



St. Stephen Lutheran Church

7800 Erie Street

Sylvania, OH 43560

www.ststephenlutheran.church

419-885-1551

September 6, 2026 10:30 A.M.

Creation in Christ

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Stand

Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
Our hope, our heart, our home.

C Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Everlasting God, the Alpha and the Omega,
the beginning and the end.

**C 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 cost 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.

P 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 no more.

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.

C Amen.

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Opening Hymn

“Morning Has Broken” ELW 556



1 Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing;
2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sun - lit from heav - en,
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing,



black-bird has spo - ken like the first bird.
like the first dew - fall on the first grass.
born of the one light E - den saw play!



Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the morn - ing!
Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet gar - den,
Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - 'ry morn - ing,



Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!
sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.
God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965

Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune

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GREETING

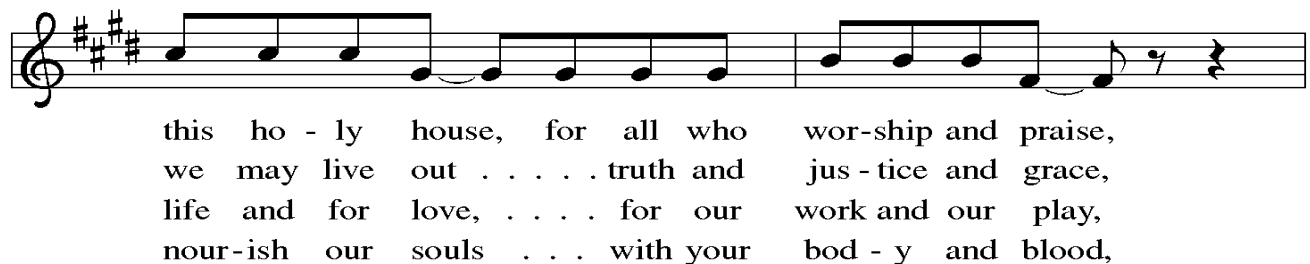
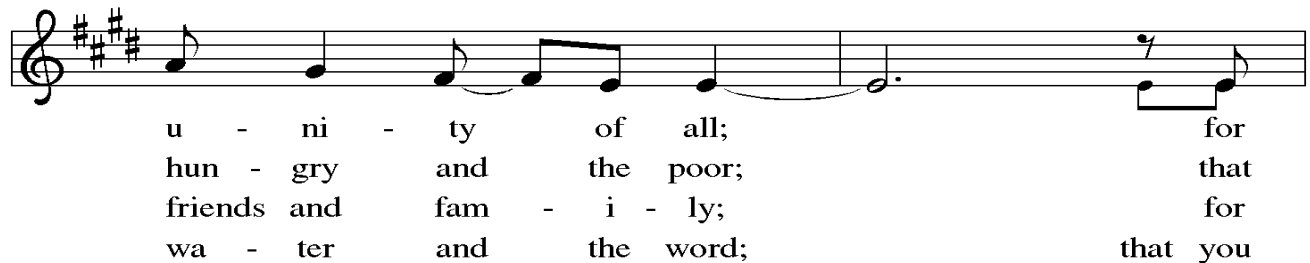
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

KYRIE (LORD HAVE MERCY)



- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
- 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
- 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

A The Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: Psalm 26:1-8

- ¹ Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens;
praise God in the heights.
² **Praise the LORD, all you angels;
sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.**
³ Praise the LORD, sun and moon;
sing praise, all you shining stars.
⁴ **Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens,
and you waters above the heavens.**
⁵ Let them praise the name of the LORD,
who commanded, and they were created,
⁶ **who made them stand fast forever and ever,
giving them a law that shall not pass away.**
⁷ Praise the LORD from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps;
⁸ **fire and hail, snow and fog,
tempestuous wind, doing God's will;**
⁹ mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars;
¹⁰ **wild beasts and all cattle,
creeping things and flying birds;**
¹¹ sovereigns of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the world;
¹² **young men and maidens,
old and young together.**
¹³ Let them praise the name of the LORD,
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and
heaven.
¹⁴ **The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for
all faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are
near the LORD. Hallelujah!**

THE HOLY GOSPEL

According to John 1:1-5

p. 862

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

the gospel is read

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sit

SERMON

Stand

RE-COVENANTING

HYMN OF THE DAY

“LET ALL THINGS NOW LIVING” ELW 881

1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to
2 God rules all the forc - es: the stars in their cours-es and

God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,
sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;

who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who
the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the

still guides us on to the end of our days.
deeps of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.

God's ban - ners are o'er us, God's light goes be -
We too should be voic - ing our love and re -

fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,
joic - ing; with glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise

till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is ban - ished, as
till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing: "To

for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.
God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"

Text: Katherine K. Davis, 1892–1980, alt.
Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune
Text © 1939, 1966 E. C. Schirmer Music Company.

APOSTLE'S CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

**the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen ✝**

Sit

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Pastor concludes each petition with: "Hear us, O God,..."

C *"Your mercy is great.*

Pastor concludes with:

**P 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.**

C *Amen.*

Sharing of the Peace

If you are in our sanctuary please wave or give a peace sign to those around you. If you are worshipping online, please type a greeting of peace to others.

Stand

If you wish to contribute to St. Stephen's ministry you can give electronically with the QR code on the blue folder in each aisle, place offerings in the offering box in the Narthex or mail your offerings to 7800 Erie St., Sylvania, OH 43560.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

OFFERING PRAYER

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

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

Sit

COMMUNION:

All people who believe in Jesus Christ are welcome to come and receive Christ's body and blood. Regardless of your church background or affiliation, you are welcome to come forward. We will begin with those seated on the pulpit side of the congregation then those seated on the keyboard side then those that are in the back section. You may come down the center aisle to receive the bread. Choose an individual cup (red is wine, white is grape juice) to receive and place your empty glass in the bowl as you return to your seat using the side aisles. Gluten free wafers are available upon request.

If you do not wish to receive communion, but wish to receive a blessing, please come forward and keep your hands at your sides.

I cast my mind to Calvary
Where Jesus bled and died for me
I see His wounds His hands His feet
My Saviour on that cursed tree
His body bound and drenched in tears
They laid Him down in Joseph's tomb
The entrance sealed by heavy stone
Messiah still and all alone
O praise the Name of the Lord our God
O praise His Name forevermore
For endless days we will sing Your praise
Oh Lord oh Lord our God
Then on the third at break of dawn
The Son of heaven rose again
O trampled death where is your sting
The angels roar for Christ the King
He shall return in robes of white
The blazing sun shall pierce the night
And I will rise among the saints
My gaze transfixed on Jesus' face

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Stand

Sending Forth

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ bless you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Prayer

**God of our salvation,
we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls,
reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey.
Through the body and blood of your Son,
may we become Christ's body in the world,
bearing witness to your love for all creation.
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

Benediction

P Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,
✠ one God,
bless, heal, and hold you
today and always.

C Amen.

Closing Song

“Forever”

Give thanks to the Lord
Our God and King
His love endures forever
For He is good He is above all things
His love endures forever
Sing praise sing praise

With a mighty hand
And an outstretched arm
His love endures forever
For the life that's been reborn
His love endures forever
Sing praise sing praise
Sing praise sing praise

Forever God is faithful
Forever God is strong
Forever God is with us
Forever and ever

Forever God is faithful
Forever God is strong
Forever God is with us
Forever and ever
Forever

From the rising to the setting sun
His love endures forever
And by the grace of God
We will carry on
His love endures forever
Sing praise sing praise
Sing praise sing praise

His love endures forever
His love endures forever
His love endures forever
His love endures forever

Sing praise sing praise
Sing praise sing praise

“Forever” Words and Music by [Chris Tomlin](#) ©2001 worship.together.com songs/ sixsteps Music, admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing CCLI License #450446
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DEPARTURE BID

A Go in peace. Flourish with creation.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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