

# Good Shepherd Episcopal Church



The Village of Pine Grove, Virginia



The 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
September 8, 2024

# Welcome to Good Shepherd Church

We are so glad you are here or joining us online!



## CALENDAR

- SUN Sep 8**    **The 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
11:00 a.m.    **Holy Eucharist**, with The Rev. Martha Clark
- THU Sep 12**    **Vestry Meeting**, 4:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall
- SUN Sep 15**    **The 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
11:00 a.m.    **Holy Eucharist**, with The Rev. Deborah Rutter  
LEM/Prayers: Josette Keelor | Zoomer: Judy Hall  
Lay Readers: Penelope Yungblut & Ray Ewing  
Musicians: Rose Holden Tim Hall
- WED Sep 18**    First session of **Love God, Love God's World**  
6:00 p.m.    (see Notices)
- SAT Sep 21**    **Meditation Walk** with Josette Keelor & Janet Locklear  
10:30 a.m.    at Cool Springs (see Notices)
- SUN Sep 22**    **The 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
11:00 a.m.    **Morning Prayer**, with Tim Hall  
Lay Reader: Cindy Ingram | Zoomer: Judy Hall  
Musicians: Janet Locklear & Rose Holden
- MON Sep 23**    **Last Day to bring FISH donations**
- WED Sep 25**    **FISH to-go meals distributed**
- SAT Sep 28**    **To Love and Heal Creation** (see Notices)
- SUN Sep 29**    **The 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
11:00 a.m.    **Holy Eucharist & Healing**, with The Rev Rob Banse  
LEM/Prayers: Judy Hall | Zoomer: Penni Tidwell  
Lay Readers: Ray Ewing & Penelope Yungblut  
Musicians: Eileen Cawood & Rose Holden

**Alcoholics Anonymous** meets at Good Shepherd every Saturday at 8:30 p.m., in person or by Zoom. Drop in, or visit <https://aavirginia.org/meetings> and search for Bluemont.



# THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO

Celebrant: The Rev. Martha Clark

LEM/Prayers: Tim Hall

Lay Readers: Eileen Cawood & Josette Keelor

Keyboardist: Eileen Cawood | Zoomer: Penni Tidwell

## Welcome and Introduction

Prelude: "For the Beauty of the Earth"

*Kocher/Jones*

Opening **Hymn 8** "Morning has broken"

## Opening Acclamation

*Celebrant* Blessed be the One who creates all things

*People* **The Holy One's love is new every morning.  
Amen.**

## Collect for the Healing of Creation

Gracious God, the air sings with songs of glory, water flashes silver with creation, and the forests bloom with leaves for healing nations. May your light and love fill our hearts and souls and minds, that we may share your abundant grace with the world.

**Amen.**

**Gloria** "Glorify Your Name"

*by Donna Adkins*

*Father, we love you, we praise you, we adore you.*

*Glorify your name in all the Earth.*

*Glorify your name, glorify your name,*

*Glorify your name in all the Earth.*

*Jesus, we love you, we praise you, we adore you.*

*Glorify your name in all the Earth.*

*Glorify your name, glorify your name,*

*Glorify your name in all the Earth.*

*Spirit, we love you, we praise you, we adore you.*

*Glorify your name in all the Earth.*

*Glorify your name, glorify your name,*

*Glorify your name in all the Earth.*

## Collect of the Day

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The Lord be with you.

*People*

**And also with you.**

*Celebrant*

Let us pray.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the powerful who oppress and dominate Creation, so you never forsake your creatures who live in harmony with nature's order; through Jesus Christ the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

## The Lessons

*The Reader introduces the first lesson, saying*

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

### The Old Testament: Isaiah 35:4-7a

Say to those who are of a fearful heart, Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water

The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 146

*Said responsively by half verse*

*Lauda, anima mea*

1 Hallelujah! Praise the Lord, O my soul! \*

**I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

2 Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth, \*  
**for there is no help in them.**

3 When they breathe their last, they return to earth, \*  
**and in that day their thoughts perish.**

- 4 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help!\*  
**whose hope is in the LORD their God;**
- 5 Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; \*  
**who keeps his promise for ever;**
- 6 Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, \*  
**and food to those who hunger.**
- 7 The LORD sets the prisoners free;  
the LORD opens the eyes of the blind; \*  
**the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;**
- 8 The LORD loves the righteous;  
the LORD cares for the stranger; \*  
**he sustains the orphan and widow,  
but frustrates the way of the wicked.**
- 9 The LORD shall reign for ever, \*  
**your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.  
Hallelujah!**

*The Reader introduces the second lesson, saying*

A Reading from the letter of James.

### **The Epistle: James 2:1-17**

**M**y brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For

whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. [For the one who said, “You shall not commit adultery,” also said, “You shall not murder.” Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.]

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,” and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual **Hymn 455** “O love of God, how strong how true”

*Then, the Priest reads the Gospel, first saying*

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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

**The Gospel: Mark 7:24-37**

Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” But she answered him, “Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.” Then he said to her, “For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.” So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**The Sermon**

*The Rev. Martha Clark*

**The Nicene Creed**

*The People stand*

**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:**

**was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,  
and became truly human.**

**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,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and  
glorified, who 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.

Prayer Hymn **WLP 773** “Heal me, hands of Jesus”

**The Prayers of the People, Form VI**

*BCP p. 392*

*The People may be seated or kneel*

*The Leader and People pray responsively*

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For our friends and family: Carter Refo (Judy's cousin); Jon Edensword (Ray's friend); the Keelor and Mowe families; Jon Hall (Tim's brother); Nathaniel Cawood (Eileen's son) and his wife Abbie; Jon Ecklund (Christine's brother-in-law); Jean Ames (Judi Floyd's neighbor); The Rev. Michael Sie; Gloria Broy (Lois' friend); Nancy Kelley; Richard Sauer (Cindy's father) and his family; Kevin Tapscott (Lois' nephew); Yvette Webster (Rachel's partner); Craig Eney (Andrea's brother-in-law); Priscilla Clark (Martha's mother); Hyden McClain (Nancy's great grandson); Alan Moeck (Christine's friend); Allison Knapp, Jamie Legg, and Joanne Conner (Josette's friends); Cat Cox (Retreat neighbor); Bobby Duke (Pine Grove neighbor); Rose Eiseman (Judi Floyd's friend's niece); Dane Toler (Lee's spouse); Janet Locklear and her father, Judson Hardy; Debbie Rutter; the Adamson family in Russia; Dusty Bailey and Ted Weaver (Charlene's friends); Martha Hayes; Lee Ruddle; David Aikman



(Charlene's husband); Tim & Cindy Ingram; Michael Mohn (previous clergy); Kathleen Franz (Kelly's mother); Roberta Adams (Tim Ingram's friend); Geraldine Kolowski, Sam Myers, John West, & Kenny Lucas (Darlene's friends & family). For all people in their daily life and work;

**For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

For the homeless nearby and across our nation. For the victims of mass shootings and gun violence that continue unabated. For an end to the rage and anger in this nation, that keeps us from sharing God's loving grace. For the safety and freedom from theft for Pine Grove and Shenandoah Retreat residents and Appalachian Trail hikers. For this community, the nation, and the world;

**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For those suffering from climate change and natural disasters. For migrants and refugees and all who are exploited. For the just and proper use of your creation;

**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For all people suffering from conflicts throughout the world. May they find a way to peace. For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

In the *Diocesan Cycle of Prayer*, we pray today for Meade Memorial, Alexandria; and Wicomico Parish, Wicomico. In the *Anglican Cycle of Prayer*, we pray today for The Church of the Province of Myanmar. For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

**For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

For Justin, Archbishop; for Michael, Presiding Bishop; for Sean, Presiding Bishop Elect, for Mark and Gayle, our Bishops; for Debbie, Martha and Rob, our Supply Clergy, and for all bishops and other ministers.

**For all who serve God in his Church.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions*

Hear us, Lord;

**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions*

We will exalt you, O God our King;

**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, remembering especially George W. Rutter (Rev. Deb's husband), and Caroline Marguerite Mowe (Ryan's niece), that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

**Who put their trust in you.**

*The Celebrant concludes with an absolution or a suitable Collect.*

**The Peace**

*Celebrant*      The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People*          **And also with you.**

**Announcements**

## THE HOLY AND SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

**The Offertory**

*The Celebrant begins the Offertory with a sentence of Scripture.*

Offertory Hymn **WLP 722** "The desert shall rejoice"

*The People stand for the Doxology*

**Hymn 380 v.3** "Praise God from whom all blessings flow"

**The Great Thanksgiving**

*BCP, p.369*

*Eucharistic Prayer C*

*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.**

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.  
**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

**By your will they were created and have their being.**

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the stewards of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

**Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

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 only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

**By his blood, he reconciled us.**

**By his wounds, we are healed.**

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:

*WLP 785*

[Spanish] ***Santo, santo, santo, mi corazon te adora!***

***Mi corazon te sabe decir: santo eres Señor.***

[English] ***Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you!***

***My heart is glad to say the words: you are holy, Lord.***

*The People may be seated or kneel*

*Then the Celebrant continues*

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, 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 Lord.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it, and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

On the night he was betrayed he 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, he 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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

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

**We celebrate his death and resurrection,  
as we await the day of his coming.**

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; 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. 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.

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

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, 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. **Amen.**

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

*People and Celebrant*

*BCP p. 364*

**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**

*Celebrant* Alleluia. This is Living Bread, given for all Creation.

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

### **An Invitation to a Spiritual Communion**

*A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that can be prayed at any time to express a desire to receive Holy Communion when circumstances prevent a person from actually receiving Holy Communion.*

### **The Act of Reception**

*The Celebrant invites the following prayer to be said by all **virtual** participants.*

Lord Jesus, 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. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.

*The Celebrant says the following*

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.

*The ministers and people receive the Sacrament in both kinds.*

Communion Hymn **WLP 746** "God the sculptor of the mountains"

*After communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

*from Enriching Our Worship (p. 69)*

**God of abundance, you have fed us  
with the bread of life and cup of salvation;  
you have united us with Christ and one another;**

and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

### The Blessing

*The Bishop when present, or the Priest, may bless People*

Closing Hymn “God you made your good creation”

*see Insert*

### The Closing Prayer for the Cosmos

Creating God, your name is written on every leaf, every bird, every river, every stone, every living being. We praise and worship you for the magnificence of your creation. Make us attentive to the wounds of the earth and willing to work for the healing of the whole creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### The Dismissal

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

*People* **Thanks be to God.**



## NOTICES

### OUR COMMUNITY



We continue to support FISH of Clarke County (36 E. Main St., Berryville) with donations of food and supplies. Our **August donation of 74 lbs** included eggs, flour, cereal, canned goods, dried pasta, latte coffee, crackers, granola bars, candy, nuts, juices, peanut butter. Lois Tapscott and Rose Holden also prepared 40 “to-go” meals. The last day to bring **your food donations** is Mon., **Sep 23**, and the next “to-go” meals are scheduled to be distributed **on Wed., Sep. 25**.

### LOVE GOD, LOVE GOD’S WORLD

Come join us as we celebrate God’s creation and discover how it relates to our faith in Christ Jesus. This **nine-session, film-based**

**curriculum**, created by The Episcopal Church, is meant to transform participants regardless of where they are on their creation care journey or what their role in creation care might be.

Our first session will be **Wed., Sept. 18** from **6 to 7:30 p.m.** *We will begin with a short prayer service in the garden (weather permitting) and then meet in the Parish Hall for discussion and snacks.* Subsequent sessions will be held on the second Wednesday of each month. A sign-up sheet for this exciting and rewarding experience is in the narthex.

### **HEADS UP AND WALKING SHOES ON!!!**

Good Shepherd's Meditation Walks resume in the fall with the theme of **"Returning Home to Nature"**, which will explore our spiritual and ecological roots in nature and our sense of homecoming in the natural world. We will discuss the autumnal equinox, a time when animals and people alike can experience a sense of returning home.

Join us for the first walk on **Sat., Sept. 21** from **10:30 a.m. to noon**, with a welcome from Josette & Janet, followed by a guided trail walk. Meet in the pavilion at Shenandoah University River Campus at Cool Spring, 1400 Parker Lane, Bluemont (Clarke County). Subsequent walks are planned for Oct. 19 and Nov. 16. Times and themes to be announced.

### **"TO LOVE AND HEAL CREATION"**

All are invited to an **Environmental Ministry Conference** hosted by the diocese's Creation Care Committee on **Sat., Sept. 28** from **9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.** at The Virginia Diocesan Center at Roslyn (8727 River Road, Henrico, VA 23229). Good Shepherd will cover your registration costs. Learn more at [EpiscopalVirginia.org](http://EpiscopalVirginia.org) and contact Cindy by **Sept. 15** if you are interested.

### **GIVING FLOWERS**

A gift of Sunday altar flowers is a wonderful way to give thanks or to remember a loved one. It also helps defray our weekly flower costs. A signup sheet is posted in the Parish Hall. You may provide the flowers or make a monetary donation. Please let the Altar Guild know whom you are commemorating with your gift.

# PRAYERS

*Pray for our neighbors  
and for ways we can serve the community.*

***Friends and Family:*** Carter Refo (Judy's cousin); Jon Edensword (Ray's friend); the Keelor and Mowe families; Jon Hall (Tim's brother); Nathaniel Cawood (Eileen's son) and his wife Abbie; Jon Ecklund (Christine's brother-in-law); Jean Ames (Judi Floyd's neighbor); The Rev. Michael Sie; Gloria Broy (Lois' friend); Nancy Kelley; Richard Sauer (Cindy's father) and his family; Kevin Tapscott (Lois' nephew); Yvette Webster (Rachel's partner); ); Craig Eney (Andrea's brother-in-law); Priscilla Clark (Martha's mother); Hyden McClain (Nancy's great grandson); Alan Moeck (Christine's friend); Allison Knapp, Jamie Legg, and Joanne Conner (Josette's friends); Cat Cox (Retreat neighbor); Bobby Duke (Pine Grove neighbor); Rose Eiseman (Judi Floyd's friend's niece); Dane Toler (Lee's spouse); Janet Locklear and her father, Judson Hardy; Debbie Rutter; the Adamson family in Russia; Dusty Bailey and Ted Weaver (Charlene's friends); Martha Hayes; Lee Ruddle; David Aikman (Charlene's husband); Tim & Cindy Ingram; Michael Mohn (previous clergy); Kathleen Franz (Kelly's mother); Roberta Adams (Tim Ingram's friend); Geraldine Kolowski, Sam Myers, John West, & Kenny Lucas (Darlene's friends & family).

**In thanksgiving** for the lives of:

- Major General George W. Rutter (Rev. Deb's husband), May 17, 1927 – Aug. 12, 2024; and
- Caroline Marguerite Mowe (Ryan's niece), May 21, 1990 - Aug. 29, 2024.

***To add someone to or remove someone from the prayer list,  
send an email to [prayerlist@goodshepherdbluemont.org](mailto:prayerlist@goodshepherdbluemont.org)***



## GOOD SHEPHERD EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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[www.goodshepherdbluemont.org](http://www.goodshepherdbluemont.org)



# God, You Made Your Good Creation

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

attr. B. F. White;  
harm. Christopher Gage

1. God, you made your good cre - a - tion and you hold it in your care— From each  
2. Yet, O God, the earth is cry - ing, times are chang - ing, storms are strong. Now the  
3. God, you love this world we live\_ in, so you sent your on - ly Son. "Here on

star - ry con - stel - la - tion to each for - est un - der - layer. Ti - ny  
co - ral reefs are dy - ing, floods are rag - ing, droughts are long. Though the  
earth as in your heav - en," God, we pray, "Your will be done." By your

crea - tures, moun - tain splen - dor, riv - ers, lakes and o - cean floors— You are  
cir - cum - stan - ces dif - fer, when the earth is in\_ di - stress, See! The  
Spi - rit, may we lis - ten to the earth and to\_ the poor; May we

lov - ing, kind and ten - der in your care for what is yours.  
poor are first to suf - fer from our greed and sel - fish - ness.  
care for all you've gi - ven till cre - a - tion is re - stored.

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New Hymns: [www.carolynshymns.com](http://www.carolynshymns.com) | Email: [carolynshymns@gmail.com](mailto:carolynshymns@gmail.com)

Harmonization © 2017 by Christopher Gage.

## Season of Creation – Week 2 theme:

### The kinship and unity of all creation in Christ

#### ***A prayer:***

Maker of marvels, our God,  
you weave the planet and all its creatures together in kinship;  
your unifying love is revealed in the interdependence of relationships  
in the complex world that you have made.

Save us from the illusion that humankind is separate and alone,  
and join us in communion with all inhabitants of the universe;  
through Christ, our Redeemer,  
who topples the dividing walls  
by the power of your Holy Spirit. Amen.

#### ***A reading:***

“On Traveling to Beautiful Places” by Mary Oliver

Every day I’m still looking for God and I’m still finding him everywhere,  
in the dust, in the flowerbeds. Certainly in the oceans,  
in the islands that lay in the distance continents of ice,  
countries of sand  
each with its own set of creatures and God, by whatever name.  
How perfect to be aboard a ship with maybe a hundred years still in my  
pocket. But it’s late, for all of us,  
and in truth the only ship there is  
is the ship we are all on  
burning the world as we go.



#### ***A practice:***

Spend 5 minutes  
outside each day to  
listen to Nature...  
what do you hear?  
...notice how you feel...