

**The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
St. Andrew's Church
September 20, 2026**



*St. Andrew's Episcopal Church is called to love God and to love one another
through worship, fellowship, education, and outreach; and looks for opportunities
to collaborate and serve throughout our community and the world.*

All stand.

Opening Hymn LEVAS #70

I want Jesus to walk with me

1. I want Je - sus _____ to walk with me (walk with me); I want
2. In my tri - als, _____ Lord, walk with me (walk with me); In my
3. In my sor - rows, _____ Lord, walk with me (walk with me); In my

1. Je - sus _____ to walk _____ with me (walk with me); All a -
2. tri - als, _____ Lord, walk _____ with me (walk with me); When the
3. sor - rows, _____ Lord, walk _____ with me (walk with me); When my

1. long my _____ pil - grim jour - ney, _____ Lord, I want
2. shades of _____ life _____ are fall - ing, _____ Lord, I want
3. heart with - in _____ is ach - ing, _____ Lord, I want

1. Je - sus _____ to walk with me (walk with me).
2. Je - sus _____ to walk with me (walk with me).
3. Je - sus _____ to walk with me (walk with me).

Words: Traditional. Music: Negro Spiritual; arr. Carl Haywood (b. 1949), from *The Haywood Collection of Negro Spirituals*.
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Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Creator, Redeemer, and Giver of Life.

All: And blessed be God's reign, now and forever. Amen.

Song of Praise Hymn #400 *All creatures of our God and King* *This week we will sing verse 2 only*



- 1 All crea - tures of our God and King, lift up your voic - es, let us
 *2 Great rush - ing winds and breez - es soft, you clouds that ride the heavens a -
 *3 Swift flow - ing wa - ter, pure and clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to
 4 Dear mo - ther earth, you day by day un - fold your bless - ings on our
 5 All you with mer - cy in your heart, for - giv - ing o - thers, take your
 *6 And ev - en you, most gen - tle death, wait - ing to hush our fi - nal
 7 Let all things their cre - a - tor bless, and wor - ship him in hum - ble -



- 1 sing: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Bright burn - ing
 2 loft, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Fair ris - ing
 3 hear, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Fire, so in -
 4 way, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! All flowers and
 5 part, O — sing now: Al - le - lu - ia! All you that
 6 breath, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! You lead back
 7 ness, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God the



- 1 sun with gold - en beams, pale sil - ver moon that gen - tly gleams,
 2 morn, with praise re - joice, stars night - ly shin - ing, find a voice,
 3 tense and fierce - ly bright, you give to us both warmth and light,
 4 fruits that in you grow, let them his glo - ry al - so show:
 5 pain and sor - row bear, praise God, and cast on him your care:
 6 home the child of God, for Christ our Lord that way has trod:
 7 Fa - ther, praise the Son, and praise the Spi - rit, Three in One:



The refrain may be sung antiphonally, by phrase; all join in the final Alleluia.

Words: St. Francis of Assisi (1182-1226); tr. William H. Draper (1855-1933), alt. Music: *Lasst uns erfreuen*, melody from *Auserlesene Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng*, 123; adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). By permission of Oxford University Press.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: **Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Please be seated.

Today we are celebrating the five themes of creation season – land, air, water, plants, animals – using the first creation story in Genesis, with activities for children of all ages interspersed instead of a separate sermon.

LEM

First Reading from the Book of Genesis

Genesis 1:1-8

¹ When God began to create the heavens and the earth, ² the earth was complete chaos, and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.

³ Then God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. ⁴ And God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

⁶ And God said, “Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” ⁷ So 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. ⁸ God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

Pause

LEM

Second Reading from the Book of Genesis

Genesis 1:9-10

⁹ And God said, “Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. ¹⁰ God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

Pause

Lector

Third Reading from the Book of Genesis

Genesis 1:11-19

¹¹ Then 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. ¹² The 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. ¹³ And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

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

Pause

Lector

Fourth Reading from the Book of Genesis

Genesis 1:20-25

²⁰ And God said, “Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.” ²¹ So 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. ²² God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” ²³ And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

²⁴ And 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. ²⁵ God 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.

Pause

Lector

Fifth Reading from the Book of Genesis

Genesis 1:26-27

²⁶ Then God said, “Let us make humans 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.”

27 So God created humans in their image,
in the image of God he created them;
of all genders she created them.

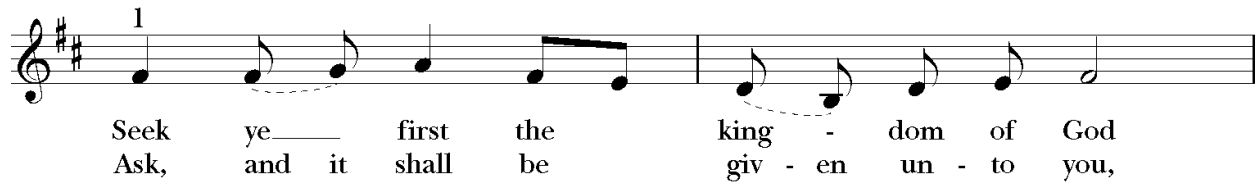
Pause

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
All: Thanks be to God.

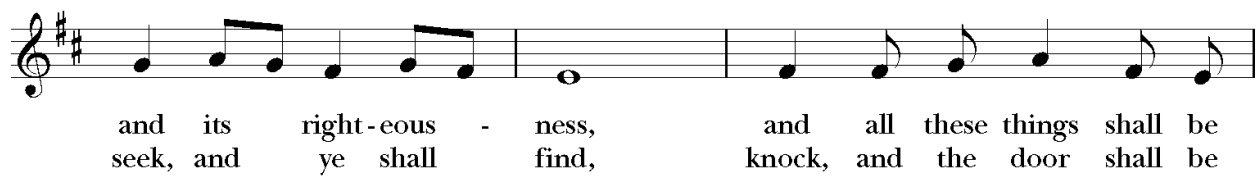
Gradual Hymn #711

Seek Ye First (sing twice)

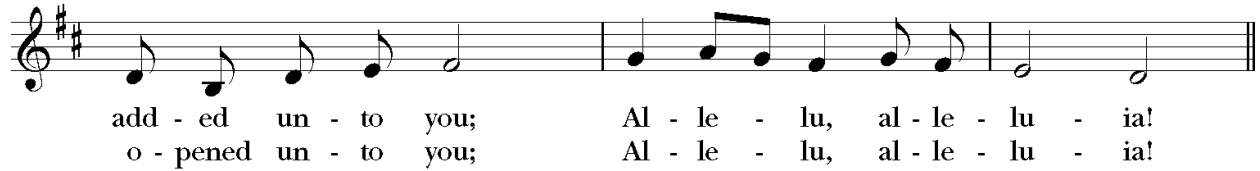
1



Seek ye first the king - dom of God
Ask, and it shall be giv - en un - to you,



and its right - eous - ness, and all these things shall be
seek, and ye shall find, knock, and the door shall be



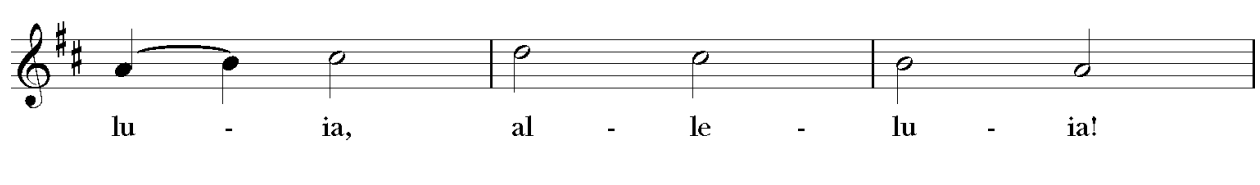
add - ed un - to you; Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!
o - pened un - to you; Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

Refrain

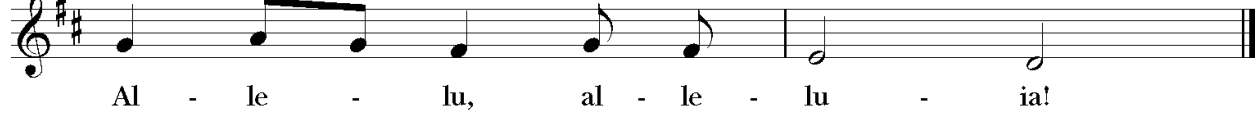
2



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 6:25-29, 33

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

All: **Glory to you, O Christ.**

²⁵ “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁸ And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹ yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Celebrant: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Profession of Faith

(South Indian)

Please stand and face the cross.

**We believe in God, who creates all things,
who embraces all things, who celebrates all things,
who is present in every part of the fabric of creation.**

**We believe in God as the source of all life,
who baptizes this planet with living water.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ, the suffering one, the poor one,
the malnourished one, the climate refugee,
who loves and cares for this world
and who suffers with it.**

**And we believe in Jesus Christ, the seed of life,
who came to reconcile and renew this world
and everything in it.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God,
who moves with God
and who moves among and with us today.**

**We believe in everlasting life in God.
And we believe in the hope that one day
God will put an end to death and all destructive forces.**

The Prayers of the People

Remain standing. The people are encouraged to add their own petitions.

LEM: Eternal God: We thank you for the beauty of the World: for the teeming life of the seas, the flight of birds, and the diversity of animal life. Grant us grace to treat Creation with respect and care; to protect endangered species, to preserve the variety of habitats, and to honor the delicate balance of nature.

All: **God of life, hear our prayer.**

LEM: We thank you for the wealth of blessings from land and sea; for the power of wind, and the warmth of sun. We pray for the nations of the earth, give us the will to cherish this planet and to use its resources sustainably for the welfare of all.

All: **God of justice, hear our prayer.**

LEM: We pray for this nation; for the President of the United States, the Governor of New York, and all in authority. Grant them wisdom and strength to know and to do your will, and fill them with the love of truth and righteousness. Guide the people of the United States in the election of officials and representatives; that, by faithful administration and wise laws, the rights of all may be protected and our nation be enabled to fulfill your purposes.

All: **God of wisdom, hear our prayer.**

LEM: We pray for the faithful witness of the Church, called to reconcile and heal: For this parish and our vestry as we move through a process of transition. For Allison our Priest-in-Charge, for Matt and Allen our Bishops, for the diocesan ministry team, for Sean our Presiding Bishop and for Sarah Mullally, Archbishop of Canterbury.

All: **God of grace, hear our prayer.**

LEM: We pray for all Jews as the Jewish people celebrate their High Holy Days, Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur

All: **God of grace, hear our prayer.**

LEM: We pray for the human family. As every human being is known and loved by you, may we care for one another with love and respect. We pray especially for those commended to our care: ***Charles, Edna, Sheila, DuSean, Lisa, Mary, Gabriel, Joan, Gwenn, Nancy, Patricia, Ola, Joe, Janet, Charles, Martha, Elizabeth, James, Linda, Charlene, Christine, Jen, Jacob, Gisela, Miles, Rodger, Jennifer, Ann, Laura, Liz and her family, all facing exclusion or harm,*** and those we now name. *[Pause]*. God of compassion,

***All:* hear our prayer.**

LEM: We pray for those celebrating birthdays or anniversaries, especially those we now name. *[Pause]*. God of delight,

***All:* hear our prayer.**

LEM: We pray for those who have died, *especially Liz Gurdin's mother, Elizabeth Newton Packer, Annie Dillard, Peter Max,* and those we now name. *[Pause]* and for all who mourn.

***All:* God of peace: hear our prayer.**

LEM: Creating God, your name is written in every leaf, every bird, every river, every stone, every living being. Thank you for calling us by name. Thank you for your continued creating power in water, rivers, forests and oceans. Make us attentive to the wounds of the earth and willing to work for the healing of all creation, that our children may enjoy its abundance, and a long life on your beloved earth. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Celebrant: Let us pray for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence

***All:* God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. 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. **Amen.**

The Peace

Remain standing.

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

All: **And also with you.**

The Holy Communion

The Offertory Sentence

Celebrant: All that we are and all that we have are yours, O God, and you are all this. We offer ourselves to you for your glory and the well-being of all creation.

Offertory Hymn LEVAS #201

I've got peace like a river

1. I've got peace like a riv - er, I've got peace like a
2. I've got joy like a foun - tain, I've got joy like a
3. I've got love like an o - cean, I've got love like an

1. riv - er, I've got peace like a riv - er in my
2. foun - tain, I've got joy like a foun - tain in my
3. o - cean, I've got love like an o - cean in my

1. soul; _____ I've got riv - er in my soul. _____
2. soul; _____ I've got foun - tain in my soul. _____
3. soul; _____ I've got o - cean in my soul. _____

Words: Traditional. Music: Negro Spiritual.

Eucharistic Prayer with Creation II

Celebrant: May God be with you.

All: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God.

***All:* It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

***Celebrant:* It is right in all times and in all places to thank and praise you Creator of all. We praise you here between the Shawangunk Ridge and the Hudson River, Great Lakes to the Atlantic Ocean. We praise you at a time when the body of earth is broken again and again.**

***All:* 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.

***Celebrant:* Together with angels and ancestors, bluebirds and beavers, roses and sugar maples, we join our voices with all creation in this ancient honor song:**

Sanctus *LEVAS #256*

Holy, holy, holy

(piano) *Leader* Ho - ly,

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

pow'r— and 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. —

Music: Betty Carr Pulkingham (b. 1928), *Freedom Mass*. Based on traditional African melodies. Copyright © 1989 Celebration, Aliquippa, PA 15001. All Rights Reserved. International Copyright Secured. Used by permission.

Celebrant: 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.

All: **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.**

Celebrant: Bring us with St Andrew 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.

Celebrant: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

Lord's Prayer

**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 for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant: Alleluia. Creator God, you fed us from the beginning.

All: **You invite all to the Supper of Creation. Alleluia!**

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the people of God.

All: **May we who share these gifts be found in Christ and Christ in us.**

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: **Loving God,
we give you thanks
for restoring us in your image
and nourishing us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.**

**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 is 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.**

The Blessing

Celebrant: May God who established the dance of creation,
Who marveled at the lilies of the field,
Who transforms chaos to order,
Lead us to transform our lives and the Church
To listen to the voice of all creatures
That reflect God's glory in creation. **Amen.**

Announcements

Closing Hymn #685

Rock of Ages

1 Rock of a - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee;
2 Should my tears for ev - er flow, should my zeal no lan - guor know,
3 While I draw this fleet-ing breath, when mine eye - lids close in death,

let the wa - ter and the blood from thy wound - ed side that flowed,
all for sin could not a - tone: thou must save, and thou a - lone;
when I rise to worlds un - known and be - hold thee on thy throne,

be of sin the dou - ble cure, cleanse me from its guilt and power.
in my hand no price I bring, sim - ply to thy cross I cling.
Rock of a - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

Words: Augustus Montague Toplady (1740-1778), alt. Music: *Toplady*, Thomas Hastings (1784-1872).

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Tend the earth,
care for God's good Creation;
as you have received freely,
so give freely.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

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LAY MINISTER SCHEDULE FOR TODAY

Celebrant:	Rev. Allison Moore
LEM:	Valerie McAllister
Acolyte:	Abby Brown
Lector:	Julie Mazur
Usher:	Jane Conger
Altar Guild:	Susan Piowaty
Organist:	Janet Frommer
Coffee Hour:	Henry Weber
Live Stream Tech:	Charlie Burgner

Sources of Worship:

Episcopal Church Creation Care Website

https://newcreationliturgies.org/seasonofcreation/#_idTextAnchor019

St. Stephen's, Pittsfield, MA <https://www.ststephenspittsfield.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/Creation-Season-Booklet-2025.pdf>

Book of Common Prayer

By action of the State Legislature, the bluebird, beaver, brook trout, sugar maple, rose, nine spotted lady beetle, bay scallop, eurypterid, and garnet officially represent the state's birds, mammals, fish, insects, mollusks, trees, wildflowers, fossils, and minerals.