

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever. Amen

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen**

SENDING SONG *He's Got the Whole World in His Hands*

He's got the whole world in His hands.
He's got the whole world in His hands.
He's got the whole world in His hands.
He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got the wind and rain in his hands....

He's got you and me brothers in His hands....

He's got the little bitty babies in His hands....

He's got everybody here in His hands....

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Okay we will. Thanks be to God.**

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

Feast of Creation
Sunday, September 6, 2026



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME

VIDEO – SO WILL I (Hillsong from Hope Community Church)

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, our hope, our heart, our home. **Amen.**

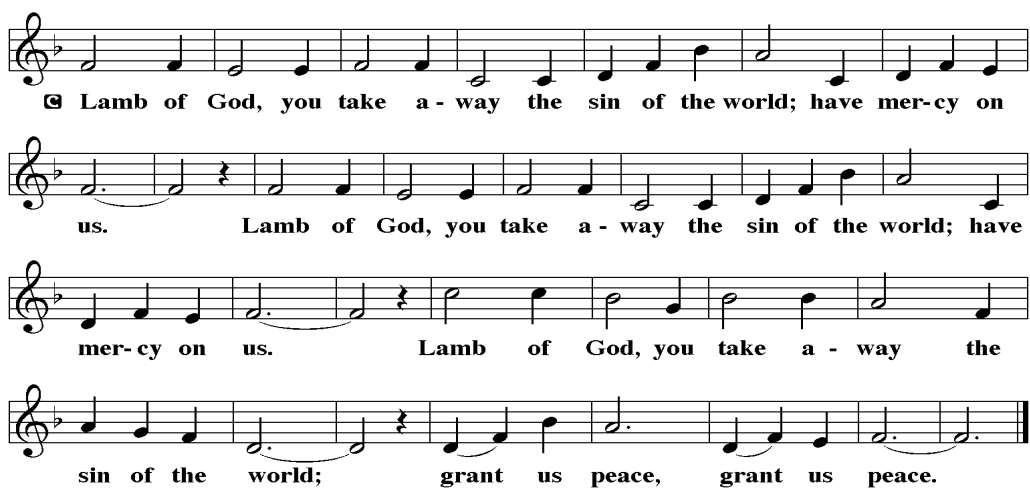
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Everlasting God, the Alpha and the Omega,
the beginning and the end,
**we confess that we participate in systems
that perpetuate oppression and injustice.**
**We are often numb to the pain of the world around us,
resistant to change that costs us something,
and reluctant to love our neighbors as ourselves.**
**We sin against your good creation,
failing to be faithful stewards
of the land, the sea, and all their creatures.**
**Make your home among us once more, O God,
naming us beloved and opening our hearts
to do your will. Amen.**

All you saints and sinners, this good news is for you:
God knows you,
forgives you by the self-giving of + Jesus Christ,
and frees you to love the world as you have been loved.
Creation’s story will not end
until mourning, crying, and pain are no more.

COMMUNION HYMN



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

REVELATION SONG

Verse 1:

Worthy is the, Lamb who was slain Holy, Holy, is He
Sing a new song, to Him who sits on Heaven's mercy seat

Chorus:

Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord God Almighty Who was, and is, and is to come
With all creation I sing Praise to the King of Kings You are my everything
And I will adore You

Verse 2:

Clothed in rainbows, of living color Flashes of lightning, rolls of thunder
Blessing and honor, strength and glory and power be. To You the only wise King

Chorus:

Verse 3:

Filled with wonder, awestruck wonder. At the mention of your name
Jesus your name is power. Breath and living water. Such a marvelous mystery

Chorus:

PREFACE

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and

might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

LORD’S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to 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; 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.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen**

When everything else changes, God’s love is steadfast and sure.
Nothing can ever separate you from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

ENTRANCE HYMN - *Morning Has Broken* ELW 556

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

**O God, in whom we live and move and have our being,
in Christ you created the worlds, and your Spirit breathes life into the universe.
We praise you for your wondrous creation.
Bless us and all your handiwork with your infinite light,
and direct our lives to the care of this good earth,
through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

FIRST READING: Genesis 1:1—2:4a

A reading from Genesis.

¹ When God began to create the heavens and the earth, ² 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. ³ Then God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. ⁴ And God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. ⁶ And God said, “Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” ⁷ So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so.

It was So

⁸ God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day. ⁹ And God said, “Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. ¹⁰ God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

It was Good

¹¹ Then God said, “Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.” And it was so. ¹² The earth

brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good.

It was Good

¹³ And there was evening and there was morning, the third day. ¹⁴ And God said, “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵ and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. ¹⁶ God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷ God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸ to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good.

It was Good

¹⁹ And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day. ²⁰ 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.” ²¹ 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.

It was Good

²² God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” ²³ And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day. ²⁴ 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. ²⁵ 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.

It was Good

²⁶ 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.” ²⁷ So God created humans in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. ²⁸ 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

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were
sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
Lord, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.
O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

DIALOGUE

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.**

Grant that what on earth has been despoiled will be healed.
Hear us, O God, our creator [*and fruitful garden*]: **Your mercy is great.**

For the nations we pray:
that farmers, herders, foragers, fishers, and grocers provide the food humans need,
that legislators strive in all things for the common good,
and that science and technology lead us toward more responsible ways to live.
Hear us, O God, our stronghold [*and sun of justice*]: **Your mercy is great.**

For our country we pray:
that national parks, forests, and wildlife refuges be safeguarded,
that all natural resources benefit the whole population,
and that our children learn respect for nature.
Hear us, O God, our guardian [*and rainbow of promise*]: **Your mercy is great.**

For those in need we pray:
that humankind be sheltered from pandemic and from extreme weather,
and that all who are sick or suffering receive medical attention and communal support.
Give heed to those whose names we call out to you.
Hear us, O God, our healer [*and heart of the universe*]: **Your mercy is great.**

For what else do the people of God pray?

We praise you [*for Hildegard of Bingen, Francis of Assisi, and*]
for all believers who have lived and died in communion with the earth.
Grant that in your good time we join with all your creatures in your presence forever.
Hear us, O God, the beginning and the end: **Your mercy is great.**

Into your hands, O God, our maker and keeper, we commend ourselves and your whole
creation, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE
The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

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.
It was very Good

And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. ^{2:1} Thus the heavens and the
earth were finished and all their multitude. ² On the sixth day God finished the work that
he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. ³ So
God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work
that he had done in creation. ^{4a} These are the generations of the heavens and the earth
when they were created.
Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 148: 1-14
Praise for God’s Universal Glory
¹ Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights!
² **Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!**
³ Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!
⁴ **Praise him, you highest heavens and you waters above the heavens!**
⁵ Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded and they were created.
⁶ **He established them forever and ever;**
he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.^[a]
⁷ Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps,
⁸ **fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command!**
⁹ Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!
¹⁰ **Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!**
¹¹ Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!
¹² **Young men and women alike, old and young together!**
¹³ Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted;
his glory is above earth and heaven.
¹⁴ **He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful,**
for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise the Lord!

SECOND READING: Acts 17:22a, 24-28
²² Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely
spiritual you are in every way.

²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶ From one ancestor^[a] he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷ so that they would search for God^[b] and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸ For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we, too, are his offspring.’ The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL: John 1:1-5

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 1st chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**
1 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 ⁴ in him was life,^[a] and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.
The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN’S/COMMUNITY TIME

MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY *God of Wonders*

Lord of all creation
Of water, earth and sky
The heavens are Your tabernacle
Glory to the Lord on high
God of wonders beyond our galaxy
You are holy, holy
The universe declares Your majesty
You are holy, holy
Lord of heaven and earth
Lord of heaven and earth
Early in the morning
I will celebrate the light

And when I stumble in the darkness
I will call Your name by night
God of wonders beyond our galaxy
You are holy, holy
The universe declares Your majesty
You are holy, holy
Lord of heaven and earth
Lord of heaven and earth
Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth
Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth
Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth
God of wonders beyond our galaxy
You are holy, holy
The universe declares Your majesty
You are holy, holy
God of wonders beyond our galaxy
You are holy, holy
The universe declares Your majesty
You are holy, holy
Lord of heaven and earth
Lord of heaven and earth

THE PRAYERS

We join with Christians far and near to worship God the Creator, praying for the earth and for all in need, responding to each petition with the words, “Your mercy is great.”

A brief silence.

O God of mystery, mercy, and might, for the church we pray:
that churches around the globe collaborate in care for the earth,
and that all the baptized nurture a zeal for the wellbeing of creation.
Hear us, O God, source of life [*and ground of our being*]: **Your mercy is great.**

For the earth we pray:
that this bounteous creation receive continued divine blessing,
that the air be wholesome, that the waters be plenteous and clean,
that the land be treasured, and that animals be protected.