

bank of the river. As I came back, I saw on the bank of the river a great many trees on one side and on the other. He said to me, ‘This water flows towards the eastern region and goes down into the Arabah; and when it enters the sea, the sea of stagnant waters, the water will become fresh. Wherever the river goes, every living creature that swarms will live, and there will be very many fish, once these waters reach there. It will become fresh; and everything will live where the river goes. People will stand fishing beside the sea from En-gedi to En-eglain; it will be a place for the spreading of nets; its fish will be of a great many kinds, like the fish of the Great Sea. But its swamps and marshes will not become fresh; they are to be left for salt. On the banks, on both sides of the river, there will grow all kinds of trees for food. Their leaves will not wither nor their fruit fail, but they will bear fresh fruit every month, because the water for them flows from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for food, and their leaves for healing.’

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.
Thanks be to God.

The Gradual *Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16 (read responsively by whole verse)*

Give ear, O my people, to my teaching;*
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
I will open my mouth in a parable;*
I will utter dark sayings from of old,
things that we have heard and known,*
that our ancestors have told us.
We will not hide them from their children;*
we will tell to the coming generation
the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might,
and the wonders that he has done.

In the sight of their ancestors he worked marvels*
in the land of Egypt, in the fields of Zoan.
He divided the sea and let them pass through it,*
and made the waters stand like a heap.
In the daytime he led them with a cloud,*
and all night long with a fiery light.
He split rocks open in the wilderness,*
and gave them drink abundantly as from the deep.
He made streams come out of the rock,*
and caused waters to flow down like rivers.

The Second Lesson *Steven Charleston*

Last night they came again, the spirits of earth and sky, of wind and rain, of deep seas and tall mountains. In all shapes and sizes they came, from every tribe and nation: the deer and the elk, the bear and the wolf, broad-winged eagles and crows as black as night. They all came and stood in a solemn circle beneath the one-eyed moon and spoke with a single voice this message from the sacred: “Do not doubt what you see: the world is warming, the waters are rising, and the winds are coming stronger than before. Do not turn away, do not pretend not to see, but speak the truth and set the spirits free to heal the world, before the ice has gone, before the last tiger falls, before only the desert remembers the ones who once walked this land.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s People.
Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn 383 *Fairest Lord Jesus* *St. Elizabeth*

The Holy Gospel *Matthew 21:23-32*

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’

he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. “What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.”

The Gospel of Christ.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon *The Rev. Bob Donnell*

Guest Speaker *Blair Morrison*

Profession of Faith
We believe in God, who creates all things, who embraces all things, who celebrates all things, who is present in every part of the fabric of creation. We believe in God as the source of all life, who baptizes this planet with living water. We believe in Jesus Christ, the suffering one, the poor one, the malnourished one, the climate refugee, who loves and cares for this world and who suffers with it. And we believe in Jesus Christ, the seed of life, who came to reconcile and renew this world and everything in it. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God, who moves with God and who moves among and with us today. We believe in everlasting life in God. And we believe in the hope that one day God will put an end to death and all destructive forces.

The Prayers of the People
Eternal God, We thank you for the beauty of the World: for the teeming life of the seas, the flight of birds, and the diversity of animal life. Grant us grace to treat Creation with respect and care; to protect endangered species, to preserve the variety of habitats, and to honor the delicate balance of nature.
God of life:
Hear our prayer.

We thank you for the wealth of blessings from land and sea; for the power of wind, and the warmth of sun. We pray for the nations of the earth, give us the will to cherish this planet and to use its resources sustainably for the welfare of all.God of justice:
Hear our prayer.
We pray for the faithful witness of the Church, called to reconcile and heal: For this parish and our clergy.
God of grace:
Hear our prayer.

We pray for the human family. We exult in our diversity and giftedness, we repent of our sins, divisions and violence. By the power of your Spirit, restore your image within us. As every human being is known and loved by you, may we care for one another with love and respect. We pray for those you have commended to our care.
God of compassion:
Hear our prayer.
We pray for those who have died, whom we entrust to your eternal love; may we support and comfort those who mourn.
God of peace:
Hear our prayer.

Concluding Collect
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 Confession and Absolution
Let us confess our sins against God and God’s creation.
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.
Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

Walk in love as Christ loved us, and gave himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God.

All are welcome to receive the bread and wine at the altar. You may stand or kneel at the altar rail. The bread is received in the open palm. The wine is taken by drinking from the chalice (please help guide it to your mouth by holding the base of the chalice). Gluten-free wafers are available by request, by placing one hand across your chest. If you do not wish to receive the sacrament, you are invited to come forward and receive a blessing. Please cross your arms across your chest to receive it.

The Offertory

The Great Thanksgiving
Praise and thanks are yours, our Creating God. From the dust of the earth you shaped human beings in your own image, and you filled the earth and seas and skies with a myriad of wonders. Yet we consistently turn your generosity into our scarcity, your elegance into our meanness, and your simplicity into our corruption. Though we poison and destroy your good Creation, you continue to offer us your abundance. In your mercy, you have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus, transforming death into life. Through the Spirit you continue to call us into covenant with you—for the restoration of Creation and the reconciliation of all people. And so we give you thanks, rejoicing with all of Creation, as we join the saints and angels in their unending hymn:

Sanctus S-127 *Calvin Hampton*

In the night that Jesus was betrayed, he took bread, and gave thanks to God. He broke the bread, gave it to his friends and said: “Take and eat, for this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”He took the wine, and gave thanks to God, Creator. **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.** Merciful God, we come to this table seeking reconciliation: with you, with one another, and with all creation. Through these mysteries reconcile us to our world and empower us to restore your Creation and fulfill your will. Send your life-giving Spirit upon us, and upon this bread and wine. Stir in us the creative and redeem the destructive. Heal your stricken world, that the soil, the skies, and the seas may be filled with your life anew. Fill every heart with the sure and certain hope that we shall enter into the fullness of your joy, when your whole Creation is justified by faith and sanctified by love, and you are all in all. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, everlasting God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord’s Prayer
Leader: Our Father [and/or: Mother] in heaven
People: You are also at home in the air, soil, forests and oceans
Leader: Hallowed be your name
People: By the care we take of your Creation
Leader: Your kingdom come
People: All that you see is good
Leader: Your will be done on earth, as it is in Heaven
People: Your will to till and care
Leader: Give us this day our daily bread

He said to me, ‘Mortal, have you seen this?’ Then he led me back along the