



Season of Creation Care: Mass on the Grass* @ Jeremy Henwood Memorial Park Sunday October 4, 2026

**Parts of this liturgy were taken from *Season of Creation: A Celebration Guide for Episcopal Services 2026*, approved for use in our diocese. While the wording of some prayers may be different from the expected, we invite you to pray with renewed attention by way of these creation care inspired prayers of the season.*

The in-person service is being streamed live and pictures may be taken during the service. If you don't wish to be seen on camera or to be photographed, please let your desires be known to our tech person & ask for appropriate seating.

If this is your first time worshipping at St. Mark's, we welcome you! Wherever you are on your journey of faith we are glad you are here, and we invite you to join us in all that we do.

Welcoming Prayer

Holy Spirit living within us, guide our hearts and minds as we welcome today all those who worship with us as part of the St. Mark's family. Give us discerning hearts so that everyone who worships with us feels welcomed in the spirit of your love. Help us to recognize each person as an individual sent by you who will enrich our lives. And most of all, O God, let this community be a place of love and acceptance of all your children; in the name of your child, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Gathering Hymn Morning Has Broken

1 Morning has broken like the first morning,
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them springing fresh from the Word!

2 Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,
Like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
Sprung in completeness where his feet pass.

Hymnal 8 Vs 1 and 3

3 Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning
 born of the one light Eden saw play!
 Praise with elation, praise every morning,
 God's recreation of the new day!

Presider This is the day the Creator has made.

People Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Presider 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.

Kyrie Eleison

MHSO 13

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri -
 Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Chri -

A7 Dm G7 C
 e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son!
 ste e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son!
 repeat Kyrie

Words: from The Book of Common Prayer (1979) of the Episcopal Church USA.
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Salutation

Presider The Creator be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

The Collect

All-loving and everliving God, you are always more ready to give than we are to
 receive: Pour upon us your abundance of contentment with simple, faithful living;
 through Jesus Christ the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and
 the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

The Lessons/Readings

A Reading from the Book of Exodus

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

Then God spoke all these words:

I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of
 slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die." Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel Hymn

Spirit Song Vs 1 and 2

Renew 248

O let the Son of God enfold you
With his Spirit and his love,
Let him fill your life and satisfy your soul.
O let him have the things that hold you
And his Spirit, like a dove,
will descend upon your life and make you whole.

Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.
Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.

O come and sing this song with gladness
As your hearts are filled with joy,
Lift your hands in sweet surrender to his name.
O give him all your tears and sadness,
Give him all your years of pain
And you'll enter into life in Jesus' name.

Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.
Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.

The Gospel

Matthew 21:33-46

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures:

'The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord's doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes'?

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls."

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

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

Sermon Jeff Rockey

Nicene Creed

Please stand as you are able

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified,
He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People The response to each bidding is: **Hear our prayer.**

Blessing of the Animals

The Peace

Presider Peace with yourself.
 Peace with Creation.
 Peace with one another.

People **And also with you.**

Announcements and Offerings

stmarks-cityheights.org/giving-online

Blessings for birthdays and anniversaries

For a Birthday

O God, we come before you with hearts full of gratitude and joy as we celebrate this/these birthday(s). Thank you for this special day, for the gift of life, and for the opportunity to celebrate another year together. In your Holy name we pray. **Amen.**

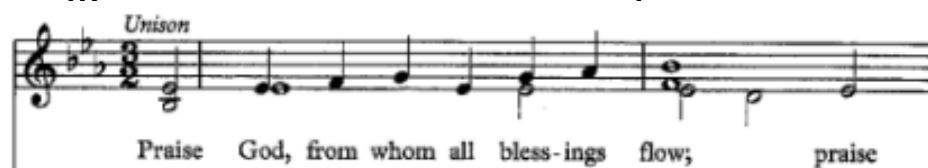
For an Anniversary

O God, we thank and praise You for the gift of this anniversary and the love and joy that it brings. Pour out we pray, Your love, joy, grace and peace into the hearts of all who are celebrating this day. We pray that in this remembrance, that you join each of us closer, to each other, and to You. **Amen.**

The Offering of Gifts

The Doxology

Methodist Hymnal 94





The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer C - Expansive Language Passed at General Convention 2024

- Presider* May God be with you.
- People** **And also with you.**
- Presider* Lift up your hearts.
- People** **We lift them to the Lord.**
- Presider* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- People** **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**
- Presider* God of all power, Source and Sustainer of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.
- People** **Glory to you for ever and ever.**
- Presider* At your command all things came to be: shining light and enfolding dark; the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, and this fragile earth, our island home.
- People** **By your will they were created and have their being.**
- Presider* From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with the capacity for memory, reason, and skill. You made us the stewards of your 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.**

Presider 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 eternal Word, born of your servant Mary, to fulfill your Law, opening for us the way of freedom and peace.

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

Presider And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus *Argentine Santo, Santo, Santo WLP 785*



Presider On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Presider Remembering now his work of redemption and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

People **We celebrate Christ's death and resurrection as we await the day of his coming.**

Presider Therefore, O God, we who have been redeemed by Jesus Christ, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Savior.

Presider Sanctify us also, and let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

People **Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

Presider God of our ancestors; Redeemer and Mother of Israel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only and not for strength; for pardon only and not for renewal.

Presider Accept these prayers and praises, Almighty God, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.

People **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

Presider As the Wisdom before Creation teaches us, we pray.

**Holy One,
our only Home,
hallowed be your name.
May your day dawn,
your will be done, here as in heaven.
Feed us today, and forgive us as we forgive each other.
Do not forsake us at the test, but deliver us from evil.
For the glory, the power, and the mercy are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Presider This is Living Bread, given for all Creation.

People **All who eat this bread share in Christ's Body.**

The Invitation

Presider This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord. It is made ready for those who love him, and for those who want to love him more. So, come, those who have much faith and those who have little, those who have been here often and those who have not been here long, those who have tried to follow and those who have failed. Come, not because the Church invites us; it is Christ, and he invites us to meet him here.

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The Prayer of Spiritual Communion For Those Online

Presider We know that some of us are joining this morning online, and although they can not physically receive the holy sacraments, they can receive in their hearts.

People In union, Blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of Your Church where Your blessed body and blood are offered, I long to offer You praise and thanksgiving. I believe that You are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. And since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray You to come into my heart, my soul, and my mind. I unite myself to You, and embrace You with all the affections of my soul. Let nothing separate me from You; let me serve You in this life until, by Your grace, I join You in Your reign of unending peace. Amen.

We will be offering communion in both kinds: bread & wine.

- *If you would like to receive the **bread and wine** please **hold out both hands**. You can either drink from the chalice (in which case, after receiving the bread, go to the altar server on your right) or have the bread intincted (dipped) into the wine and given to you (in which case go to the altar server on your left after receiving the bread.)*
- *If you would like to receive the **bread only** please **hold out one hand**.*
- *If you would prefer not to receive the body and bread but **receive a blessing**, please **cross your hands over your chest**.*
- *If you would like to receive gluten free bread please let the priest know.*

Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound

Vs 1,2,3, and 5 Renew 189

1 Amazing grace, How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now I am found,
was blind, but now I see.

2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed.

3 The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

5 When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we've first begun.

Post Communion Prayer

People Holy One,
you feed us with bread from heaven
and the gifts of mother earth.

In this communion, you have drawn us into your embrace
and you call us to friendship with one another.
You have given us the gift of reconciliation.
May we who have tasted that gift from you,
offer ourselves in peace and humility to one another.
And may you always walk among us as friend. Amen.

Blessing

Sending Hymn:

We Are Marching In The Light

Renew 306

We are marching in the light of God,
We are marching in the light of God.
(Repeat)
We are marching, marching,
We are marching, marching,
We are marching in the light of God.
(Repeat)

We are living in the love of God,
We are living in the love of God,
(Repeat)
We are living, living,
We are living, living,
We are living in the love of God,
(Repeat)

Dismissal

Presider

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Thank you for coming today!

Please join us for hospitality after the service, all are welcome!

Donations to St. Mark's can be made via our website:

stmarks-cityheights.org/giving-online

or use the QR Code below:

