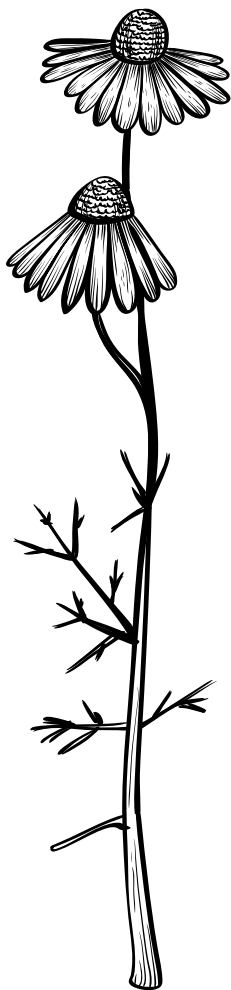


AN ORDER FOR THE CELEBRATION OF

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

THE SEASON OF CREATION

SEPTEMBER 7 – OCTOBER 5, 2025



St. Francis' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

SEASON OF CREATION LITURGIES

St. Francis' is in the midst of a multi-year project to reclaim a portion of our land for native prairie habitat. Through the *Season of Creation* liturgies (September 7 - October 5, 2025), we will join our liturgical life to our Prairie Project.

What is a Season of Creation?

It is a time when we join with Christians around the world to celebrate in prayer and action our Gospel call to protect the Earth that God entrusted to our care. The celebration of this season began in 1989 when the Orthodox Church celebrated a Day of Prayer for Creation. From this, an ecumenical effort has grown to establish a worldwide Feast of Creation on September 1st.

How is our liturgy tailored to the theme of Creation?

- Prayer about the gift of God's creation throughout liturgy
- Mass of Creation by Marty Haugen used each week
- Musical selections that highlight and reinforce the theme of creation

Why is it important to mark a Season of Creation?

- Because our faith affirms that God in Christ loves, redeems, and sustains the whole of creation, not only human beings.
- Because of the urgency of climate change
- Because in the Episcopal Church we say "As we pray, so we believe." Our prayer transforms our thinking and our behavior.

What is our Gospel call to grow in faith? What does Christianity have to do with ecology?

- God the Creator pronounced the world *very good* (Genesis 1:31) and gave humans the task to *till and keep the Earth* (Genesis 2:15) as stewards and caregivers rather than owners (Psalm 24:1).
- Destruction of nature is a sign of estrangement from God: *hurt not the earth, neither the sea nor the trees* (Revelations 7:3).

- Christian hope is the renewal and restoration of all things. (Matthew 19:28; Acts 3:21) Our participation with God in creating a more just and habitable world and living more gently on Earth is how we share in what Archbishop Desmond Tutu calls the “supreme work” of Jesus Christ, who reconciles us to God, one another, and God's whole creation. The good news of God in Christ is for all creatures and the whole earth.

Learn More:

To learn more and take action, please visit the creation care ministries of the Episcopal Church and the Diocese of Missouri. At St. Francis, you can support our Prairie Project by:

- Joining our Planting Day in Winter 2026.
- Donating to our prairie fund: Drop cash or check in the offering plate marked “prairie fund” or use our QR code to donate online
- Reading the book *Lawns into Meadows: Growing a Regenerative Landscape* by Owen Wormser
- Inviting neighbors, friends or other organizations to be part of this work!



SOCIAL MEDIA

We love pictures and videos, and we love sharing what we do on social media. When attending our events or services, you agree to our using pictures of you and any children in your charge on social media and elsewhere. If you prefer not to be included in photos or video, please inform a staff member or usher.

**The asterisk symbol is used to indicate when to look at the bulletin insert for this Sunday's specific music and scripture.*

**The order of service begins in the insert booklet. After the doxology, continue here.*

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Presider The Creator be 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 our Loving God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Presider It is right in all times and in all places to thank and
praise you, Creator of all. We praise you here where we
plant prairie grasses and flowers.

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.

Together with angels and ancestors, we join our voices
with all creation in this ancient song of praise:

Say at 8am:

People **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Sing at 10:30am:

MASS OF CREATION

HAUGEN

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
God of pow - er, God of 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, ho -
san - na in the high - est.

Presider

We give thanks to you for Jesus, who was baptized in the Jordan, tested in the wilderness, he traveled in fishing boats and told parables of farmers and seeds, laborers and wages, yeast and bread.

On the night before he died, Jesus took bread 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 5

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.

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. Francis, St. Clare and all your saints to your commonwealth which is both now and yet to come.

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

AMEN

MASS OF CREATION

HAUGEN



THE LORD'S PRAYER

Presider	As the Wisdom before Creation teaches us, we pray.
People	<p>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.</p>

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Presider	Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People	Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

FRACTION ANTHEM

At 8:00am, spoken.

Presider This is the Living Bread, given for all creation.

People **All who eat this bread share in Christ's Body.**

At 10:30am, sung:

MASS OF CREATION

HAUGEN

Cantor:

 Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the

Assembly:

 world, have mer - cy on us.

Last time

 world, grant us peace.

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Our bread is gluten-, dairy-, and nut-friendly. This Eucharistic table does not belong to the Episcopal Church or to St. Francis'. This is God's table, and all are welcome. In the Episcopal Church, we receive both the bread and wine, the Body and Blood of Jesus. If you choose not to receive communion, please come forward and cross your arms over your heart to receive a blessing.

***COMMUNION HYMN** *At 10:30am, see the insert for Communion Hymn. After Hymn, return to this bulletin.*

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Presider Let us pray.

All 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 in 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.

BLESSING

Presider May the blessing of God: Creator, Redeemer and
Sustainer be with you now and for ever more.

People Amen.

***SENDING HYMN** *At 10:30am, see the insert for Sending Hymn. After Hymn, return to this bulletin.*

DISMISSAL

Deacon Let us go forth into all Creation,
rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People Thanks be to God.

Please leave this service booklet for use in upcoming weeks.