

# Creation



It is Good: The Beginning

June 21, 2026 | 10:00am



Welcome! We're glad you're here!



If you are a guest and are interested in knowing more about this community and the ministries that Holy Shepherd is engaged in, please add your information on the clipboard located at the **Information Center** kiosk. You may add as much information as you'd like to share. We look forward to getting to know you!

Trusting God + Loving the World

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God*

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship

From the very beginning, before anything else, God was.  
**God sent the Spirit blowing over and through all of creation.**

All things are created out of God's love.

**Sun and moon and stars, water and mountains, plains and forest,  
and all their creatures.**

All things are created in delight and for joy.

**Come let us worship God in whose image we are created.**

Confession & Forgiveness

We confess our sins before God and one another.

*Pause for silence and reflection.*

Creating God, **we confess that we do not trust your abundance. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.**

As tender as parent to child, so deep is God's compassion for you. As high as heaven is above earth, so vast is God's love for you. As far as east is from west, so far God removes your sin from you, renewing your life through Jesus Christ. Blessed be God who crowns us with mercy and love.

**Amen.**

## Opening Song

**For the Beauty of the Earth**

ELW 879 vs. 1,2,5

**For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth, over and around us lies:**

*Refrain*

**Christ, our God, to thee we raise  
this our sacrifice of praise.**

**For the wonder of each hour, of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light: *Refrain***

**For each perfect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;  
for thyself, best gift divine, to our world so freely giv'n: *Refrain***

## Greeting

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

## Prayer of Day

Creator of unfailing light,

**Deep within our hearts we long for your presence. Give us the light of your steadfast love, that our lives may proclaim your goodness, our work give you honor, and our voices bless you forever; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*God speaks to us in scripture, preaching & song*

## Scripture Reading

Genesis 1:1-2:4

**1** When God began to create the heavens and the earth, **2** the earth was complete chaos, and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. **3** Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. **4** And God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the

darkness. <sup>5</sup> God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

<sup>6</sup> And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." <sup>7</sup> So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. <sup>8</sup> God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

<sup>9</sup> And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. <sup>10</sup> God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. <sup>11</sup> Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. <sup>12</sup> The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. <sup>13</sup> And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

<sup>14</sup> And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, <sup>15</sup> and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. <sup>16</sup> God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. <sup>17</sup> God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, <sup>18</sup> to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. <sup>19</sup> And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

<sup>20</sup> And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." <sup>21</sup> So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>22</sup> God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." <sup>23</sup> And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

<sup>24</sup> And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. <sup>25</sup> God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind and the cattle of every kind and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

<sup>26</sup> Then God said, "Let us make humans in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over the cattle and over all the wild animals of the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."

<sup>27</sup> So God created humans in his image,  
in the image of God he created them;  
male and female he created them.

<sup>28</sup> God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." <sup>29</sup> God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. <sup>30</sup> And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the air and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. <sup>31</sup> God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

<sup>2</sup> Thus the heavens and the earth were finished and all their multitude. <sup>2</sup> On the sixth day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. <sup>3</sup> So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

<sup>4</sup> These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## Holy Gospel

John 1:1-5, 14

The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup> in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

<sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### + Children's Time +



#### **Children's Church**

*Children age 3yrs – 4<sup>th</sup> grade.  
After children's message, meet  
the leader in back of church.*



# Message

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon*

## Song

### *Many and Great*

ELW 837

**Many and great, O God, are your works,  
maker of earth and sky.  
Your hands have set the heavens with stars;  
your fingers spread the mountains and plains.  
Lo, at your word the waters were formed;  
deep seas obey your voice.**

**Grant unto us communion with you, O Star-abiding One.  
Come unto us and dwell with us;  
with you are found the gifts of life.  
Bless us with life that has no end,  
eternal life with you.**

## Proclamation of Faith

**We are not alone; we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God: who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:**

**to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in creation,  
to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us.**

**We are not alone. Thanks be to God!**

# Prayers of the People

Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made,  
let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*Prayer petitions response*

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken  
prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

## Sharing God's Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ*

## Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

## Eucharistic Prayer

O God triune, how majestic is your name in all the earth. Over the eons your merciful  
might evolved our home, a fragile tree of life. Here by your wisdom are both life and  
death, growth and decay, the nest and the hunt, sunshine and storm, darkness and  
light. Sustained by these wonders, we creatures of dust join in the ancient song:  
The earth is full of your glory. **The earth is full of your glory.**

O God triune, you took on our flesh in Jesus our healer. In Christ you bring life from  
death; we remember his cross, we laud his resurrection. Broken like bread, he enlivens  
our body. Outpoured like wine, he fills the earth with goodness. Receiving this mystery,  
we mortals sing our song:

The earth is full of your glory. **The earth is full of your glory.**

We praise you for the heart of Jesus, so filled with your love for this earth.

On the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for  
you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Gathered around this table, we your children unite in this song:  
The earth is full of your glory. **The earth is full of your glory.**

O God triune, you create the worlds, you uphold the living, you embrace the dead. Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth. Strengthen us for our journey with this meal, the body and blood of Christ. Give us a future that trusts in you and cares for your earth. Empowered by your promises, we rise from our deaths to praise you again:

The earth is full of your glory. **The earth is full of your glory.**

Amen, and Amen. **Amen, and Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

Our Father 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 forever. Amen.

## Invitation

All creation rejoices as God's Spirit brings it to life. Here at this table we rejoice in the gifts of creation - bread and wine, the very presence of Christ - given to restore us. Come now, for heaven has come near.





+ *All Are Welcome at the Table* +

**Options for receiving Holy Communion**

Please come forward to the front where the pastors are standing. Come forward starting with the front pews, there will be no ushers. After you have received communion please exit by the side aisles and put your empty cup in the basket. There are kneelers on each side where you are free to kneel and pray before you return to your seat. Bread (gluten-free) and wine or grape juice (center of the tray) will be given to you with the words spoken:

***“The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.”***

If you would like communion served in the pew, please signal to a pastor or let the usher in the back know.

*You are invited...* To bring **offering** forward during Holy Communion or before or after worship. The offering is gathered in front of the church in front of the communion table (altar) where we are reminded of God’s gifts given to us in Christ and our response to these gifts.

**Communion Song**

**Lamb of God**

- Haugen

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the

*To Repeat*  
world, have mer - cy on us.

*Last time*  
world, grant us peace.

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***In This Feast of Love***

ACS 962

**In this feast of love, in this feast of love,  
Lord, you share your blood and your body,  
Jesus, Lamb of God.**

**In this bread and wine, in this bread and wine,  
you have promised, Lord, to be with us,  
Lamb of God divine.**

**Grant us peace, O Lord, grant us peace, O Lord;  
fill us with the joy of your Spirit,  
ever-living Word.**

## Prayer after Communion

O God, in this holy communion you have welcomed us into your presence, nourished us with word of mercy, and fed us at your table. Amid the cares of this life, strengthen us to love you with all our heart, serve our neighbors with a willing spirit, and honor the earth you have made; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Go out with joy and be led forth with peace,  
the mountains and the hills shall break forth singing.  
Go out with joy and be led forth with peace,  
the mountains and the hills shall break forth singing.**

**And all the trees of the fields shall clap their hands,  
the Lord Jehovah shall be praised.  
And all the trees of the fields shall clap their hands,  
The word of the Lord shall be forever. –Huerta**

*God blesses us and sends us out in mission to the world.*

## Blessing

Holy God, Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, increase your hope, strengthen your faith, deepen your love, and grant you peace. **Amen.**

## Sending Song

*Earth is Full of Wit & Wisdom*

ACS 1064

**Earth is full of wit and wisdom, sounding God's delighted laugh,  
from the tiny roly-poly, to the treetop-tall giraffe.  
All creation sings in wonder; even rocks and trees rejoice  
as they join the ringing chorus: echoes of our Maker's voice.**

**Earth is full of wit and wisdom, woven into harmony.  
Ev'ry creature has a purpose, ev'ry flow'r and bumblebee.  
Spider, human, redwood, gecko, monkey, chicken, mouse, and snake  
live within a single fabric: cloth that only God could make.**

Earth is full of wit and wisdom: penguin, platypus, and snail,  
cactus, sea slug, oak, and algae, from the microbe to the whale.  
In this great and strange creation, with a breath God gives us birth:  
born of soil to live as stewards, called to love and serve the earth.

## Sending

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude



### Worship Leadership

Pastors .....Julie Brooks, Kim Gonia  
Pianist/Organist .....Chris Johnson  
Reader .....Barb Stannard  
Communion Assistants ..... Christi Young, Gaylene Szaltzer  
Greeters ..... Kurt & Darlene Mader  
Usher..... Don Threlkeld  
Altar Guild ..... Donna Madsen  
Children's Church ..... Children's Church Team  
Worship Technology ..... Judy Ekberg, Mark Lee

*Photos in worship are used by permission from Winston Hebert,  
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## WORSHIP SERVICE NOTES

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**THANK YOU** for being considerate of disabled worshippers and their families. Please leave the pew cuts and several adjoining seats available for those with walkers & wheelchairs.

**HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES** are located at the sound booth located in the back of the sanctuary on the east side. You can also download the app WaveCast Receiver which is designed for hearing aids with Bluetooth capability. See our sound engineer Mark, in the sound booth if you have any questions. (*Back of the sanctuary, SE corner*).

**CANDLE STATION** is available for candle-lighting. (*In the back of the sanctuary*).

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## RELATIONSHIP BUILDING (FELLOWSHIP)

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After worship, you are invited to get to know one another for the first – or 100<sup>th</sup> time, in the narthex (behind the sanctuary) or in the fellowship hall with coffee and snacks.

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## OFFERING

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Your financial gifts support Holy Shepherd and its vision to nurture trusting relationships with God and with one another, along with its vision to engage in generous activities that serve to love the world as Jesus has shown us. Cash, or checks made out to Holy Shepherd, can be placed in the front bowl by the front pews on your way to communion. (Envelopes are available in your pews if you'd like.) You can also scan the QR code to the left and give through Tithely. *Thank you for your generosity.*

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## KIDS

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**Kids Zone** (un-staffed) is available your family to use if you need a place to step out with kids during the service. It is located off the hallway west of the sanctuary and has a television available for watching the worship live-stream.

**Kid busy bags** are located in the narthex (outside the sanctuary) and contain kid friendly items for families to take into worship. Please return to the stand after worship.

**Children's Church** is offered after the kids, typically 3 years old to 4<sup>th</sup> grade, come up for *Children's Time* with the pastor. This optional activity is during the pastor's message and is led by an adult. It is located in the room just through the nursery off the west hallway of the sanctuary.

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