

Celebrating St. Francis

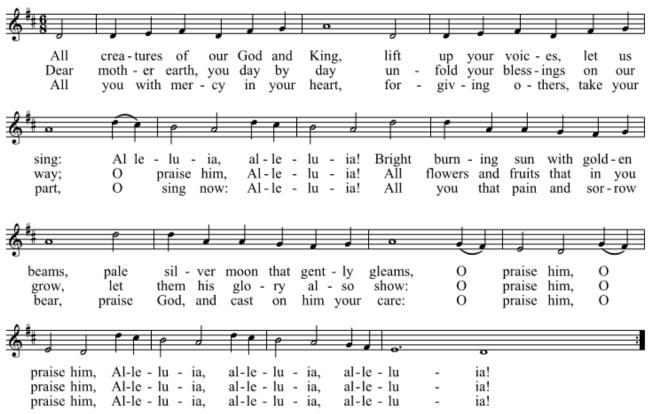
St. George's Church & Glenn Dale, Maryland The Episcopal Diocese of Washington October 3, 2021

Welcome to St. George's! We are glad to see you this morning, whether in person or virtually. Zoom participants are encouraged to leave your video camera on if they wish; at certain points during the service participants in the sanctuary will see the gallery view of those taking part in the service via Zoom.

Prelude: Duetto Buffo di due Gatti (Comic Duet for Two Cats) attributed to Gioachino Rossini (1792-1868)

Opening Hymn: Hymnal 1982 #400 All Creatures of Our God and King

Words: St. Francis of Assisi tr. William H. Draper. Music: *Last uns erfreuen* adapt. Ralph Vaughan Williams Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323

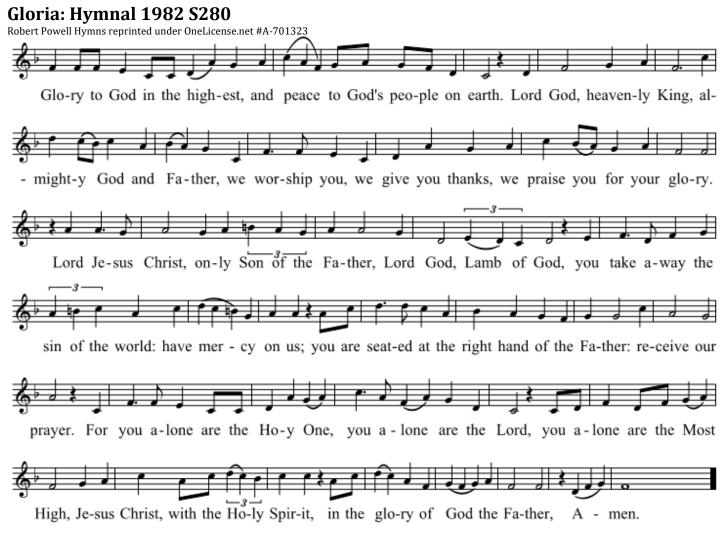


Opening Sentence:

Celebrant: Let every creature in heaven, on earth, in the sea and in the depths, give praise, glory, and honor.

People: Blessing to Christ who suffered so much for us and who gave us so many good things. (St. Francis, Letter to the Faithful)

All pray together: 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.



Celebrant: The Lord be with you. **People:** And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray together the Collect of the day: **May the power of your love, Lord Christ, fiery and sweet as honey, wean our hearts from all that is under heaven, so that we may die for love of your love, who were so good as to die for love of our love. Amen.**(The Absorbeat, a prayer attributed to St. Francis)

A Prayer for Racial Justice:

O God who calls us to love kindness and do justice: in the midst of violence and injustice in our country we pray that you grant us grace to fearlessly contend against the evils of racism, and that you give us strength and courage to stand against oppression with our words and with our deeds, through Jesus Christ our strength and our guide. Amen.

Excerpts from "The Admonitions of St. Francis"

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the dominion of heaven." There are many who are regular in saying their prayers and Offices and who discipline their bodies by fasts and austerities. But if a single word is uttered that offends them, or if they are deprived of anything, they are immediately provoked and offended. People of this sort are not poor in spirit, for those who are truly poor in spirit are not self-centered, and love those who slap them in the face.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God." True lovers of peace are those who in all their sufferings on earth, remain at peace in mind and body for love of Jesus Christ.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." The pure in heart are those who look from earthly things to heavenly things. They never cease to adore and see God, the living and true, with pure heart and soul.

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

Canticle of the Creatures by St. Francis of Assisi

To You, Most High, all praises be sung. Honor and glory, blessings are yours. Sing out God's praises, Brother Sun. You warm our days and give us your light.

Sing Sister Moon and shimmering stars. Precious and clear, you beam through the night, Sing God's praises, Brother Wind. Blow the clouds soft and serene.

Sing Sister Water, humble and pure. Sing Brother Fire, joyful and fierce. Sing out God's praises, Mother Earth. You give us fruit and flowers that delight.

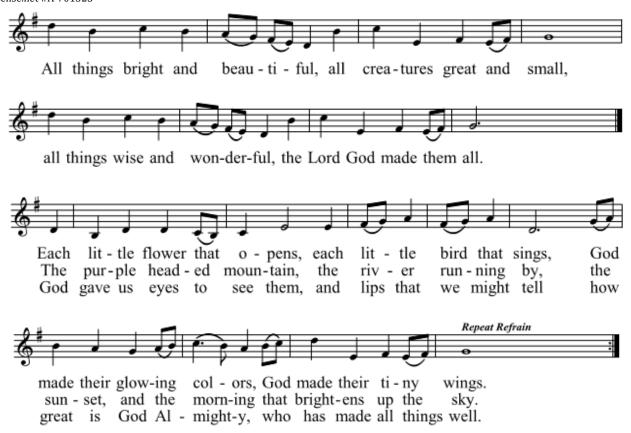
Be praised Most High by those who forgive. Love that bears all, so patient and kind. **Sing God's praises, Sister Peace. Tune our hearts for charity.**

Be praised Most High by those who endure hate and injustice, all for your sake. Sing out God's praises, Sister Death, in joy will we rest in heavenly light.

To You, Most High, all praises be sung! Honor and glory, blessings are yours. Sing out God's praises Little Ones. Serve with great humility.

Gospel Hymn: Hymnal 1982 # 405 All Things Bright and Beautiful v. 1,2 and 4

Words: Cecil Frances Alexander. Music: Royal Oak melody from The Dancing Master, adapted by Martrin Fallas Shaw. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according Luke. Glory to you, Lord Christ. Luke 12: 22-34

Jesus taught his disciples, saying, "Listen to me. Never let anxiety enter your hearts. Never worry about any of your needs, such as food or clothing. For your life is infinitely more than just the food you eat or the clothing you wear. Take the carefree birds as your example. Do you ever see them worry? They neither grow their own food nor put it in a storehouse for later. Yet God takes care of every one of them, feeding each of them out of the abundance of his love and goodness. Isn't your life more precious to God than a bird? Be carefree in the care of God!

"Does worry add anything to your life? Can it add one more year, or even one day? So if worrying adds nothing, but actually subtracts from your life, why would you worry about God's care of you?

"Think about the lilies. They grow and become beautiful, not because they work hard or strive to clothe themselves. Yet not even Solomon, wearing his kingly garments of splendor, could be compared to a field of lilies. If God can clothe the fields and meadows with grass and flowers, can he not clothe you as well, O struggling one with so many doubts? I repeat: Don't let worry enter your life. Live above the anxious cares about your personal needs. People everywhere seem to worry about making a living, but your heavenly Father knows your every need and will take care of you. As you passionately seek his kingdom, above all else, he will supply your needs. So don't ever be afraid, dearest friends! Your loving Father joyously gives you his kingdom with all its

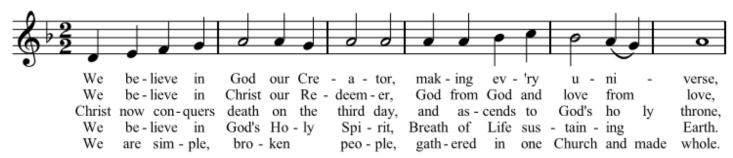
promises!

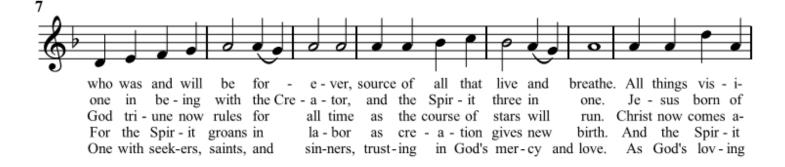
"Now, go and sell what you have and give to those in need; you will be making deposits in your account in heaven, an account that will never be taken from you. Your gifts will become a secure and unfailing treasure, deposited in heaven forever. Where you deposit your treasure, that is where you fix your thoughts—and your heart will long to be there also."The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

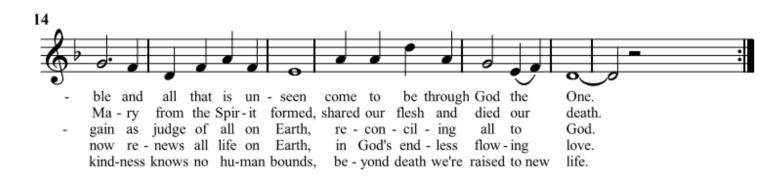
The Sermon: John Rebstock, TSSF

The Creed We Believe in God Our Creator

Words: Nicene Creed paraphrased by Terry Doyle TSSF. Music: 17th Century French Carol, *Piccardy*; Hymnal 1982 # 324 *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent* Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323







Prayers of the People

O God, Most High, we pray this day and sing your praises for all the good things that you have bestowed upon your creation. We pray for all of its creatures from the humblest to those who are rightly exalted. O God, Most High, **all praise and glory be to you!**

O God, we pray for our planet Earth. We praise you in thanksgiving for the sun and moon and stars, for water, wind and fire. We pray that we may be faithful stewards of your creation, and that we may use its resources wisely and justly to ensure the well-being and wholeness of all. O God, Most High, all praise and glory be to you!

O God, we pray that you inspire your Church here and throughout the world to serve with great humility. We pray for Michael our Presiding Bishop, Mariann our Bishop, Connie our rector, Anne-Marie, Sarah and Thelma as they offer pastoral support, and for the lay leadership and congregation of St. George's. O God, Most High, **all praise and glory be to you!**

O God, we pray for open hearts to serve those most in need. We pray for the children and families of Gaywood Elementary School, for the homeless guests of the Warm Nights program, and for all those in need, especially those who are poor and those who are hungry. O God, Most High, **all praise and glory be to you!**

O God, we pray for healing of body, mind, and soul as we live through the trials that confront us. Heal those for whom we pray: for those who are sick, and those who are in any need or trouble. We pray for those on our parish prayer list, and for those we name now in our hearts. O God, Most High, all praise and glory be to you!

O God. we pray for all who have died and for those whom we love but see no longer, and ask for your presence with those who mourn. O God, Most High, **all praise and glory be to you!**

O God, we thank you for all of the gifts of our lives. We pray that we may live always in gratitude to you and ever sing your praises. O God, Most High, all praise and glory be to you!

We offer our prayers to you, O God, in whom we live and move and have our being. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Announcements and Blessings for Birthdays & Anniversaries

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants *N*. as *they* begin another year. Grant that *they* may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *their* trust in your goodness all the days of *their* lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

The Offertory

The Celebrant says

Prepare to look upon the humility of God. Pour out your hearts before the Lord of the Universe. Humble yourselves that God might exalt you. Hold back nothing of yourselves for yourselves, that the Lord may receive your all who gave his all to you. (Exhortation of St. Francis, "Letter to the Whole Order")

Many thanks for your financial support of St. George's.. We encourage you to give electronically wherever possible. You can use your phone to text stgeodragon to 72356. Or just use your web browser to go to www.onrealm.org/StGeorgesChurch/Give. If your bank offers Zelle, you can use your banking app to send a donation via Zelle to donations@stgeo.comcastbiz.net. There are also baskets at the entrance and exit doors of the Sanctuary for donations of checks or cash.



The Great Thanksgiving

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.

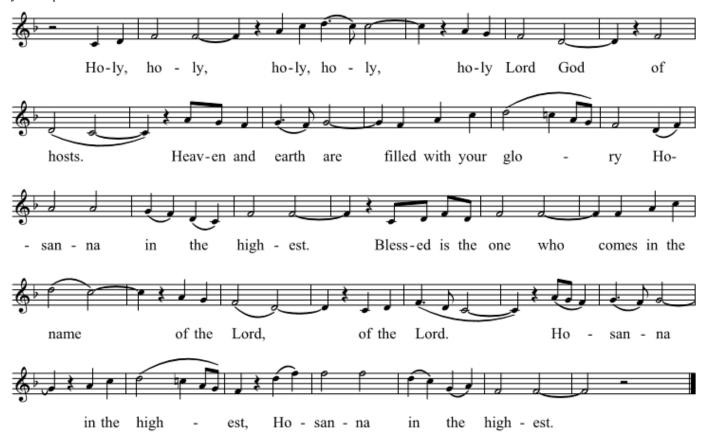
The Celebrant continues:

All Powerful, Most High, Supreme Good Lord, we praise you and thank you for bringing your light to the darkness of our lives. By your Word at creation you brought forth our brother sun and sister moon, and your loving gaze looked upon all that you had made to find it very good. But by sin the world was blinded; by sin we lost our way. Then through your Son you revealed the light of your love, that by his light we may see and become the light.

And now joining with saints and angels and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we break forth in song to sing your joyous praise:

Sanctus: Holy, Holy, Holy Levas # 255

Music: Grayson Warren Brown (b. 1948), A Mass for Soulful People © 1979 North American Liturgy Resources. Hymns reprinted under OneLicence.net #A-



You are worthy, O God, to be worshipped and praised by all that you have made. For you loved the world so much that you gave your only Son that all might find new life in him. By your Holy

Spirit, you anointed Jesus to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim freedom for prisoners and recovery of sight to the blind, and to release those who are oppressed.

Living among us Jesus revealed your glory, full of grace and truth. Yet the world rejected him, opposing his mission and witness.

And now we remember that on the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; when he had given thanks to you, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

We remember O God that in all humility, Christ accepted betrayal and death upon a cross for our redemption. Therefore, O Lord, you raised him from the dead and made the whole creation new. And so we praise you for your love and mercy revealed in Jesus Christ our crucified and risen Lord, and we offer all we have and all we are to you.

As we await the return of Christ in glory, we pray to you 0 God to let your Holy Spirit come upon this bread and wine and upon us, that we may be filled with your power and grace through this sacrament of the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ.

Unite us to your Son, our Lord, who brings us out of darkness into the wonderful light.

All this we ask through our Savior Jesus Christ, by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

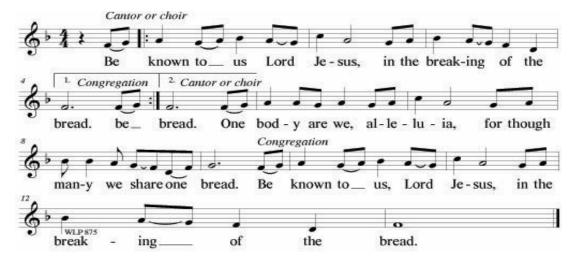
Celebrant: And now in the Spirit of Christ, we pray,
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
Forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The bread is broken and silence is kept, all sing the fraction anthem.

Fraction Anthem: Be Known to Us Wonder Love and Praise #875

Setting: Gary James. © 1992 Morningstar Music Publishers. Hymns reprinted under OneLicence.net #A-701323



Celebrant: Mindful that not all are present physically to receive the sacrament, we pray with those who receive spiritual Holy Communion this day:

Lord Jesus, in union with your faithful people, we offer to you our praise and thanks. Since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we pray that you come spiritually into our hearts. Strengthen us with your grace, O Lord, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ lived, died, and rose again for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Communion

If you would like to receive the Eucharist, you may choose to receive both the bread and wine or only one of them. If you receive the wine, please drop your empty cup into the recycling bin at the door. Note that hand sanitizer is available as you exit. Please follow the arrows to go through the narthex (hallway) and back into the Sanctuary and on to your seat.

Wherever you are on your journey, whatever you believe or don't believe, know that you are welcome at this table. For this is Christ's table, and all are welcome.



Communion Hymn 1: Gather #524 Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

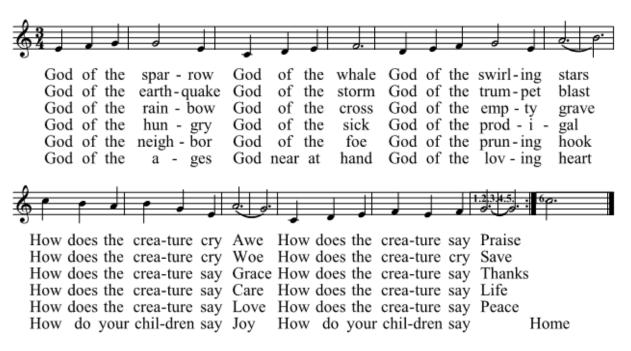
Words: Prayer of St. Francis; adapted by Sebastian Temple. Music: Sebastian Temple © 1967, 1975, 1980, Franciscan Communications. Accompaniment Diana Kodner, © 1993 GIA Publications, Inc. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323





Communion Hymn 2: New Century Hymnal #32 God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale

Words: Jaroslav Vajda. Music: Roeder Carl J. Schall Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray:

Most high and Supreme Eternal God,
Through the mystery of your presence you give us joy.
We thank you for giving us a taste of your heavenly kingdom,
In the Sacrament of the Body and Blood of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
And now, O Lord, make us instruments of your peace;
As we make our way in the world,
Help us sow your pardon, love and renewal.
Empower us by your Holy Spirit
To love mercy, to do justice,
And to walk humbly with our God,
Following the example of Francis,
Who with all your saints magnify your holy Name,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Blessing

Look for the face of the Lord Jesus in everyone you meet, And may everyone you meet see the face of the Lord Jesus in you. The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord show his face to you and have mercy upon you; The Lord turn his countenance toward you and give you peace. My sisters and brothers, the Lord bless you. **Amen.**

Dismissal Hymn: My Heart Sings Out #131 We Are a Part of All Creation

Words and Music: Marty Haugen © 1999 GIA Publications. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



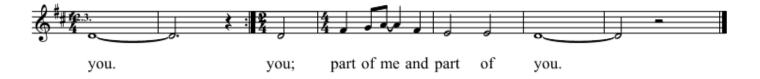
We are a part of all cre-a-tion, all of cre - a - tion sings in us, We are a part of ev - 'ry per-son all of the peo-ples sing in us, We are a part of God's cre-a-tion, God is the voice that sings in us, We are a part of all cre-a-tion, giv-en the breath of life to share all the glo-ry



sky and crea-tures, join in the dance of life and love.
on our path-way, one in the dance of life and love.
on our path-way, come be our dance of life and love.
of our Mak - er with ev-'ry per-son ev-'ry-where.



All of cre-a-tion sings to you; Ma-ny the voic-es one great mu-sic, part of me and part of



Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth into the world to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God and our neighbor. **People: Thanks be to God!**

Postlude: "L'Éléphant" (The Elephant) from Le carnaval des animaux (The Carnival of the Animals) by Camille Saint-Saëns (1835-1921), arr. Lucien Garban (1877-1959)