Season of Creation:
Rooted in God’s Living Soil
July 9, 2023
8:30am Worship

Central Lutheran Church
1857 Potter Street
Eugene Oregon
541-345-0395
www.welcometocentral.org
Welcome to Central!

Central Lutheran Church, a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Oregon Synod, is a Reconciling in Christ community: We affirm that Christ has made us one body with many members, all sharing in God's wondrous grace and unconditional love. We celebrate both the human variation and inclusive unity of God's family. Following Jesus' example, we embrace all of God's people regardless of ethnicity, physical and mental abilities, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or economic circumstance. With welcoming hearts, we invite you to join us in worship, fellowship, and ministry.

Our mission is to be the hands and feet of Jesus by loving God and one another, nurturing faithful living, serving those in need, and sharing the Gospel.

A special word of welcome to our guests today: Thank you for worshiping with us. If you are a first-time or occasional visitor and would like to be added to our mailing list, or if you’d like to hear from us, we invite you to fill out the visitor information card found in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. Also, if you wish to find out more about Central we invite you to visit our website welcometocentral.org.

Parents of young children: We welcome the sound of little ones in worship and so we encourage children and parents to worship together. However, if it is helpful to you, you are welcome to utilize the children’s space located adjacent to the Narthex (entrance) to the Sanctuary. Additionally, there are children’s bags and kid’s bulletins available in the Narthex.

Large print bulletins as well as hearing assistance receivers are also available from the ushers. Please note: if your personal hearing device has a T-Coil there are Hearing Loops in the Sanctuary and Parish Hall.
CALL TO WORSHIP

The Carillon

PRELUDE

Lord’s Prayer

Georg Böhm

WELCOME

OPENING LITANY

Come, worship the God of all creation.
We gather to praise the Creator, the continuous source of all living things.
Come, worship our God who breathes life into being.
We praise the Creator who fashions the forests, whose trees clean the air of this world.
Come, worship our God who forms life out of soil.
We praise the Creator whose land brings nourishment.
Come, worship our God who receives our lament in the wilderness.
We praise the Creator whose Son brings healing to all creation.
Come, worship our God who sends waters flowing with life.
We praise the Creator whose baptism unites us to be one in the Body of Christ with all creation.

REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM

In water we are joined to Christ and the entirety of the Trinity in the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives into the new creation with your forgiveness, grace, and love. Amen.
All creatures worship God most high! Sound every voice in earth and sky:

Sing, brother wind; with clouds and rain you grow the gifts of fruit and grain:

Sing, brother fire, so mirthful, strong; drive far the shadows, join the throng:

All who for love of God forgive, all who in pain or sorrow grieve:

All creatures, worship God most high! Sound every voice in earth and sky: Alleluia! Alleluia! Sing, brother sun, in splendor clear, make music for your Lord to hear: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

And you, most gentle sister death, waiting to hush our final breath: Alleluia! Alleluia! Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom, fair is the night that leads us home. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

O sisters, brothers, take your part, and worship God with humble heart: Alleluia! Alleluia! All creatures, bless the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Three in One: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
GREETING
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. And also with you.

KYRIE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.
CANTICLE OF PRAISE

This is the feast of victory for our God.

1 Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God.

2 Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation. Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God. for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.

alleluia, alleluia alleluia alleluia.
PRAYER OF THE DAY
Let us pray. God, you have created all things and called them good. We glimpse the power of your spirit in the wonders of your world and celebrate how, in your Son, you have reconciled all things to yourself. Show us how to be in relationship with your creation and with you, living out our faith in the care we show for all that you have made. In Jesus’s name, we pray. Amen. (please be seated)

ANTHEM Adoring Praises to the Creator Bring – Mozart Cantors

FIRST READING Genesis 1:1-2, 1:20-2:1
When God began to create the heavens and the earth, 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. 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.” 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. God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day. 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. 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. 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.” So God created humans in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the
fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.”  

29 God said, “See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food.  

30 And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the air and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so.  

31 God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.  

2 Thus the heavens and the earth were finished and all their multitude.  

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.  

PSALM 8:1–9 (Move after 1)  

1 **O** L**ORD** our Lord,  
how majestic is your name in all the earth!—  

2 you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children;  
you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.  

3 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,  

4 what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them,  
human beings that you should care for them?  

5 Yet you have made them little less than divine;  
with glory and honor or you crown them.  

6 You have made them rule over the works of your hands;  
you have put all things under their feet:  

7 all flocks and cattle,  
even the wild beasts of the field,  

8 the birds of the air, the fish of the sea,  
and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.  

9 **O** L**ORD** our Lord,  
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, And to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

SECOND READING  Colossians 1:15-20

15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, 16 for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. 17 He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. 18 He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. 19 For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, 20 and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

CANTORS: O Lord our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! Help us to be wise stewards of your creation.

GOSPEL READING  John 1:1-4

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. Jesus said, I tell you if the people were silent, the very stones would shout out.

SERMON  Pastor Ben Nickodemus
HYMN OF THE DAY #455 Crashing Water of Creation *(please stand)*

1 Crashing waters at creation, ordered by the Spirit's breath,
2 Parting water stood and trembled as the captives passed on through,
3 Cleansing water once at Jordan closed around the one fore-told,
4 Living water, never ending, quench the thirst and flood the soul.

first to witness day's beginning from the brightness of night's death.
washing off the chains of bondage—channel to a life made new.
opened to reveal the glory ever new and ever old.
Well-spring, source of life eternal, drench our dryness, make us whole.

APOSTLES’ CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our Christian faith using the words of the Apostles’ Creed.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen. *(please be seated)*
PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

PEACE
The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

OFFERING
*Please bring your offerings forward when you come for communion*

OFFERTORY *The Earth Adorned in Verdant Robe*, a Swedish hymn

Cantors

OFFERING RESPONSE

1. We give thee but thine own, what e'er the gift may be;
2. May we thy bounties thus as stewards true receive,

all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.

and gladly, as thou blessest us, to thee our first-fruits give.

OFFERING PRAYER *(please stand as you are able)*
Let us pray. God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.
GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.
EUCARISTIC PRAYER
O God triune, how majestic is your name in all the earth. Over the eons your merciful might evolved our home, a fragile tree of life. Here by your wisdom are both life and death, growth and decay, the nest and the hunt, sunshine and storm, darkness and light. Sustained by these wonders, we creatures of dust join in the ancient song: The earth is full of your glory. The earth is full of your glory.

O God triune, you took on our flesh in Jesus our healer. In Christ you bring life from death; we remember his cross, we laud his resurrection. Broken like bread, he enlivens our body. Outpoured like wine, he fills the earth with goodness. Receiving this mystery, we mortals sing our song: The earth is full of your glory. The earth is full of your glory.

We praise you for the heart of Jesus, so filled with your love for this earth. In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Gathered around this table, we your children unite in this song: The earth is full of your glory. The earth is full of your glory.

O God triune, you create the worlds, you uphold the living, you embrace the dead. Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth. Strengthen us for our journey with this meal, the body and blood of Christ. Give us a future that trusts in you and cares for your earth. Empowered by your promises, we rise from our deaths to praise you again: The earth is full of your glory. The earth is full of your glory. Amen, and amen. Amen, and amen.
LORD’S PRAYER
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; 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 thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen. (please be
seated)

LAMB OF GOD

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION (please stand as you are able)
The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep
you in his grace. Amen.

PRAYER
Let us pray. Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being.
With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life
together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus’
name. Amen.

BENEDICTION
The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed ❄️
bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age. Amen.
HYMN #1063 God of the Fertile Fields

1 God of the fertile fields, shaper of
   earth that yields our daily bread: forth from your
   bounteous hand come gifts your love has planned,

2 We would be stewards true, holding in
   trust from you all that you give: help us in
   love to share, teach us like you to care
   for people everywhere, that all may live.

3 As grows the hidden seed to fruit that
   serves our need, so your reign grows. Let all our
   toil be used, no gift of yours abused,
   no humble task refused your love bestowed.

4 God of the countryside, dear to the
   Christ who died to make us one: we pledge our
   lives anew in faithful love to you.
   Guide all we say and do. Your will be done.
DISMISSAL
Go in peace. Share the harvest. Thanks be to God.

We invite you to remain seated through the voluntary; however, if you choose to depart, we kindly ask you to do so in silence.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY Allegro from Concerto in D Major Antonio Vivaldi

arr. J. S. Bach

The liturgy is adapted from the Evangelical Lutheran Worship, © 2006, Augsburg Fortress, reprinted by permission through One License #A-706755 with special permission to live stream granted by Augsburg Fortress and One License. Mathis Canticles © Oxford University Press reprinted through One License.

Cantors: Alyse Jamieson and Daniel Au

Season of Creation

Sunday Worship Themes:
July 9 – We are creation
July 16 – We care for the earth, the earth cares for us
July 23 – Wildfires and Natural Disasters
July 30 – Resurrection and Renewal

Saturday Engagement Opportunities:
July 15 - Nature hike on Mt. Pisgah from 10am-12pm. Meet in the parking lot of the Mt. Pisgah Arboretum (one does have to pay for parking)
July 29 – Riverside litter clean up at 9am location TBA.
Central Lutheran Staff

Pastor Laurie A Jones
pastorlaurie@welcometocentral.org
mobile: 206-354-6756

Pastor Ben Nickodemus
pastorben@welcometocentral.org
mobile: 208-290-1165

Deacon Clare Josef-Maier
Christus House/Campus Ministry
cclare@begoodsoil.org

Dr. A. ElRay Stewart-Cook
Organist/Choirmaster
aesc@welcometocentral.org

Dr. Lindsey Henriksen Rodgers
Associate Organist/Children’s Music
lindsey.henriksen@gmail.com

Kristi Hoiland, Parish Administrator
info@welcometocentral.org

Cindy Culpepper, Financial Manager
cindy@welcometocentral.org

Crystal Miller, Minister to Children, Youth & Families for Central, United & Emmaus
crystal@unitedlutheran.org

Thomas Stine, Video & Tech Support

Church Council Members

Jean Clancey, President
clanceyhome@pacinfo.com

Debbie Knebel, Vice President
knebels@gmail.com

Jack Bennett, Secretary
jbennett@uoregon.edu

Charlotte Bontrager, Treasurer
charlotte.bontrager@gmail.com

Ron Fenchak
rfenchak@comcast.net

Terie Gillis
teriehansen@gmail.com

Matt Haugen
Matthewhaugen65@gmail.com

Howard Kallinen
hkallinen@msn.com

Jill Liedtke
jill.liedtke@gmail.com

Todd Shorack
shorax@gmail.com

Chuck Swenson
chucks@apioregon.com