

**The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
St. Andrew's Church
September 13, 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 #516

Come down, O Love divine

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system. The score includes various musical notations such as treble and bass clefs, key signatures, time signatures, and various note values and rests.

1 Come down, O Love di - vine, seek thou this soul of mine,
2 O let it free - ly burn, till earth - ly pas - sions turn
3 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,

and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;
to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;
shall far out - pass the power of hu - man tell - ing;

O Com - fort - er, draw near, with - in my heart ap - pear,
and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,
for none can guess its grace, till Love cre - ate a place

and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
where - in the Ho - ly Spi - rit makes a dwell - ing.

Words: Bianco da Siena (d. 1434?); tr. Richard Frederick Littledale (1833-1890), alt. Music: *Down Ampney*, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). By permission of Oxford University Press.

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 This week we will sing verse 1 only

All creatures of our God and King



- 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:



O praise him, O praise him, Al - le - lu - ia,



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

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: **O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

Please be seated.

LEM

A Reading from the Book of Exodus

Exodus 14:19-31

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

LECTOR

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 114

read responsively, by half verse.

1 Hallelujah!

When Israel came out of Egypt, *

the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,

2 Judah became God's sanctuary *

and Israel his dominion.

3 The sea beheld it and fled; *

Jordan turned and went back.

4 The mountains skipped like rams, *

and the little hills like young sheep.

5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? *

O Jordan, that you turned back?

6 You mountains, that you skipped like rams? *

you little hills like young sheep?

7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, *

at the presence of the God of Jacob,

8 Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water *

and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

LECTOR

A Reading the Letter of Paul to the Romans

Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

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

Gradual Hymn *WLP #825*

Bless the Lord my soul

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of two systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first system ends with a repeat sign, and the second system also ends with a repeat sign.

Bless the Lord my soul and bless God's ho - ly name.

Bless the Lord my soul, Who leads me in - to life.

Words: Psalm 103. Music: Jacques Berthier (1923-1994).

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 18:21-35

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

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

Peter came and said to Jesus, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

Celebrant: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

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, 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 *Sandy on her birthday*; and those we now name. *[Pause]*. God of delight,

All: **hear our prayer.**

LEM: We pray for those who have died, especially 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 #397

Now thank we all our God

1 Now thank we all our God, with heart, and hands, and voices,
 2 O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us!
 3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,
 who wondrous things hath done, in whom his world rejoices;
 With ever-joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
 the Son, and him who reigns with them in highest heaven,
 who from our mother's arms hath blessed us on our way
 and keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed,
 eternal, Tri-une God, whom earth and heaven adore;
 with countless gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.
 and free us from all ills in this world and the next.
 for thus it was, is now, and shall be, ever-more.

Words: Martin Rinkart (1586-1649); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt. Music: *Nun danket alle Gott*, melody Johann Crüger (1598-1662); harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), after Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1947).

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.**

Communion Music

Zion's Walls

Adapted by Aaron Copland

Musicians: Janet Frommer, Dean Armstrong

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 #411

O bless the Lord

1 O bless the Lord, my soul! His grace to thee pro - claim!
2 O bless the Lord, my soul! His mer - cies bear in mind!
3 He will not al - ways chide; he will with pa - tience wait;
4 He par - dons all thy sins, pro - longs thy fee - ble breath;
5 He clothes thee with his love, up - holds thee with his truth;

1 And all that is with - in me join to bless his ho - ly Name!
2 For - get not all his ben - e - fits! The Lord to thee is kind.
3 his wrath is ev - er slow to rise and rea - dy to a - bate.
4 he heal - eth thine in - fir - mi - ties and ran - soms thee from death.
5 and like the ea - gle he re - news the vi - gor of thy youth.

6 Then bless his holy Name,
whose grace hath made thee whole,
whose loving-kindness crowns thy days:
O bless the Lord, my soul!

Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854); para. of Psalm 103. Music: *St. Thomas (Williams)*, melody Aaron Williams (1731-1776); harm. Lowell Mason (1792-1872).

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.**

Postlude

Hungarian Dance No. 5

J. Brahms

Musicians: Janet Frommer, Dean Armstrong

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LAY MINISTER SCHEDULE FOR TODAY

Celebrant:	Rev. Allison Moore
LEM:	Brenda Hush
Lector:	Sally Vasse
Usher:	David Slingerland
Altar Guild:	Cathy Kelly
Organist:	Janet Frommer
Coffee Hour:	Charlene Wynkoop
Live Stream Tech:	Jane Conger

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.