



A Celebration of Creation and Holy Eucharist Rite II

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 1, 2023

Welcome to this morning's worship!

Thank you for joining us today. If you are new to our service, please take a moment to fill out our visitor's card so we can get to know you. Please use this bulletin, the red Book of Common Prayer (BCP), and the blue Hymnal to follow along in worship. Nursery care is available down the stairs at the back of the church. Activity bags are available at the back of the church to keep little hearts and hands engaged.

Prelude

Opening Hymn *(Please stand as you are able.)*

All creatures of our God and King (vv. 1, 4, 5, & 7)

Hymnal 400

The Opening Acclamation

BCP p. 355

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People ***And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.***

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

Hymn of Praise

For the beauty of the earth (vv. 1–2, 6)

Hymnal 416

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Celebrant Let us pray.

Gracious and loving Father, who has filled the world with beauty: Open our eyes to behold your gracious hand in all your works; that, rejoicing in your whole creation, we may learn to serve you with gladness; for the sake of him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

The Children's Procession

Children in kindergarten through fifth grade are invited to a children's ministry time. They will process out of the church together and go to the bright yellow classroom hall for Godly Play (K–2nd grade), Kids of the Kingdom (3rd–5th grade), and Angel Choir (all K–5th grade children together). They will return to the sanctuary by the Eucharistic Prayer.

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine! (Sing 3 times.) Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine! (Sing 3 times.) Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

The Word of God

The Reading from the Hebrew Bible

Isaiah 41:17–20

When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue is parched with thirst, I the Lord will answer them, I the God of Israel will not forsake them. I will open rivers on the bare heights, and fountains in the midst of the valleys; I will make the wilderness a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water. I will put in the wilderness the cedar, the acacia, the myrtle, and the olive; I will set in the desert the cypress, the plane and the pine together, so that all may see and know, all may consider and understand, that the hand of the Lord has done this, the Holy One of Israel has created it.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

*People **Thanks be to God.***

The Psalm *(read responsively by whole verse)*

Psalm 104: 1, 10–19, 24

Bless the Lord, O my soul.

O Lord my God, you are very great.

You are clothed with honor and majesty,

***You make springs gush forth in the valleys;
they flow between the hills,***

*giving drink to every wild animal;
the wild asses quench their thirst.*

***By the streams the birds of the air have their habitation;
they sing among the branches.***

*From your lofty abode you water the mountains;
the earth is satisfied with the fruit of your work.*

***You cause the grass to grow for the cattle,
and plants for people to use,
to bring forth food from the earth,***

*and wine to gladden the human heart,
oil to make the face shine,
and bread to strengthen the human heart.*

***The trees of the Lord are watered abundantly,
the cedars of Lebanon that he planted.***

*In them the birds build their nests;
the stork has its home in the fir trees.*

***The high mountains are for the wild goats;
the rocks are a refuge for the coneys.***

*You have made the moon to mark the seasons;
the sun knows its time for setting.*

***O Lord, how manifold are your works!
In wisdom you have made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.***

Gradual Hymn

Sing praise to God who reigns above (vv. 1–2)

Hymnal 408

The Holy Gospel (standing)

Matthew 6:26–34

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People ***Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

“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? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People ***Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

Gradual Hymn

Sing praise to God who reigns above (v. 3)

Hymnal 408

The Sermon (seated)

The Rev. Ginny Bain Inman

The Prayers of the People: Honoring God in Creation *(standing or kneeling)*

Let us pray for the revealing of the reign of God in the world, now and always: Creator of earth, sea, and sky, kindle the fire of your Spirit within us that we may be bold to heal and defend the earth around us, and pour your blessing upon the people and organizations working everywhere for the good of the planet. God, Giver of life, *Hear our prayer.*

Lover of all you have made, we thank you for the wondrous diversity of your creatures, and we pray for their well-being. God, Giver of life, *Hear our prayer.*

Light and source of life, heal and redeem the wounds of your creation, and visit the places and people who suffer from our indifference, neglect, and greed. God, Giver of life, *Hear our prayer.*

Breath of life, receive our thanks for the beauty of our local habitat and all its inhabitants, and lend us the wisdom and will to conserve them. God, Giver of life, *Hear our prayer.*

Wise Creator whose works are full of mystery, give us wonder and appreciation for your creatures with whom we find ourselves in conflict. God, Giver of life, *Hear our prayer.*

Giver of all good gifts, awaken us daily to our dependence upon your generosity, and make us always thankful for the abundance of your blessings. God, Giver of life, *Hear our prayer.*

Comforter of all the earth, sustain the people of this congregation who desire or need your presence and help. God, Giver of life, *Hear our prayer.*

Rock and refuge of all your creatures, receive into everlasting mercy all those who have died. God, Giver of life, *Hear our prayer.*

The Celebrant continues

Eternal God, the light of all who know you, come and fill our hearts with your love. Help us speak when many keep silent, help us stand for what is right when many sit in indifference. Increase our faith and charity, until your kingdom comes and heaven and earth rejoice in everlasting glory; through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

The Confession and Absolution

BCP p. 360

The Peace

Announcements

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem

For the Beauty of the Earth

arr. John Rutter

*For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies—*

Refrain: Lord of all, to Thee we raise this, our joyful hymn of praise.

*For the beauty of each hour, of the day and of the night,
hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light — (Refrain)*

*For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild — (Refrain)*

*For each perfect gift of Thine, to our race so freely given,
graces human and divine, flow'rs of earth and buds of heav'n — (Refrain)*

At the Presentation

The Doxology

Hymnal 380, v. 3

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer C

BCP p. 369

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People ***We lift them to the Lord.***

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Celebrant God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

People ***Glory to you for ever and ever.***

Celebrant At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

People ***By your will they were created and have their being.***

Celebrant From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

People ***Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.***

Celebrant Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

People ***By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.***

Sanctus

Hymnal S-125

The Breaking of the Bread

We are offering Communion in both kinds. If you do not want to receive Communion but would like to come forward for a blessing, come to either side of the altar rail and place your arms across your chest in the form of an "X" or cross.

Communion Hymns

Morning has broken (sung by all)

Hymnal 8

Fairest Lord Jesus (sung by all)

Hymnal 383

Prayer of St. Francis (sung by choir)

Allen Pote

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let us sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is discord, union;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;

to be understood as to understand;

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Amen.

Postcommunion Prayer

BCP p. 365

Blessing

Compassion, creativity, and joy are ours through Jesus Christ. May the Holy Spirit move us to preserve and enhance life on Earth, giving clear witness to the life-giving purpose of our Creator.

Amen.

Closing Hymn

All things bright and beautiful

Hymnal 405

The Dismissal

Deacon Alleluia! Let us go forth spreading the love of Jesus.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

Postlude

Today's loose offering will be donated to Green for Greens (green4greens.org), a program that doubles the value of SNAP food benefits at the Corner Farmers Market.

Acolytes: Levi Haynes, Sam Inman, Nate Taylor. **Readers:** AmyRuth McGraw, Craig Taylor. **Chalicians:** Steven Loch, Ryan Waide. **Verger:** Debbie Dowd. **Ushers:** Lee Eanes, Joe Graves, Nancy Kimbrough, Roger Kimbrough, Sandy Shelton. **Greeter & Newcomer Host:** Jon Anderson. **Altar Guild Members:** Dottie Clark, Lisa Garrett, Margaret Horne, Johnetta Shablack, Cindy Shane, Barb Watkins.

The flowers at the altar today are given to the glory of God by the Martinelli family in loving memory of Robert Martinelli; and by Jankoba in honor of Amelia Menston-Sambola on their wedding anniversary October 5th.

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We Pray For

Prayer for Discernment and Election of Next Presiding Bishop

Almighty God, source of all wisdom and understanding: Look graciously on your church, and so guide the hearts and minds of those who will choose our next presiding bishop, that we may receive a faithful pastor who will care for all of your people, equip us for our ministries, and proclaim your word to us and to the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Nippon Sei Ko Kai (The Anglican Communion in Japan)

Jesuits and Franciscans brought Christianity to Japan in the mid-16th century, but Christianity was outlawed in 1587, and persecution led to "The Martyrs of Japan" (remembered on our Church calendar on February 6th). In 1640 all foreigners were expelled, and Japanese isolation continued for two centuries. In 1859 our Episcopal Church sent missionaries, and they were followed by those from England's Church Missionary Society and Society for the Propagation of the Gospel and from the Anglican Church of Canada. With greater freedom of religion, by 1906 there were 42 Japanese priests. Not surprisingly, World War II was a difficult time for the Nippon Sei Ko Kai. After the war, it worked to rebuild, and it became a self-supporting province of the Anglican Communion in 1972. As a trivia aside, Japan's presiding bishop gave the Archbishop of Canterbury a silk cope and mitre in 1948, in thanksgiving for continuing in Anglican fellowship, and the Archbishop wore it at the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. Margaret's, Waxhaw; Grace Church, Weldon

Those on our parish prayer list: Mary Stalter, Norma Bullock, Moira Ermentrout, Maria Wilmoth, Jimmie Olivey, Patrick and Margaret Miller, Ed Morea, Julie Dameron, Traci and Erik, Barbara Cernansky, Ella Janssen, Gabriel, Charles Claunch, Libby Eberhard, Gwen Snead, Ali Avery, Barbara Van Cleve, George Ellison, David Heflin, Jeff Cummer, Charles Kelshaw, David McGraw, Mark Martin, Maureen Morea, Carolyn Ritchie, Sadique Jaffer, Betty Atwell, Eva

Harris, Stu Jenks, Harold Johnson, Bob Emmaus, Judy Gecinger, Liz Wert, Wes Hood, Carol Phillips, Leslie Deaton, Sabrina Waide, Linda Fischer, Jean and Ed Phelps, Tom Walton, Mack Baker, Amber Morales, Lauren

Those serving in our military: Tom Stauffer, Paul Zeigler, Stephen Johnson, Benjamin Phillips, Kenneth Gearhart, Alex Reyes, Catharyn Nosek, Michael McNeil, Jordan Payne

The departed: Meghan Davis Carmichael

Those expecting: Anna Bengel and Joshua Greene, daughter and son-in-law of Tony Bengel; Catharine Kappauf and Clarke Hitch, daughter and son-in-law of Shelley and Charles Kappauf; Samantha and Martin Kappauf, daughter-in-law and son of Shelley and Charles Kappauf; Megan and Ryan Waide

Birthdays: Ali Avery, Carmen Bullock, Debbie Dowd, Dania Ermentrout, Jeremy Fowler, Sebastian Frye, Jack Garvey, Elisa Gearhart, Kayla Krantz, Cally Phillips

Anniversaries: Scott Hill and Tahe Zalal, Kelley and Sheila Root, Jankoba Sambola and Amelia Menston-Sambola

Today at St. Andrew's

Welcome to Celebration of Creation Sunday Worship

This morning's service includes a special liturgy and music in celebration of God's creation. During Children's Formation, our youngest children will celebrate with a visit from some special guests in the form of sweet, playful goats! K-5th grade friends will process out of the church as usual but will go out back to the playground rather than the classrooms. Nursery kids will also have playground time today so all our children will get in on the fun.

After worship, we invite all to stay for a special Celebration of Creation Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall—with goats in view on the playground.

Come to Our Blessing of the Animals this afternoon 3 p.m. on the Church Lawn

All people and pets are invited to the annual Blessing of the Animals. Join us on the church lawn today at 3 p.m. to share God's love with the pets that have loved us through life's ups and downs. Attire for pets: leash or carrier.

St. Andrew's Presence at Today's Pride Festival—Meet Downtown at 12:45 p.m.

If you'd like to show support for our LGBTQIA+ friends, family, and neighbors, please join us today as we visit Greensboro's Pride Festival. All are welcome to attend with us! We will meet at the West Washington St. / Greene St. Parking Deck at 12:45 p.m., and depart on foot at 1 p.m. for the festival, where we will walk together and hand out "beloved" stickers and other small tokens of love and affirmation. Youth will return to the parking deck by 2:15 p.m. to be picked up or depart with parents. This will allow time for all to go home and load up any pets for the Blessing of the Animals at 3 p.m.

Announcements

Diocesan Book Study Begins Tomorrow, October 2—Mondays, 12–1:15 p.m., on Zoom

Biased: Uncovering the Hidden Prejudice That Shapes What We See, Think, and Do

The Subcommittee on Race and Social Justice of the Chartered Committee for Lifelong Formation invites you to join in a five-week diocesan-wide book study of *Biased: Uncovering the Hidden Prejudice That Shapes What We See, Think, and Do*, by Jennifer L. Eberhardt. It is a study of implicit bias and its effects, and the author offers tools to help overcome it. The book study will include videos and small-group discussions. For more information, contact Jenny Beaumont, missionary for adult and lifelong learning. See this week's eNews for the registration link.

Affordable Housing is a Priority: Support Our Interfaith Efforts October 4 & 26

Please mark your calendar for two opportunities to care for our unhoused neighbors.

October 4 (6–7 p.m.): An Unhoused Educational Program in the Sukkah, at Temple Emanuel

(1129 Jefferson Rd.)—This joint presentation by Interfaith Affordable Housing Initiative and Temple Emanuel will feature Ms. Drennan Paylor, Guilford County Schools Coordinator of Homeless Services and Community Support. See registration link in September 21 eNews.

October 26 (8 a.m.–2 p.m.): Greensboro Housing Coalition's 2023 Housing Summit, at The

Terrace in the Greensboro Coliseum Complex (1921 West Gate City Blvd.)—The housing summit includes presentations and discussions about community-based housing development, preserving diverse affordable housing, and expanding housing options. Connect with local stakeholders, industry experts, policymakers, and community partners who share a passion for affordable housing. See registration link in September 21 eNews.

Contact Deacon Pam (deacon@standrewsgso.org) with questions about these events.

Reduce, Reuse, & Support Share the Love this Week

Our Market Bag Workshop is October 5–7, Beginning at 10 a.m. Daily

All are invited to a second workshop where we will make fabric, reusable bags to be sold at the Corner Market and Deck the Halls. Proceeds support the St. Andrew's Mission and Outreach programs. No sewing experience is necessary, and all materials and training are provided. We just need willing helpers! Please bring a lunch and supplies if you have them, and we'll sew away, starting at 10 a.m. each day! Email Lynda Sanecki (lsanecki894@gmail.com) with questions.

Monthly Breakfast Gathering at Green Valley Grill—Friday, October 6, 8:30 a.m.

All are invited to a monthly breakfast gathering this Friday at 8:30 a.m. at Green Valley Grill. RSVP to Charles Kelshaw (336-549-7652, drgandolf2003@yahoo.com). We have reserved a men's table and a women's table, and all are invited to gather for food and fellowship.

Missing Peace in Your Budget? Financial Peace University (FPU) Starts October 11

If you've ever felt like you just can't get in control of your money, you're not alone. You'd be surprised how many people you know are struggling just like you. According to one study, 40% of Americans say their financial situation has caused them to lose sleep in the past month. If that's you, FPU can help. Learn how you can pay off debt, save more money, and build wealth. We will meet in the Cloister on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m., starting October 11. Parishioner Nick Klett will host and can be reached at nick@nickklett.com with questions. You can sign up now at <https://www.fpu.com/43F12B!>

Sign Up for a CPR & First Aid One-Day Class at St. Andrew's—October 14 or November 11

We look forward to offering two sessions of one-day training in CPR and First Aid this fall. Join us for a refresher or first-time learning of these life-saving skills on your choice of October 14 or November 11. We will meet in the Parish Hall, 9 a.m.–5 p.m., and lunch will be provided. If you are interested contact Nick Klett at nick.klett@gmail.com or 336-508-6591.

Calling All Acolytes: Doughnuts & Training, October 15

If you are in the sixth grade or older, you are invited to serve as an acolyte worship leader. This is an important ministry in our church. Acolytes are usually scheduled once a month to help lead the liturgy. We will hold a fun and informative acolyte training and refresher on Sunday, October 15, after worship, from 11:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. There will be snacks (Krispy Kreme doughnuts!!). If you have questions or would like to participate in this ministry, but cannot attend the meeting, please contact Debbie Dowd at debbiedowd@mindspring.com.

RISE Against Hunger Meal Packing Event—Calling God's Faithful, November 5, after Worship

If you are between the ages of 6 and 106, YOU can assist in our first parish-wide "RISE Against Hunger" meal packing event on All Saints' Sunday. Our commitment for this event is to pack 10,000 dehydrated and nutritious meals to be shipped to our neighbors around the globe who are suffering from hunger. Recent cataclysmic events in Morocco and Libya as well as global food scarcity remind us of our mission to "feed the hungry and welcome the stranger." The Mission and Outreach Committee is excited to be able to fund this event, which is suitable for all who can sit or stand to participate. We need at least 50 volunteers to meet our goal of 10,000 meals packed in two hours. Please plan to attend individually or as a family to make an immediate difference for those in need. Sign up and learn more at <http://events.riseagainsthunger.org/SAEC>. Be sure to watch the video at <https://youtu.be/TI9LOljt1RU>. And email Doug Sanecki with any questions at dpsanecki@gmail.com.

Opportunities for Ministry, Connection, and Service

Sunday Worship Service Addition for 2024

We will be holding an 8:30 a.m. Sunday worship service on the third Sunday of each month during the program year, beginning in January of 2024. The liturgy will be Rite II from the *Book of Common Prayer*, and the service will be entirely spoken (no music). Look for more details to come.

Daughters of the King Requests Toiletry & Personal Care Items for Our Houseless Community

St. Andrew's Daughters of the King chapter is filling Christmas stockings with toiletries and personal care items for our houseless community. They have over 109 handmade stockings to fill and need your help. Please look for collection bins in the Parish Hall and fill them with travel-size toiletries and personal care items. You'll find a list of requested items in this week's eNews. **Our collection continues through October 29.**

Deck the Halls Runs on People Power

There are a wide variety of must-be-done tasks to produce a successful fundraiser. Whether you know just what you can contribute best, or you're prepared to do whatever needs doing, you can fill a need. Please send an email to deckthehalls@standrewsgso.org to sign up. As the date draws closer, there will be volunteers in green aprons circulating after the 10 a.m. service to accept volunteer sign-ups, as well as to take pre-orders. For more information about pre-orders, check Deck the Halls announcements in mid-October.

Coffee Hour Volunteers Needed—Sign up in the Parish Hall

As you're enjoying Coffee & Conversation on a Sunday morning, please visit the refreshments signup sheet. Open dates await a generous sponsor like you. All snacks are appreciated.

Are You Part of St. Mary's House History?

St. Mary's House on Walker Avenue is updating their historical records and needs your help. If you or anyone you know has ever spent time at St. Mary's House, please contact Ryan Waide at his St. Mary's email address, smh@stmaryshouse.org.

Supporting St. Andrew's

Your Generosity Matters

Thank you for your continued gifts that support St. Andrew's and our outreach in the community. To make a gift or continue your pledge, scan the QR code at right or visit abundant.co/standrewsepiscopalch/give. Checks may be mailed to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Bookkeeper, 2105 W. Market St., Greensboro, NC 27403.



Have an Announcement to Share? Send it in Friday!

Announcements for eNews and the Sunday bulletin can be emailed to Susan Frye, Parish Administrator, at parish@standrewsgso.org. Please submit news items by **Friday** the week before requested publication, with a subject line such as "Topic Announcement for Date(s)," and a draft announcement in the message body. Thank you!

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