

Third Sunday of the Season of Creation:
July 13, 2025
8:30am



Central Lutheran Church
1857 Potter Street
Eugene, Oregon
541-345-0395
www.connecttocentral.org

Welcome to Worship!

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, gender expression, economic circumstance, and we firmly commit to racial equity. With welcoming hearts, we invite you to join us in worship, education, fellowship, and service.

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.

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This Sunday we take time for Lament, a deep Biblical tradition which is healing and filled with the grace of God. It is not only a shout of distress alone, but it is a process of remembering the prior promises of God and describing the current suffering one is enduring. The tension of those two causes a cry of distress to God. However, that cry includes an implicit belief in God's deliverance as we believe God can do something about our present space. That belief bursts forth into praise for who God is. Today, we embrace that tradition thinking particularly of the challenges of the creation and recognizing the gifts that the creation and the Creator are for all of us.

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Carillon

PRELUDE

O Humans, Regret Your Sinful Ways

Bach

WELCOME

INTROIT Psalm 137:1-7



By the waters of Babylon we sat | down and wept,
when we remembered | you, O Zion.

**As for our harps, we | hung them up
on the trees in the midst | of that land.**

For those who led us away captive asked us for a song, and our oppressors |
called for mirth: “Sing us one of the | songs of Zion.”

How shall we sing | the Lord’s song upon an | alien soil?

If I forget you, | O Jerusalem, let my right hand for- | get its skill.

**Let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth if I do not re- | member you,
if I do not set Jerusalem above my | highest joy.**

Remember the day of Jerusalem, O Lord, against the peo- | ple of Edom,
who said, “Down with it! Down with it! Even | to the ground!”

**By the waters of Babylon we sat | down and wept,
when we remembered | you, O Zion.**

PRAYER OF LAMENT

Gracious God, by day and night we pour out our prayer to you. We are crying out for justice, yearning for what is right, longing for your peace. We feel what we have lost from fire, from flood, from drought, from wind, and from earthquake. Many have been affected and are in pain. Come quickly to help us, O God; save those who call upon your name. **Amen.**

We grieve the fires that have raged across the West destroying years of growth in our wildernesses and living spaces and your people cry: **How long, O Lord?**

We grieve the droughts that have scorched crops and your people cry: **How long, O Lord?**

We grieve the floods that have destroyed habitats, villages, towns and cities and your people cry: **How long, O Lord?**

We grieve the earthquakes and tsunamis that have devastated communities and your people cry: **How long, O Lord?**

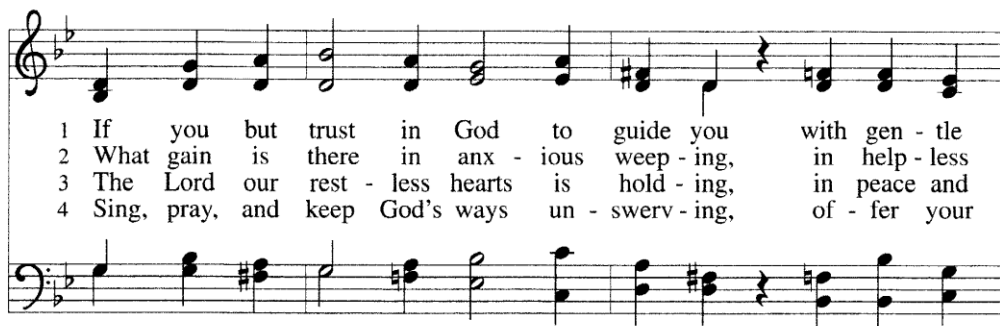
We see water sources declining and your people cry: **How long, O Lord?**

We see our already exhausted emergency and rescue workers overworked and your people cry: **How long, O Lord?**

We feel our own complicity in the destruction of your world, yet see the problems as so complex that we do not know how to address them and your people cry: **How long, O Lord?**

Loving God, inspire by your Holy Spirit those who are afraid of losing hope. Keep us working and praying for the day when your justice will roll down like waters, and your righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. Assure us of your resurrection life that springs forth from death. Replenish our strength and stir up our hope as we look for signs of your coming reign. And fill us with the peace that passes understanding—the deep peace of Jesus Christ our Savior, in whose holy name we pray. **Amen.**

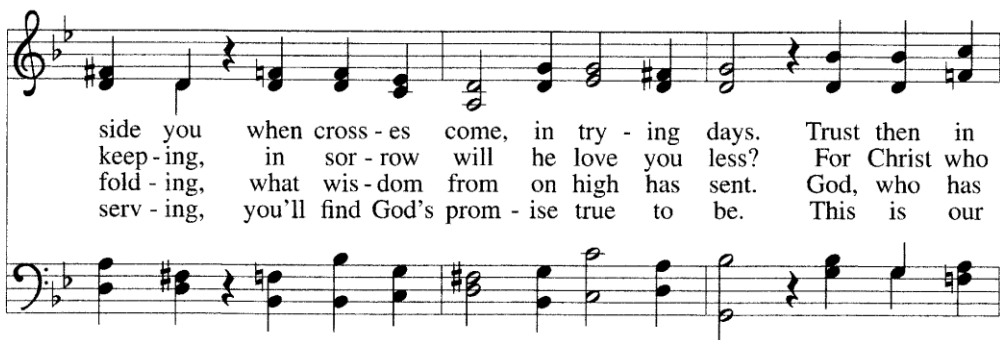
HYMN #769 If You but Trust in God to Guide You *(please stand)*



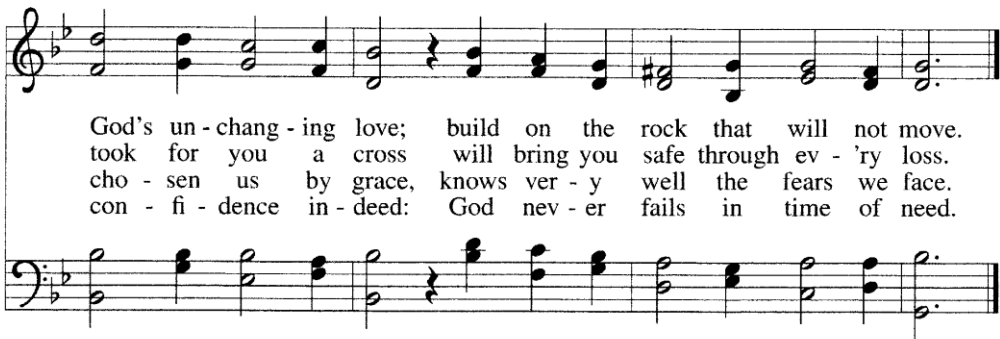
1 If you but trust in God to guide you with gen - tle
 2 What gain is there in anx - ious weep - ing, in help - less
 3 The Lord our rest - less hearts is hold - ing, in peace and
 4 Sing, pray, and keep God's ways un - swerv - ing, of - fer your



hand through all your ways, you'll find that God is there be -
 an - ger and dis - tress? If you are in your Sav - ior's
 qui - et - ness con - tent. We rest in God's good will un -
 ser - vice faith - ful - ly. Trust heav - en's word; though un - de -



side you when cross - es come, in try - ing days. Trust then in
 keep - ing, in sor - row will he love you less? For Christ who
 fold - ing, what wis - dom from on high has sent. God, who has
 serv - ing, you'll find God's prom - ise true to be. This is our



God's un - chang - ing love; build on the rock that will not move.
 took for you a cross will bring you safe through ev - 'ry loss.
 cho - sen us by grace, knows ver - y well the fears we face.
 con - fi - dence in - deed: God nev - er fails in time of need.

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

The musical score for the Kyrie is presented in three systems. Each system has two staves: the top staff is for the Cantor and the bottom staff is for the Assembly. The music is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy." The Cantor's part is a simple melody, and the Assembly's part is a response. The first system is for the Cantor and Assembly. The second system is for the Cantor and Assembly. The third system is for the Cantor and Assembly. The lyrics are: "Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy."

Cantor Assembly Plainsong

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Living God, **you call us to be in relationship with the earth and all that you have made. Hear us as we cry a lament for what has been lost in creation from destruction and neglect. Forgive us when, through our greed or indifference, we abuse the beauty of creation and damage its potential. Guide us to protect this precious world. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen. (please be seated)**

FIRST READING Lamentations 3:19-36

The thought of my affliction and my homelessness is wormwood and gall! My soul continually thinks of it and is bowed down within me. But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. "The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him." The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord. It is good for one to bear the yoke in youth, to sit alone in silence when the Lord has imposed

it, to put one’s mouth to the dust (there may yet be hope), to give one’s cheek to the smiter and be filled with insults. For the Lord will not reject forever. Although he causes grief, he will have compassion according to the abundance of his steadfast love; for he does not willingly afflict or grieve anyone. When all the prisoners of the land are crushed under foot, when justice is perverted in the presence of the Most High, when one’s case is subverted—does the Lord not see it? The Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM *Drop, Drop Slow Tears* – Richard Shepherd Cantors

During the Gospel Acclamation our children are invited to join Pastor Laurie in the chapel for a special message. We will return during the sharing of the peace.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(Cantors sing first, then congregation joins; please stand as you are able)

Christ be-fore me, Christ to the right of me, —

Christ be-hind me, Christ to the left of me, — Christ a - bove me, Christ be - low

me, Christ with - in me. —

Stephen Rodgers, June 2024

GOSPEL Mark 13:1-8, 23-31

The Gospel according to Mark, the 13th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

As Jesus came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, “Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!” Then Jesus asked him, “Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.” When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, “Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?” Then Jesus began to say to them, “Beware that no one leads you astray. Many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and they will lead many astray. When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. For nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs. But be alert; I have already told you everything. “But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. “Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels and gather the elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. “From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Ben Nickodemus

HYMN OF THE DAY #600 Out of the Depths I Cry to You *(please stand)*



- 1 Out of the depths I cry to you; O Lord God, hear me call - ing.
- 2 All things you send are full of grace; you crown our lives with fa - vor.
- 3 In you a - lone, O God, we hope, and not in our own mer - it.
- 4 My soul is wait - ing for you, Lord, as one who longs for morn - ing;



In - cline your ear to my dis - tress in spite of my re - bel - ling.
All our good works are done in vain with - out our Lord and Sav - ior.
We rest our fears in your good Word and trust your Ho - ly Spir - it.
no watch - er waits with great - er hope than I for your re - turn - ing.



Do not re - gard my sin - ful deeds. Send me the grace
We praise you for the gift of faith; you save us from
Your prom - ise keeps us strong and sure; we trust the cross,
I hope as Is - rael in the Lord, who sends re - demp -



my spir - it needs; with - out it I am noth - ing.
the grip of death; our lives are in your keep - ing.
your sig - na - ture, in - scribed up - on our tem - ples.
tion through the Word. Praise God for grace and mer - cy!

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our Christian faith in 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *(please be seated)*

PEACE

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

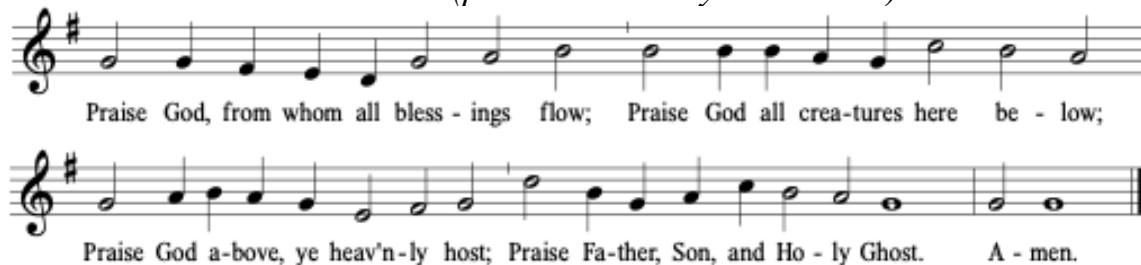
OUR LIFE TOGETHER

OFFERING

You may place your offering in the plate as you come forward for communion.

OFFERTORY *Be Thou My Vision* – arr. Richard Shepherd Cantors

OFFERTORY RESPONSE *(please stand as you are able)*



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise God all crea-tures here be - low;

Praise God a-bove, ye heav'n - ly host; Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Creator God, you are the giver of life to your whole creation. May the grace we receive through your creation sustain us beyond the limits of our present emotions. May they inspire and empower us to be the means of that same grace to all in the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also 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

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; through whom You created all things, who in his crucifixion and resurrection, bestowed on us new life as the new creation. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the hosts of heaven, and with the whole creation, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

The musical score for the Sanctus is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of four staves. The first staff begins with an organ introduction, indicated by the word 'Organ' below the staff. The lyrics 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,' are written below the first staff. The second staff continues the lyrics 'God of power and might, — heaven and earth are full — of your glo-ry.' The third staff begins with 'Hosan-na in the highest.' and includes another organ introduction. The lyrics 'Bless - ed is he who' are written below the third staff. The fourth staff continues the lyrics 'comes in the name of the Lord. Hosan-na in the high-est.' The score uses various musical notations including eighth notes, quarter notes, and chords, with some notes beamed together.

Organ

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, — heaven and earth are full — of your glo-ry.

Hosan-na in the highest. Organ

Bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Hosan-na in the high-est.

EUCCHARISTIC 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.

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.

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 our song:

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. 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)*

COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS & DISTRIBUTION

LAMB OF GOD



Organ Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy
on us. Je - sus, bear-er of our sins: have mer - cy
on us. Je - sus, Re-deem-er of the world: give us your peace.

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

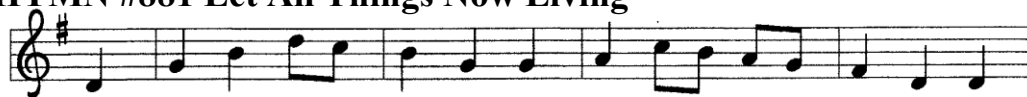
POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. We thank you, O God, that you have strengthened our hearts through this feast of life and salvation. Hold us in your love amid our feelings of grief as well as gratitude and send us out into the world hungering to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you, now and forever. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION *(please stand as you are able)*

God, the Source of glory; God, the Word of life; God, the Spirit of truth ✠ bless you, now and forever. **Amen.**

HYMN #881 Let All Things Now Living



1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to
2 God rules all the forc - es: the stars in their cours-es and



God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,
sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;



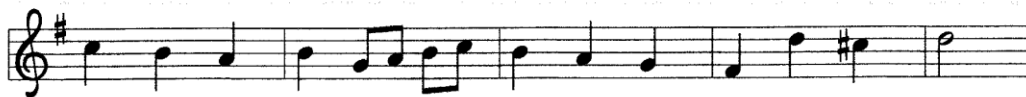
who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who
the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the



still guides us on to the end of our days.
deeps of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.



God's ban - ners are o'er us, God's light goes be -
We too should be voic - ing our love and re -



fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,
joic - ing; with glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise



till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is ban - ished, as
till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing: "To



for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.
God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"

DISMISSAL

Your Creation is a gift, O God. **And so, we give you thanks.**

Your Creation is groaning, O God. **And so, we grieve its pain.**

Your Creation sends us into the world, **to love and to serve one another.**

Depart in peace. God is with you and all of creation.

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 **Adagio & Allegro, KV 594** Mozart

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Cantors: Taylor Hulett & John Shields

Join Central, United, and Emmaus (CUE) for our “Season of Creation” midweek services on the lawn at Emmaus Lutheran each of the Wednesdays in July. These informal vesper services begin at 7:15pm. Chairs are provided.

Over the summer we will have limited office hours so it is best to call before dropping by. We will, however, be checking phone and email messages Tuesdays – Fridays and will respond as quickly as possible. For pastoral emergencies, you may contact Pastor Laurie (206-354-6756) or Pastor Ben (208-290-1165) directly.

Also, please let us know if you’d like to be added to our email list to receive Central’s Weekly Events and other timely information sent directly to your inbox.

