

**Liturgy: 26th Weekend of Ordinary Time
September 25, 2021**

Many Christian faith traditions engage September as the Season of Creation in their liturgies. With that in mind, this liturgy is adapted from Seasons of Creation worship resources found at:

<https://seasonofcreation.com/worship-resources/liturgies/>

This week we engage Mountain Sunday.

Welcome:

Music is shared via One License #A709084.

Opening Song: #452, Sing to the Mountains

Text: Psalm 118, Bob Dufford. Tune: Bob Dufford acc. By Randall DeBruyn 1975 Robert J. Dufford and OCP

Refrain: Sing to the Mountains, Sing to the Sea

Raise your voices, lift your hearts.

This is the day the Lord has made.

Let all the earth rejoice.

V1: I will give thanks to you, my Lord
You have answered my plea
You have saved my soul from death.
You are my strength and my song.

Refrain

V2 Holy, holy, holy Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory

Refrain

Jane: Let us begin as one expression of God's people,+ in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Jane: May the Love of God, the hospitality of our brother Jesus, and the communion and friendship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **P: And also**

with you. (Adlib.....Season of Liturgy.....)

With all of this on our hearts, let us turn to our God who is always with us:

God, You are the one who imagined and created the mountains, Lord have mercy. **(Lord have mercy)**

Jesus, You were crucified and died on a mountain, Christ have mercy **(Christ have mercy)**

Spirit, many times you reveal Yourself and Your love on the mountain Lord have mercy **(Lord have mercy)**

May our loving God shower us with grace, be forever present to us, forgive our sins, and bring us all to everlasting joy and life.

P: Amen.

Spoken Gloria: (from the Book of Daniel):

Glory and praise forever! (bells/tambourines?)

Blessed are you, O God,

Praiseworthy and exalted forever;

And blessed is your holy and glorious name

For all ages.

Glory and praise forever! (bells/tambourines?)

Blessed are you on the throne of your kin(g)dom,

Glory and praise forever! (bells/tambourines?)

Blessed are you who look into the depths.

Glory and praise forever! (bells/tambourines?)

Jane: Let us pray....

God, our Creator, we invite the mountains to worship with us. We invite the wilderness to join us in wonder. We join with the mountain creatures, the

soaring eagles, the jumping trout, and all that creep and slither in celebrating our God. We call to the depths of the mountains where things churn and transform, the lava, the gems, the source of mountain springs. We enter the mountain of God this day, the holy sanctuary and sacred spaces of our planet. We rest in God. We celebrate God. We listen for the Word of God in whispers. In the name of the Incarnation, our brother Jesus the Christ we pray: Amen.

First Reading – Kathy

Our First Reading is from the John O'Donahue. It is called "For Peace."

As the fever of day calms towards twilight
May all that is strained in us come to ease.

We pray for all who suffered violence today,
May an unexpected serenity surprise them.

For those who risk their lives each day for peace,
May their hearts glimpse providence at the heart of history.

That those who make riches from violence and war
Might hear in their dreams the cries of the lost.

That we might see through our fear of each other
A new vision to heal our fatal attraction to aggression.

That those who enjoy the privilege of peace
Might not forget their tormented brothers and sisters.

That the wolf might lie down with the lamb,
That our swords be beaten into ploughshares

And no hurt or harm be done
Anywhere along the holy mountain.

This has been a Reading from John O'Donahue. **(Thanks be to God.)**

Psalm 19: Kathy

The response to the Psalm is: the precepts of God are good, and give joy to the heart.

ALL: the precepts of God are good, and give joy to the heart.

The law of God is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of God are sure, making wise the simple.

ALL: the precepts of God are good, and give joy to the heart.

The awe of God is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of God are true and righteous altogether.

ALL: the precepts of God are good, and give joy to the heart.

By them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward. But who can detect unmindful errors? Clear me from hidden faults. .

ALL: the precepts of God are good, and give joy to the heart.

Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgressions.

ALL: the precepts of God are good, and give joy to the heart. .

Gospel/Homily -

Jane: Alleluia. Alleluia. **(Alleluia. Alleluia.)**

Jane: May the Incarnation be with all. **(And also with you+.....)**

Jane: A Proclamation of the Holy Gospel according to Mark (Mark 9:38-43).
(Glory to you, O God.)

After Jesus had finished teaching the disciples, John said to him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not

following us.” But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.”

This has been a reading from the Gospel of Mark.

ALL: Praise to you, Lord, Jesus the Christ.

Homily: Jane

Prayers of the People – Rachel

Our response today is: Creator God, inspire us.

For all church leaders, that they may embrace the God’s Divine and work toward the flourishing of all humanity. We pray: **Creator God, inspire us.**

For anyone who may benefit from our prayer. We join our prayer with theirs, join our intention with God’s good intention. We pray: **Creator God, inspire us.**

For those who are sick, especially Bev Martinez-Custer. May they all know God’s presence and receive all that they need. We pray: **Creator God, inspire us.**

For those who have died, especially _____.
May they enjoy eternal joy with our God of the mountain. We pray: **Creator God, inspire us.**

Does anyone here have prayers to offer for us to share? (wait and respond as appropriate)

For these and for all the prayers we share through our hearts, we pray: **Creator God, inspire us.**

In addition, we want to remind you that at Light of Christ, we have a Prayer Companion Team of pastoral care givers. They welcome and invite you, in confidence, to share your concerns in more detail or depth or to pray for you when you can't find the words. You can email them at prayercompanionteam@lightofchristecc.org, and one of them will reach out to you.

(Jane will finish the prayers.)

Sign of Peace 4 times

(As Jane and Kathy move to the altar, they will put on their face masks again. They will remove the cloths over the unconsecrated hosts.)

Jane: Blessed are you, Loving God of all Creation, through your goodness we have these gifts to place on your tables. They represent our entire lives. May they become the Light of Christ in your world.

ALL: Blessed be God, forever.

Jane: Blessed are you, Loving God of all Creation, through your goodness we have this bread and this wine and other sacred food to place on your table. Work of earth and human hands. May it become our spiritual food and drink.

ALL: Blessed be God forever.

Jane: God, wash away my iniquity, cleanse me from my sin.

Jane: Pray, my sisters and brothers, my family, that these our gifts and lives may continue to be blessed by our loving God.

ALL: May God accept the sacrifice at our hands. For the praise and glory of God's name. For our good, and the good of all God's world.

Jane: The peace of our God be with you all.

ALL: And also with you.

Jane: Let us open our hearts.

ALL: We open them to God.

Jane: Let us give thanks to our Loving God.

ALL: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Jane: Blessed are you, O holy God, Breath and Life of the world. It is right to celebrate and give you thanks. Your Word is the origination for all things to be: for space, stars and stardust to appear; for Earth to emerge from the deep; for life to be born of earth and for humans to be born of Earth and the Spirit. You chose to be born among us, to become a part of the Earth, and as Incarnation to suffer, die, and be raised from death renewing all of creation with love. You have revealed yourself in the depths of the earth and on the mountain tops. Your presence is the Living Breath with us today, the Christ deep among us, filling the earth including the land, the sea, and the air and the grain and grapes that we share with You, God, this day. Therefore, with the ancient voices of the forest, the wisdom songs of the air, and the deep vibrato from the depths of the sea, we proclaim Your presence among us:

ALL: Holy, Holy, Holy One, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Holy One, Hosanna in the highest.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Jane: God Who Creates and Flutters,

You are most Holy. Send your Holy Spirit upon us, and what we do here, so touched by your Spirit, we may be signs of life and love to one another, and to the world. + Let also your Spirit come upon these gifts of bread and wine to make them holy so that they may become for us the Body and Blood of our brother, Jesus the Christ.

Today, we gather to remember that on the night before he died, Jesus ate with his followers and his friends. We recall how he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it, he broke it, and gave it to them saying - "**Take this all of you and eat it. This is my body which will be given up for you.**"
(bow)

That same night, Jesus also took the cup filled with wine, and after giving thanks, passed it to his disciples, saying, "**Take this all of you and drink from it. This is the cup of my blood. The blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and for all so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me.**" (bow)

Jane: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.....

ALL: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Jane:

Beloved God, Creator of all,
You have invited each of us here today,
And so we gather around these tables, knowing that all tables are your table, O God, and all food is sacrament.

We remember in prayer our chosen Shepherd, Bishops Francis and Denise, and our Bishop Kae.

God of Love, we trust that our beloved ancestors now live in the fullness of your eternal embrace.

You are here with us now, O God, for all things are now ready. You are at these Tables with all your kin and you share with all in need. You share the gift of healing for those in pain, the gift of forgiveness for those who are broken, the gift of assurance for those in doubt, and the gift of hope for those in tears. May we who share in these gifts and grace, share Christ with one another and with all our kin.

(Lift elements)

Jane: Together now, we say.....

ALL: Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours all loving God, forever and ever. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Jane: Let us join our hearts together with God, and pray as we hold the world in these words:

ALL: Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kin(g)dom 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 the kin(g)dom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

LAMB OF GOD!

ALL: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

Jane: This is the Living God, the Body and Blood of Christ. This is the one whose Love transforms the world. This is the one who transforms us. Blessed are we who are called to this meal.

ALL:

God, I am ready to receive you, because by your invitation, I am here.

We are invited to this table just as we are.

Wherever you are on this journey of life, you are welcome here, here in this place, here in this community, here at God's table.

Come, children of God, and be fed. Receive the grace of God.

Communion Song: #822, I Am the Bread of Life

Text: John 6, Suzanne Toolan, Tune: Bread of Life, Irregular with refrain, Suzanne Tollan, 1993 GIA

V1: I am the Bread of Life, you who come to me shall not hunger; And who believe in me shall not thirst; No one can come to me unless the Father beckons.

Refrain: And I will raise you up; And I will raise you up; And I will raise you up on the last day.

V2: The bread that I will give you is my flesh for the life of the world;
And if you eat of this bread, you shall live forever, you shall live
forever.

Refrain

V3: Unless you eat of the flesh of the Son of Man, and drink of his
blood, and drink of his blood, you shall not have within you.

Refrain

V4: I am the Resurrection, I am the life. If you believe in me, even
though you die, you shall forever.

Refrain

V5: Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who
has come into the world.

Refrain

Prayer after Communion:

Jane: Let us pray...

God, we thank you for inviting us to join you on the mountain. We pray that
through this meal we may become healing agents for the world. In the
name of Jesus our Brother we pray. **Amen**

Jane: The Love of God be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

Jane: Please open your hearts as together we ask for God's blessing.

May the Spirit of God blowing from the mountains fill you with the gall to be
a blessing in the world. God is present with and within you. Share the
good news boldly. We ask for this blessing now, in the name of the
Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Jane: We are the Light of Christ. Let us go forth as such into the streets, to love and serve God as we get to love and serve in God's world.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Closing Song: #481, Spirit Blowing Through Creation

Text and Tune: Marty Haugen, 1987 GIA

Spirit blowing through creation, Spirit burning in the skies
Let the hope of your salvation fill our eyes
God of splendor, God of glory,
You who light the stars above.
All the heavens tell the story of your love.

As you moved upon the waters, As you ride upon the wind
Move us all, you sons and daughter deep within;
As you shaped the hills and mountains,
Formed the land and filled the deep,
Let your hand renew and waken all who sleep

Spirit renewing the earth, renewing the hearts of all people;
Burn in the weary souls, blow through the silent lips,
come now awake us, Spirit of God