creator.**

Mothering God, you care for all people in need. Nourish those who are hungry. Restore employment to those who have lost work. Heal those who are sick, and comfort all who are dying or grieving. **Hear us, O Creator.**

In your mercy, O Creator, we lift up these prayers for our world in need. **Amen.**

## **\*Sharing of the Peace**

The peace of our Creator be with you always. **And also with you.**

## **Offering**

*Music at the Offering*  
"Healer"

*see Green Supplement*

# *Sharing the Lord's Supper*

## **\*The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## **\*An Earth Eucharistic Prayer**

O God triune, how majestic is your name in all the earth.

Over the eons your merciful might evolved our home, a fragile tree of life.

Here by your wisdom are both life and death, growth and decay,  
the nest and the hunt, sunshine and storm.

Sustained by these wonders, we creatures of dust join in the ancient song:

The earth is full of your glory: **The earth is full of your glory.**

O God triune, you took on our flesh in Jesus our healer.

In Christ you bring life from death;

we remember his cross, we laud his resurrection.

Broken like bread, he enlivens our body.

Outpoured like wine, he fills the earth with goodness.  
Receiving this mystery, we mortals sing our song:  
The earth is full of your glory: **The earth is full of your glory.**

We praise you for the heart of Jesus,  
so filled with your love for this earth.

On the night before he died, he took bread, and gave thanks,  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Gathered around this table, we your children unite in this song:  
The earth is full of your glory: **The earth is full of your glory.**

O God triune, you create the worlds, you uphold the living, you embrace the dead.  
Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.  
Strengthen us for our journey with this meal, the body and blood of Christ.  
Give us a future that trusts in you and cares for your earth.  
Empowered by your promises, we rise from our deaths to praise you again:  
The earth is full of your glory: **The earth is full of your glory. Amen and amen!**

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

We pray as Christ - our example of love for all of creation - taught us:  
**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.**

### **Invitation to Communion**

Come, for all things are now ready.  
Come to the table with all your kin and share with all in need:  
the gift of healing for those in pain, the gift of forgiveness for those in sin, the gift of assurance for those in fear, and the gift of hope for those in tears.  
**May we who share these gifts, share Christ with one another and all our kin.**

### **Distribution of Holy Communion**

*All are welcome to this meal - there are no prerequisites or exceptions! Instructions for Communion will be given verbally.*

### **Prayer After Communion**

Now may the power of Christ's body and blood reach deep into your heart, your mind, and your body to heal your wounds, to calm your fears, and through you to bring healing to Earth. In Jesus' name. **Amen**

# Departing to Serve God's Creation

## Announcements

### \*Sending Song —

“Oh God, We've Prayed in Wind and Rain”  
Sung to ST. ANNE

1. O God, we've prayed in wind and rain  
And now we pray once more  
For those who felt the hurricane  
And heard the waters roar.

2. We pray for those who watched the storm  
Destroy the life they knew,  
Who wait in shelters, tired and worn,  
And wonder what to do.

3. We thank you, God, for acts of love  
Not bound by race or creed,  
For hands that reach across the flood  
To all who are in need.

4. We pray for others far away  
Who've seen destruction, too;  
We look beyond ourselves, for they  
Are also loved by you.

5. We pray that leaders of our land  
Will heed creation's cry,  
And bravely care and take a stand  
For earth and sea and sky.

6. Where rains flood cities, homes and towns  
May we go out to be  
A witness that your love abounds  
In each community.

### \*Commission

Christ calls you to be his disciples, to celebrate  
storms and discern God's Wisdom, goodness, and  
presence in all the forces of nature.

Will you care for creation?

**We will care for creation! We will be in awe  
before the storm.**

**We will celebrate God's presence!**

### \*Benediction & Dismissal

May God our Creator bless and keep you, may Jesus, child of the earth, walk with you,  
and may the Holy Spirit, wind and fire, give you hope and peace. **Amen.**

Go in peace, care for all creation. **Thanks be to God!**

### Postlude — “Blessed Be Your Name”

Matt Redman and Beth Redman  
Steve Kidder, guitar and voice

### Acknowledgements

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Elements of this worship come from *A Liturgy for Earthkeeping* by Dakota Road and *Season of Creation*: <https://seasonofcreation.com/>

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Both Gillette hymns are reprinted freely with permission in an effort to raise awareness for hurricane relief efforts.

“A New Creed” from <https://www.united-church.ca/community-faith/welcome-united-church-canada/new-creed>

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### Worship Assistants

Pastor: Chris Culuris  
Supply Pastor: Gordon Long  
Director of Music: Emily Bruflat

Greeter/Reader: David Marlow  
Ushers: Brett Peterson, Evan Buffington  
Musicians: Steve Kidder, Tom Baumgartner

### Announcements

- Curious to learn more about the impact of storms around the world? Find and watch a documentary:
  - *Cruel and Unusual* (2020)
  - *Kiss the Ground* (2020)
  - More? Visit <https://tinyurl.com/2hs2s7zb>
- While Pastor Chris is away on vacation from July 10-23, Pastor John Malm will be covering emergencies. Please call Angela in the office to be connected with Pastor Malm.
- Join us for a special summer educational and worship opportunity! On Wednesday, July 27, you are invited to a Bible Study led by Pastor Chris from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. in the Dining Hall and worship at 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel.

### Prayers

- We lift up prayers for those on our long-term list: Tom and Deb Johnson, Abigail Christenson, Elgene Lund, Chuck Petry, Bob Cady, Joan Williams, Myrene Bunge, Glenn Stryker, Erika Schuldt, Gwen Powell, Nancy Maag, Claire Cardwell, Ursula McRostie and Betty Gustafson.
- We pray for the victims of the war in Ukraine.
- We pray for communities impacted by gun violence including Highland Park, IL and the 10 other communities that experienced mass shootings on July 4.
- We pray for the families who are grieving the loss of family members who have recently died.

### Notes from Season of Creation:

The Season of Creation (Australia) liturgies were the inspiration and oftentimes the text of many prayers, litanies, and scripture choices during our worship today. Why were these lessons chosen? A description was provided with brief rationale (below), also found in documents here: <https://seasonofcreation.com/worship-resources/liturgies/>

**Hebrew Scripture: Job 28:20-27 “God Discovers Wisdom”** Where can wisdom be found? According to the poet in Job, God discovered wisdom embedded in nature, even in the elements of the weather, when God was creating the cosmos.

**Psalms 29 “God in the Storm’ Thunder”** in this Psalm, is described as the voice of God, a powerful force that strikes Earth with great force, while the beings in the heavenly temple respond with the cry of ‘Glory’!

**Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:21-31 “Christ, the Wisdom of God”** According to Paul, the wise in the world cannot grasp the message of Christ crucified. Ultimately the crucified one is also the source of life and the Wisdom of God.

**Gospel: Luke 8:22-25 “Jesus knows the Way of the Storm”** The stilling of the storm not only demonstrates Jesus’ capacity to perform miracles, it also demonstrates that he is in tune with nature and knows ‘the way’ of the storm, its inner nature.