



The Holy Eucharist – The Season of Creation

The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 7, 2025 • 8 a.m.

HOLY SPIRIT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Worship lies at the heart of the Christian life. It is in worship that we express our theology and define our identity. It is through encountering God within worship that we are formed and transformed as the people of God. One of the glories of the Episcopal Church is its liturgical worship. Liturgy refers to the patterns, forms, words, and actions through which public worship is conducted.

The people's responses are in bold.

This type of note, offering directions about the service, is called a “rubric,” which comes from the Latin word rubrica (red)—referring to a time when these instructional notes were always written in red.

The Word of God

THE ENTRANCE RITE

WELCOME

We acknowledge that our worship is taking place in the aboriginal territories of the Salish and Kalispel people.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

The People standing as able, the Presider says

Presider Blessed be the One who creates all things.
People **The Holy One's love is new every morning.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

This prayer was an English rendering of a Latin prayer that began the liturgy in the medieval church before the Reformation. It remains a distinctive part of Episcopal worship to this day.

The Presider may say

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.**

SONG OF PRAISE • CANTICLE 12: A SONG OF CREATION

The Gloria, or some other song of praise, centers the service on the God we gather to praise in our worship.

All say in unison.

Glorify the Lord, all you works of the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Let the people of God glorify the Lord, *
 praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
 Glorify the Lord, O priests and servants of the Lord, *
 praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
 Glorify the Lord, O spirits and souls of the righteous, *
 praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
 You that are holy and humble of heart, glorify the Lord, *
 praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
 Let us glorify the Lord: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; *
 praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
 In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord, *
 praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

The collect is the prayer appointed for each Sunday that “collects” or captures the theme of the day or season of the Church year. It summarizes the attributes of God as revealed in the scriptures for the day.

Presider The Creator be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Let us pray.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

The People are seated for the lessons.

THE FIRST READING: Jeremiah 18:1-11

This reading is typically from the Old Testament (Hebrew Scriptures) which Jesus knew and from which he often referred or quoted.

A Reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

¹The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: ²“Come, go down to the potter’s house, and there I will let you hear my words.” ³So I went down to the potter’s house, and there he was working at his wheel. ⁴The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter’s hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him.

⁵Then the word of the LORD came to me: ⁶“Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done?” says the LORD. Just like the clay in the potter’s hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. ⁷At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, ⁸but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. ⁹And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, ¹⁰but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it. ¹¹Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the LORD: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to all God's Creation.
People Thanks be to God.

The People remain seated.

THE PSALM

The psalms are prayers that Jesus used and cover every mood of humanity's relationship with God and one another.

Reader Our response to the first reading is a portion of Psalm 139, found in the service leaflet. Please pray it with me.

PSALM: Psalm 139:1-5, 12-17

¹**LORD, you have searched me out and known me; ***
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.
²**You trace my journeys and my resting-places ***
and are acquainted with all my ways.
³**Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, ***
but you, O LORD, know it altogether.
⁴**You press upon me behind and before ***
and lay your hand upon me.
⁵**Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; ***
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.
¹²**For you yourself created my inmost parts; ***
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
¹³**I will thank you because I am marvelously made; ***
your works are wonderful, and I know it well.
¹⁴**My body was not hidden from you, ***
while I was being made in secret
and woven in the depths of the earth.
¹⁵**Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb;**
all of them were written in your book; *
they were fashioned day by day,
when as yet there was none of them.
¹⁶**How deep I find your thoughts, O God! ***
how great is the sum of them!
¹⁷**If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand; ***
to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours.

THE SECOND READING: Philemon 1-21

This reading, taken from the New Testament, is typically from a letter (epistle) to the early Church, the Acts of the Apostles, or the Revelation to John.

The people remain seated.

A Reading from Paul's letter to Philemon.

¹Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,
To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, ²to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the

church in your house:

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God ⁵because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. ⁶I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. ⁷I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

⁸For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, ⁹yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. ¹⁰I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. ¹¹Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. ¹²I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. ¹³I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; ¹⁴but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. ¹⁵Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, ¹⁶no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

¹⁷So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. ¹⁸If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. ¹⁹I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. ²⁰Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. ²¹Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to all God's Creation.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand as able.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 14:25-33

This reading is taken from one of the four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John), which depict the life, teachings, death, resurrection and ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ. We stand for the Gospel reading to show the particular importance placed on Jesus' words and actions.

People The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

²⁵Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus;] and he turned and said to them, ²⁶“Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ ³¹Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³²If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

People The Gospel of our Savior.
 Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The People are seated at the invitation of the preacher.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Gretchen Strohmaier

The sermon directly follows the Gospel because it is to be grounded in the scriptures. It illuminates the scriptural readings and relates them to daily life.

The People stand as able.

THE NICENE CREED

The word "creed" comes from the Latin "credo" for "I believe." First formulated at the Council of Nicaea in 325 AD and confirmed in 381 AD, the Nicene Creed is said at the Holy Eucharist and reflects what Christians believe regarding the relationship between the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit: the Holy Trinity.

**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 from 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 and the Son.
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.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: HONORING GOD IN CREATION

We pray for ourselves and particularly on behalf of others. In our prayers we pray for the Universal Church, the nation and all who govern, the welfare of the world, the concerns of our community of faith, including those who are in need or suffer, and for the departed. We are reminded in prayer that we are part of a larger fellowship, the Church—the Body of Christ.

The People stand, sit, or kneel as they are able.

Intercessor The Prayers of the People are guided by the Season of Creation. Please pray them with me.

During the silence after each reading, the people offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.

Intercessor
Let us pray for the revealing of the reign of God in the world, now and always.

Intercessor and People
In the beginning,
God was.

Here and now,
God is.

In the future,
God will be.

Intercessor
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, and pour your blessing upon all who work for the good of the planet.

Silence
God, Giver of life,
Hear our prayer.

Breath of life, receive our thanks for the beauty of our local habitat and all who dwell in it, and grant us the wisdom and will to conserve it.

Silence
God, Giver of life,
Hear our prayer.

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.

Silence
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 places of restoration and healing, and continue to bless those places that feed our lives and spirits.

Silence

God, Giver of life,
Hear our prayer.

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

Silence

God, Giver of life,
Hear our prayer.

Giver of all good gifts, awaken us daily to our dependence upon your bounty, and grow our thankfulness for the abundance of your blessings.

Silence

God, Giver of life,
Hear our prayer.

Divine Physician, heal our communities, especially those where neglect, greed, or violence inflict suffering upon people and other creatures.

Silence

God, Giver of life,
Hear our prayer.

Comforter of all the earth, sustain the people of this congregation who desire or need your presence and help, especially:

Frank, Anthony, and Benjamin Horton

Bert and Nora Horton

Joan Chaussee

Betty Rice

Dolores Criswell

Lew and Robin Mueller

Nancy Callen

Kathy Adams

Paula and family

Michael Ayers and family

Family and friends of the Ruybalid family

Doug Harris and family

Danielle Dimmock

Ben and Alexis Clark

Margaret Francis

Rev. Terri Grotzinger

Marleigh Flanigan

Jennifer, Mark and Jacob

Bob Simons

Robert Hadlow

Laura and Cannon

Linda T.

Christina Errebo

Maggi Teague

Dan

Jeanne

Mari, Brian and baby

Jone and Jesse

Peter and Malcolm Smith

Tom Ard

Dylan Taylor

Dan

Sullivan

Graham

Peg

Janel

Paula

Patrick

Ray

Shannon

Greg

Mary

Moe

Sam

Wanda

Tim

Silence

God, Giver of life,
Hear our prayer.

Rock and refuge of all your creatures, receive into everlasting mercy all those who have died, especially those who we lift to you now.

Silence

God, Giver of life,
Hear our prayer.

The Priest stands and says

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, Anaheim, California, July 2009*

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and God's creation.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

**Holy and merciful God,
we confess that we have failed to honor you
by rightly claiming our kinship with all your creatures.
We have walked heavily on your earth,
overused and wasted its resources,
taken for granted its beauty and abundance,
and treated its inhabitants unjustly,
holding future generations hostage to our greed.
Have mercy on us and forgive us our sin.
Renew in us the resolve to keep and conserve your earth
as you desire and intend,
with grateful and compassionate hearts,
through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Priest stands and says

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.**

THE PEACE

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

<i>Presider</i>	The God of heaven has made a home on earth
<i>People</i>	Christ dwells among us and is one with us.

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

The Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Holy Communion

THE OFFERTORY

Having listened to the Word of God, affirmed our faith, confessed our sins, received forgiveness and shared in the peace, we are prepared for the drama and miracle of the Holy Communion. At the offertory, we gratefully offer back to God some of what God has given us, symbolically in the bread and wine, and in the money we give.

The Celebrant may begin the Offertory with a sentence of Scripture.

All are invited to make a gift to support Holy Spirit's ministry of sharing God's love with our community and the world by texting HOLYSPIRITGIVE to (833) 714-3270 or by visiting <http://holyspiritmissoula.org/give/>. You may also put your gift in the offering plate or by scanning the QR code below to give to the General Fund:



The altar is prepared for Holy Communion

DOXOLOGY

All say in unison as the Offering is received and blessed

All things come of thee, O Lord, and of thine own have we given thee.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

In the Great Thanksgiving, we do what Jesus himself asked us to do: thank God and recall all that God has done for us in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. The Great Thanksgiving, or Eucharistic Prayer, is a long prayer with four parts. Each of these four parts corresponds to a different action of Jesus at the Last Supper, where he took, blessed, broke, and gave bread and wine as sacraments of his body and blood. We begin the Great Thanksgiving with the Sursum corda, meaning "Lift up your hearts."

SURSUM CORDA

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God,
source of life abundant.

From before time you made ready the creation.

Your Spirit moved over the deep
and brought all things into being:

sun, moon, and stars;

earth, winds, and waters;

and every living thing.

You made us in your image,
and taught us to walk in your ways.

But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away;
and yet, as a mother cares for her children,

you would not forget us.

Time and again you called us
to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels
in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity,
lifting our voices to magnify you as we say:

SANCTUS

The Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy) is the hymn of praise that never ceases before God and is based on Isaiah 6:3.

Celebrant and People

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The People stand or kneel.

We recall God's acts of salvation history. The presider says the "Words of Institution" that Jesus said at the Last Supper. During the prayer, the Holy Spirit is invoked to bless and sanctify the gifts of bread and wine.

The Celebrant continues

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God.

To deliver us from the power of sin and death

and to reveal the riches of your grace,

you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant,

that she might conceive and bear a son,

Jesus the holy child of God.

Living among us, Jesus loved us.

He broke bread with outcasts and sinners,

healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor.

He yearned to draw all the world to himself

yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love.
Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross
the sacrifice of his life,
and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us,
Jesus was at table with his friends.
He took bread, gave thanks to you,
broke it, and gave it to them, and said:

“Take, eat:

This is my Body, which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine.
Again, he gave thanks to you,
gave it to them, and said:

“Drink this, all of you:

This is my Blood of the new Covenant,
which is poured out for you and for all
for the forgiveness of sins.

Whenever you drink it,
do this for the remembrance of me.”

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation,
and remembering Christ, crucified and risen,
who was and is and is to come,
we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine,
and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts
that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ.
Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth
and make us your new creation,
the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us,
with [_____ and] all your saints,
from every tribe and language and people and nation,
to feast at the banquet prepared
from the foundation of the world.

The Great Amen is when the congregation with a unified great voice concurs with all that the presider has prayed. It is the only “Amen” in all capitals found in the Book of Common Prayer, signifying the greatness of the congregation’s response.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
to you be honor, glory, and praise,
for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD’S PRAYER

We pray together the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

**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.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.
A period of silence is kept. Then may be said*

FRACTION ANTHEM

Celebrant We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.
People **We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**

INVITATION

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

All who seek God and a deeper life in Christ are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Please receive the bread in open and outstretched hands and respond to receiving Communion by saying "Amen." Gluten-free wafers are available; please make your need known to the minister. Receiving the bread only is full participation in the Eucharist. Wine is also available, and you may drink from the common cup or dip your wafer in the intinction cup. If you prefer to receive a blessing instead, please indicate your choice by crossing your hands across your chest. Those who wish to have Holy Communion brought to them at their seat should notify an usher.

PRAYER FOR SENDING FORTH EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

When this prayer is needed, the Celebrant and People say

In the name of Holy Spirit Episcopal Church we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the Communion of Christ's body and blood. We, who are many, are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Create in us a new heart and a new vision, O God,
that the gifts of your Spirit may work
in us and renew the face of the earth.

May we be one with you
so that our work is yours
and your work is ours.

Lead us to transform our lives
to reflect your glory in Creation;
through Jesus Christ our Savior
who is alive with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God now and for ever. Amen

BLESSING

The priest blesses the people, saying

The blessing of God Almighty, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, be upon you and remain with you for ever.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

The Deacon, or the Celebrant, may dismiss the people with these words

Let us go forth into all Creation, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
People **Thanks be to God.**

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving, by the people of Holy Spirit Episcopal Church.



Participants in the Service

<i>Presider, Preacher and Celebrant</i>	<i>The Rev. Gretchen Strohmaier</i>
<i>Deacon</i>	<i>The Ven. Dorcie Dvarishkis</i>
<i>Lector/Lay Eucharistic Minister</i>	<i>Michael Irwin</i>
<i>Usher</i>	<i>Anne Geiger</i>
<i>Coffee Hour Hosts</i>	<i>Anne Geiger</i>
<i>Altar Guild</i>	<i>Elaine Brown, Lori Cordis, Bev Maas</i>

GROW WITH US

Everything we do at Holy Spirit, including today's in-person and online services, is made possible because of people like you. We rely on your donations to make our mission and ministry possible. In these challenging times, your support is needed more than ever. If this service has been meaningful for you, we encourage you to

give as you're able to help Holy Spirit continue to serve our community and the greater world. Visit <http://holyspiritmissoula.org/give/> or give on our church app or text **HOLYSPIRITGIVE** to (833) 714-3270 to give on your smartphone. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

WE WELCOME THOSE NEW TO OUR WORSHIP!

Newcomers and guests are always welcome at Holy Spirit Episcopal Church. Our service today uses the service leaflet, and a service leaflet is also available online. The QR code to access the bulletin page of the website is available in the pews. Just scan it with the camera on your phone. We hope you will take a moment to complete the blue Visitor's Card found in the pew and place it in the offertory plate as it passes.

SOCIAL MEDIA/MARKETING OPT-OUT

Holy Spirit posts photos of activities and events on Facebook and Instagram, as well as on our website. We know many people are just fine with this and enjoy seeing their photos at everything from picnics to baptisms. However, if you would like to opt out of this practice for yourself or your family, please let the office know. We will do our best to honor this request.

SEASON OF CREATION, SEPTEMBER 1 – OCTOBER 4

The Season of Creation is the annual Christian celebration of prayer and action for our common home. Together, the ecumenical family around the world unites to pray and protect God's creation. During this Season of Creation at Holy Spirit be sure to listen for creation-focused prayers during worship, anticipate sermons that highlight creation and our interconnectedness with it. Discover more at <https://seasonofcreation.org/>.

JOIN US FOR COFFEE HOUR TODAY!

We have a special Coffee Hour today after the 8 a.m. service in the Guild Room. Come and join us for a cookie and a cup of coffee and get to know our 8 a.m. church family a little better!

JOIN US FOR A POTLUCK PICNIC TODAY AT BONNER PARK, RIGHT AFTER THE 10:15 AM SERVICE

What could possibly make for a finer lunch than a Sunday Potluck Picnic at nearby Bonner Park? The perfect time to share summer stories as we share each other's delicious offerings. If you'd like, bring your food items into the church kitchen to keep them cold or warm during services. Plenty of fridge, freezer, and oven space will be available. Then, transport them to Bonner when church is over. The Wholly Fun Committee will have tables set up at the park as well as all necessary plates, utensils, paper items, and coolers of drinks awaiting you. Supper Club information and sign-up sheets will also be at the picnic site. Bring an extra chair if you enjoy that seating rather than at a picnic table.

Please note: Because of the picnic, there will be no Coffee Hour this Sunday following the 10:15 a.m. service.

DISCOVER GODLY PLAY: FAITH, FRIENDSHIP & FUN FOR KIDS EVERY SUNDAY

Stories of our faith, wondering out loud, getting to know each other, snacks... our Godly Play kids experience all this and more each Sunday during a portion of the 10:15AM worship. Kids, we'd love to have you join us as often as you can! For Godly Play registration and questions, contact Deacon Dorcie Dvarishkis through the church office, 406-542-2167.

OUT OF THE OFFICE

Rev. Terri will be out of the office starting tomorrow, Monday, September 8th, for knee surgery and recuperation. There will be a minimum of two weeks at home followed by the start of P.T., and she will begin a return as she is able after that. Please offer your support to Rev. Gretchen and the Staff, and your prayers for a full recovery.

OUR THANKS TO OUR FAMILY PROMISE VOLUNTEERS

This week Holy Spirit volunteers are helping to feed unhoused families at the Meadowlark Shelter while they search for housing. Thank you to all who volunteered and to Carla Mettling and Kate Laney for coordinating their efforts!

CHECK OUT THE NEW POST ON OUR SOUNDINGS BLOG

Experience the gentle evolution of family faith in "A Season of Church," a touching narrative by Ann Wiltse that traces the journey from childhood rituals to adult reflections. Discover how the rhythm of worship changes across life's seasons, and how the enduring comfort of belonging remains as powerful as ever. If you've ever wondered how traditions shape us—sometimes quietly and sometimes with joyful celebration—this article will speak to your heart and inspire you to cherish your own moments of spiritual connection. The link to the blog post is <http://holyspiritmissoula.org/soundings/a-season-of-church/>.

LET'S GET CRAFTY!

Join the Holy Spirit Crafters on Tuesdays from 10 am – 12 pm upstairs in the Parish Hall starting September 9th through October 28th. Come any Tuesday and stay as long as your schedule allows. Step by step instructions on making holiday decorations and ornaments are provided. No experience is necessary. This is a great way to meet other parishioners. For more information about the Craft Group, contact Sue Lowery at 406-546-8401 or slower14@gmail.com.

NEXT UP IN OUR RECTOR SEARCH: LISTENING SESSIONS

To complement the Parish Survey, the Search Committee will hold listening sessions on Sunday, September 21st during coffee hour and on Tuesday, September 23rd at 7 pm so that parishioners can hear the results of the written survey, offer comments about the results or ask questions. Please plan to join us.

Questions or comments about Holy Spirit's rector search? Contact any Search Committee member or write to us at: rectorsearch@holyspiritmissoula.org.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE NEXT COMMUNITY CONCERNS MOVIE NIGHT!

Bad Faith: Christian Nationalism's Unholy War on Democracy

Join us on September 17 for the screening of *Bad Faith: Christian Nationalism's Unholy War on Democracy*. This documentary provides valuable insights into the reasons behind evangelical Christian's unwavering support for figures like Donald Trump. Discover the role of abortion in shaping their movement and the implications of their vision for a Christian Nation. Bring your friends and be a part of the post-show discussion. Don't miss this eye-opening event at Holy Spirit's Parish Hall starting at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, September 17.

COMING THIS MONTH: A NEW MUSIC SERIES

A Little Night Music, presented by the Wholly Fun Committee and Dr. Nancy Cooper

The Wholly Fun Committee is excited to announce a collaboration with Dr. Nancy Cooper to help celebrate our "new" Steinway piano in the Parish Hall with a four-week series called "A Little Night Music."

For four Wednesdays, beginning September 24, there will be a 30-minute musicale featuring at least six pianists (including Holy Spirit pianists Nancy Cooper, Steven Hesla, Margery Whatley, Barbara Blegen, and Phil Youngholm), and more than a few community instrumentalists, playing music related to nighttime, and/or autumn, everything from ragtime to the classics to popular music of the 1930s.

The performances will be preceded by a half hour of light sweet munchies and conversations; you are encouraged to BYOB's of all kinds. The parish hall will be candlelit, and (if weather permits) the windows will be open. Tables for 4 will be set up for a more informal listening experience. Atmospheric, and short! Mingling at 7, music at 7:30, homeward by 8.

Come join us for "A Little Night Music!" Sept. 24, Oct. 1, 8 and 15. Free!

DONORS NEEDED FOR OUR HSP FALL BLOOD DRIVE

Our fall blood drive will be Thursday, October 2, 12 noon to 6:00 pm in the parish hall. If you are healthy and eligible, **please come out to donate**. You can sign up for an appointment using the Red Cross online scheduling system at <https://www.redcrossblood.org> or by contacting Audrey Murray at 612-968-2108 or audreymurray196@gmail.com. The demand for Red Cross blood services remains high. Blood is essential to help patients survive surgeries, cancer treatment, chronic illnesses, and traumatic injuries. While the need is constant, a very small percentage of age-eligible people donate blood yearly. Here's our chance to help the American Red Cross make sure that supply meets demand. **You can also help at the blood drive**. We need volunteers to help register donors and to serve refreshments. We need people to bring those refreshments, too. Please contact Audrey to sign up. We look forward to seeing you at the Holy Spirit Parish Blood Drive!

WHAT ARE YOU THANKFUL FOR?

Our Fall Ingathering for the United Thank Offering (UTO) will take place on Sunday, September 28, at both services. Special envelopes will be in the pews that day for your donations, and you can bring your Blue Boxes to church and place them in the basket at the back of the church. Our offering will join with those of others around the diocese at our Diocesan Convention on October 3-5 in Kalispell, Montana.

JOIN US FOR BOUNDLESS: A MEMOIR AND MINI-RETREAT

Join author Carolyn Dawn Flynn on September 30th from 5:30 to 7:30 pm in the parish hall. Share a meal and hear from her memoir, *Boundless: A Trip to Rejuvenation*, which details a time of personal and spiritual crossroads in her life. Use the opportunity to reflect on your faith journey and God's story within your own life.

Shaped by The Episcopal Church and The Living School at Richard Rohr's Center for Action and Contemplation, Carolyn's journey finds resonance through God's story. She is a friend of Rev. Valerie Webster, a priest within our diocese. Together they are touring the diocese to share her book and inspire others who find themselves at a crossroad in life.

Books will be available for purchase at the event. The meal is free and open to the public. Pre-registration is required. Contact office@holyspiritmissoula.org to sign up.

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