

**St. Paul's, Brunswick
Non Traditional Eucharist
September 17, 2023
Season of Creation**

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We acknowledge that we stand on territory that was taken from the Abenaki people of the Wabanaki Confederacy, the people of the Dawnland. May we always remember that the Earth does not belong to us, that we belong to the Earth, and that we are all companions in life. May we learn from our past sins and be instruments of justice and peace for all people in today's world. We ask for inspiration that we might be compelled to take action and support our native neighbors as they continue to seek their sovereignty here in Maine.



Opening Song: O God Your Creatures

(sung 2x) by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette Art: pixabay.com

O God, your creatures fill the earth
with wonder and delight,
And every living thing has worth
and beauty in your sight.
So playful dolphins dance and swim;
Your sheep bow down and graze.
Your songbirds share a morning hymn
To offer you their praise.



Celebrant: God is here!

Response: God is here!

Celebrant: Let us bless God!

Response: Let us bless God!

Celebrant: Glory to you, God, for ever!

Response: Glory to you, God, for ever!

Celebrant: God be with you.

Response: And also with you

Celebrant: Let us pray together.

Collect *Art: pixabay.com*

O God, because in our ignorance and selfishness we so often fail to care rightly for your Creation, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may soften and unite our hearts with all living beings who suffer; through Jesus Christ the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen.*



First Reading, Psalm 114 *Art: pixabay.com*

Reader (Lector): Let us read Psalm 114 responsibly by whole verse.

1 Hallelujah!

When Israel came out of Egypt, *
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,

**2 Judah became God's sanctuary *
and Israel Their dominion.**

3 The sea beheld it and fled; *
Jordan turned and went back.

**4 The mountains skipped like rams, *
and the little hills like young sheep.**



5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? *
O Jordan, that you turned back?

**6 You mountains, that you skipped like rams? *
you little hills like young sheep?**

7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, *
at the presence of the God of Jacob,

**8 Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water *
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.**

Song: What a Friend we Have in Jesus (sung 2x) Art:

pixabay.com

What a friend we have in Jesus,
 all our sins and griefs to bear!
 What a privilege to carry
 everything to God in prayer!
 O what peace we often forfeit,
 O what needless pain we bear,
 all because we do not carry
 everything to God in prayer!



Gospel Reading, Matthew 18:21-35 from *Whirl Story Bible* Art: from *Jesus Mafa collection*

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

“Jesus,” Peter asked, “if someone is unkind to me, how many times should I forgive? One time? Two times? Seven times?”

“No one, two, or seven times, but 70 TIMES seven,” Jesus replied. Peter started to count to 490. That was a LOT of times! “But why, Jesus?” he asked.

Jesus looked with kind eyes at his friend. “We forgive each other because we love each other.” Then Jesus told Peter a story about forgiveness.

A man owed his king a lot of money. The man worked hard to pay his debt, but it still wasn't enough. He worked harder, but it **STILL** wasn't enough. “Please give me more time,” he begged. The king showed love to the man. He told him, “You don't have to pay me. I forgive your debt.”



The man raced home to share his good news!

On the way home, the man met one of his friends. “**YOU** owe **ME** money!” he shouted. His friend couldn't pay the debt. The man became angry and threw his friend in prison.

When the king heard this, he felt frustrated. He told the man, “I forgive **YOU** because you asked me and I showed mercy. Choose to forgive and love others like I did for you.”

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Homily/ Sharing Time

Prayers Let us pray for the life of the world...

For Creation...

For the things we are thankful for...

For our loved ones ...

For those who teach and lead us...

For the sick and poor...

For ourselves...



Confession and Absolution

Is there anything you did that you are sorry for? Silently think about it in your mind.

Deacon: Lord God, we are sorry for the times we have been unkind, Lord have mercy.

ALL: Lord have mercy.

Deacon: Lord God, we are sorry for the times we have forgotten you, Christ have mercy.

ALL: Christ have mercy.

Deacon: Lord God, we ask you to forgive us, Lord have mercy.

ALL: Lord have mercy.

Prayer For Forgiveness

Celebrant: Holy God, have mercy upon you, forgive you all your sins, and bring you to eternal life.

ALL: Amen.

Special Blessings/ Prayers *(do you have a birthday/ anniversary/ something special you'd like us to pray for?)*

Watch over your children, God, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Bring them comfort when they are sad or sick, help them up if they fall, and bring your peace into their hearts. Amen.

Peace

Leader: The Peace of Christ be always with you!

People: And also with you!

Announcements

Offertory Music (*the parade to bring up the elements while collection plate is passed*)

Eucharistic Prayer written by The Rev. Carolyn H. Eklund

Great Thanksgiving

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Celebrant: God, you are the Creator of the heavens and the earth. You have filled the world with the beauty of oceans and rivers; mountains, granite, apple trees and lupine; moose, deer, chickadees, cats, dogs and lobsters. Thank you for this earth "our island home." You sent Jesus your Son to be one of us. He died to redeem us and all Creation. Jesus rose from the dead to give us new life and make the world new. That's why we shout out our praise! We shout with the throngs of angels, archangels and with all the heavenly host. We shout our praise together:

**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.**

We bring you bread and wine as our offering. Bless them with your Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus. On the night of his last supper with his friends, Jesus took bread, gave thanks to God for it, broke it apart, shared it with his friends, and said, "Take, eat. This bread is my Body which is given for you. Do this to remember me."

After they finished supper, he took the cup of wine. Jesus gave thanks to God and said to his friends, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood which is poured out for you. It is poured out for all to save us from our sins. Drink this to remember me."

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!

Gather us up by this bread and wine and make us the Body of Christ in God's church. Make us new people in Christ's Spirit. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.

AMEN!

The Lord's Prayer

Our God in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

Fraction *(break bread)*

Be known to us Jesus in the breaking of the bread. We are the communion of Christ's Body.

All: We share one bread together.

Invitation Holy Food for Holy People.

Administration of Sacrament The body of Christ, the bread of life!

Welcome to our digital congregation. We invite you to connect with Christ's communion by saying the following prayer.

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. We remember your death, Lord Christ; we proclaim your resurrection; we await your coming in glory. Since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Communion Hymn, Let us Break Bread Together (LEVAS) Art:

pixabay.com

1. Let us break bread together on our knees.
Let us break bread together on our knees.

Refrain:

When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord have mercy on me.

2. Let us drink wine together on our knees.
Let us drink wine together on our knees. [Refrain]

3. Let us praise God together on our knees.
Let us praise God together on our knees. [Refrain]



Thanksgiving (Post Communion Prayer) – Loving God, we are grateful for the love that we share in this community and in Your Holy Food. Send us into the world to listen to our neighbors with hearts of love, and to share the Good News of Jesus. Amen.

Blessing *from New Creation Liturgies Art: pixabay.com*

May God who established the dance of creation,
 Who marveled at the lilies of the field,
 Who transforms chaos to order,
 Lead us to transform our lives and the Church
 To listen to the voice of all creatures
 That reflect God's glory in creation,
 And the blessing of the Creator God, the Risen Son,
 and the Promised Holy Spirit bless you
 that you might be a blessing to others
 today and always. Amen



Song: We are Marching in the Light of God *art: pixabay.com*

We are marching in the
 light of God

We are marching in the
 light of God

We are marching in the
 light of God

We are marching in the
 light of God

We are marching,
 marching

We are marching Oooo
 We are marching in the
 light of God

We are marching,
 marching
 We are marching Oooo
 We are marching in the
 light of God
 We are living in the love
 of God
 We are living in the love
 of God
 We are living in the Love
 of God
 We are living in the Love
 of God

We are living, living
 We are living Oooo
 We are living in the love
 of God
 We are living, living
 We are living Oooo
 We are living in the Love
 of God

 We are moving in the
 power of God
 We are moving in the
 power of God

we are moving in the
 power of God
 We are moving in the
 power of God
 We are moving, moving
 We are moving Oooo
 We are moving in the
 power of God
 We are moving, moving
 We are moving Oooo
 We are moving in the
 power of God

Dismissal

Leader: Let us go forth in peace in the love of Jesus! Alleluia! Alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!