



The Feast of St. Francis of Assisi

The 18th Sunday after Pentecost

October 4, 2020 • 10:00^{AM}

The Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth

The people's responses are in bold.

The Entrance Rite

The people stand as able.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN • 405

For the Fruits of all Creation

P7 Leaflet

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Blessed be the one, holy and living God.

Glory to God forever and ever. Amen.

Christ, we come into your presence today to worship in this sanctuary called Earth,

**A planet filled with your presence, sheltered in the forests, flourishing in the land,
expectant in the wilderness, flowing in the rivers.**

God, reveal yourself to us and show us your face in all creation.

Holy! Holy! Holy! Earth is filled with the Creator's presence.

HYMN OF PRAISE • 412 vss. 1-2

Earth and all stars

The Word of God

THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Most high, omnipotent, good Lord, grant your people grace to renounce gladly the vanities of this world; that, following the way of blessed Francis, we may for love of you delight in your whole creation with perfectness of joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The people are seated.

THE FIRST LESSON: JEREMIAH (22:13-16)

A reading from the book of Jeremiah.

Woe to him who builds his house by unrighteousness,

and his upper rooms by injustice;
who makes his neighbours work for nothing,
and does not give them their wages;
who says, 'I will build myself a spacious house
with large upper rooms',
and who cuts out windows for it,
panelling it with cedar,
and painting it with vermilion.
Are you a king
because you compete in cedar?
Did not your father eat and drink
and do justice and righteousness?
Then it was well with him.
He judged the cause of the poor and needy;
then it was well.
Is not this to know me?
says the Lord.

The Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 148:7-14 (*Prayed in unison*)

**Praise the Lord from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps,
fire and hail, snow and frost,
stormy wind fulfilling his command!**

**Mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars!
Wild animals and all cattle,
creeping things and flying birds!**

**Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the earth!
Young men and women alike,
old and young together!**

**Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for his name alone is exalted;
his glory is above earth and heaven.
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!**

THE SECOND READING: Galatians (6:14-18)

A Reading from the book of Galatians.

May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! As for those who will follow this rule—peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. From now on, let no one make trouble for me; for I carry the marks of Jesus branded on my body. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen.

The Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

The people stand as able at the introduction of the hymn.

HYMN AT THE SEQUENCE • 428

Lord make us servants of your peace

P8 Leaflet

THE HOLY GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew (11:25-30).

Glory to you, O Christ.

At that time Jesus said, ‘I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

‘Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The people are seated at the invitation of the homilist.

THE HOMILY

The Rev. Karen Calafat

A moment for silent reflection follows the homily.

“Almighty, eternal, just and merciful God, Give us scoundrels your grace to do for you what we know you want from us, and always to do that which is pleasing to you. Amen.” (St. Francis)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe that God creates all things, renews all things and celebrates all things.

We believe Earth is a sanctuary, a sacred planet filled with God's presence,
a home for us to share with our kin.

We believe that God became flesh and blood, became a piece of Earth,
a human being called Jesus Christ,
who lived and breathed and spoke among us,
suffered and died on a cross for all human beings
and for all creation.

We believe that the risen Jesus is the Christ at the core of creation,
reconciling all things to God,
renewing all creation and filling the cosmos.

We believe the Holy Spirit renews life in creation,
groans in empathy with a suffering creation and waits with us for the rebirth of creation.

We believe that with Christ we will rise and with Christ we will celebrate a new creation. +

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Presider Let us pray for the revealing of the reign of God in the world, now and always:

In the beginning, God was.

Here and now, God is.

In the future, God will be.

Creator of earth, sea, and sky, kindle the fire of your Spirit within us that we may be bold to heal and defend the earth around us, and pour your blessing and guidance on our elected officials, and upon the people and organizations working everywhere for the good of the planet.

God, Giver of life,

Hear our prayer.

Breath of life, receive our thanks for the beauty of our local habitat and all its inhabitants, and lend us the wisdom and will to conserve them.

God, Giver of life,

Hear our prayer.

Light and source of life, heal and redeem the wounds of your creation, and visit the places and people who suffer from our indifference, neglect, and greed.

God, Giver of life,

Hear our prayer.

Lover of all you have made, we thank you for the wondrous diversity of your creatures, and we pray for their well-being. *Silence*

God, Giver of life,

Hear our prayer.

Author of the book of nature, receive our gratitude for the places of restoration and healing, and challenge us to

sustain the places that feed our lives and spirits.

God, Giver of life,
Hear our prayer.

Wise Creator whose works are full of mystery, give us wonder and appreciation for your creatures with whom we find ourselves in conflict.

God, Giver of life,
Hear our prayer.

Giver of all good gifts, awaken us daily to our dependence upon your generosity, and make us always thankful for the abundance of your blessings.

God, Giver of life,
Hear our prayer.

Joy of human hearts, heal our human communities, especially those where your word is not heard, or where neglect, violence, greed, and warfare increase the suffering and need of people and other creatures.

God, Giver of life,
Hear our prayer.

Comforter of all the earth, sustain the people worshipping together today and all who desire and need your presence and help, especially _____. (*The people may add their petitions.*)

God, Giver of life,
Hear our prayer.

Rock and refuge of all your creatures, receive into everlasting mercy all those who have died.

God, Giver of life,
Hear our prayer.

Presider Great Spirit God, we give you thanks for another day on this earth. We give you thanks for this day to enjoy the compassionate goodness of you, our Creator. We acknowledge with one mind our respect and gratefulness to all the sacred cycle of life. Bind us together in the circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and one another. **Amen.**

(source: Native American/Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Liturgies, prepared for the 76th General Convention of the Episcopal Church, July 2009, Anaheim, California)

THE CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Let us pray also for the forgiveness of our sins.

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful God;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;**

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, together we pray,

All **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,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE PEACE

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

THE BLESSING

Live without fear: your Creator has made you holy, has always protected you, and loves you as a mother.
Go in peace to follow the good road and may God's blessing be with you always. **Amen.** (*Saint Clare*)

THE DISMISSAL

In the name of Christ go in peace, rejoicing in the good gifts of the Creator. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE • 409

The spacious firmament

*The Season of Creation: A Preaching Commentary (Habel, Rhoads, and Santmire, eds., Fortress Press) 2011



1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will be
 3 For the har - vests of the Spi - rit, thanks be to



God. For his gifts to ev - ery na - tion,
 done. In the help we give our neigh - bor,
 God. For the good we all in - her - it,



thanks be to God. For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing,
 God's will be done. In our world-wide task of car - ing
 thanks be to God. For the won - ders that as - tound us,



si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing, fu - ture needs in
 for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing, in the har - vests
 for the truths that still con-found us, most of all that



earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
 we are shar - ing, God's will be done.
 love has found us, thanks be to God.

Words: F. Pratt Green (b. 1903), alt.

Music: East Aclam, Francis Jackson (b. 1917)

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1 Lord, make us ser - vants of your peace: where there is
 2 Where all is doubt, may we sow faith; where all is
 3 Je - sus, our Lord, may we not seek to be con -
 4 May we not look for love's re - turn, but seek to
 5 Dy - ing, we live, and are re - born through death's dark

1 hate, may we sow love; where there is hurt, may we for -
 2 gloom, may we sow hope; where all is night, may we sow
 3 soled, but to con - sole, nor look to un - der - stand - ing
 4 love un - self - ish - ly, for in our giv - ing we re -
 5 night to end - less day: Lord, make us ser - vants of your

1 give; where there is strife, may we make one.
 2 light; where all is tears, may we sow joy.
 3 hearts, but look for hearts to un - der - stand.
 4 ceive, and in for - giv - ing are for - given.
 5 peace, to wake at last in hea - ven's light.

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