

Good Shepherd Episcopal Church

Belmont, California

The Season of Creation

Welcome

Opening Hymn

Announced

Acclamation

Presider Blessed be the One, Loving, Liberating, and Life-giving God.
People **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

Presider and People

Almighty and everlasting God, you made the universe with all its marvelous order, its atoms, worlds, and galaxies, and the infinite complexity of living creatures: Grant that, as we contemplate the mysteries of your creation and listen for the voice of each creature declaring your glory, we may come to know you more truly, and more surely fulfill our role in your eternal purpose; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Hymn of Praise** Joyful, joyful we adore thee*

Hymnal 376

The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider The Spirit of God hovered over the water
People **and brought life to all creation.**
Presider Come, Holy Spirit
People **and renew the face of the earth.**

*The Presider says the Collect of the Day, found on the insert. The People respond: **Amen.***

The Lessons

The People are seated for the Readings, found on the insert. After each Reading, the People respond:

<i>Reader</i>	Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
<i>People</i>	Thanks be to God.

Instructions will be given for the recitation of the psalm or canticle following the First Reading.

Sequence

Announced

The Gospel

All standing, the Gospeller reads the Gospel, first saying

<i>Gospeller</i>	The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to _____.
<i>People</i>	Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After the Gospel, the Gospeller says

<i>Gospeller</i>	The Gospel of the Lord.
<i>People</i>	Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon *with Congregational Reflections*

The Nicene Creed

Presider Let us affirm our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

**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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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.

The Prayers of the People

Presider

Let us pray for the revealing of the reign of God in the world, now and always.

Intercessor

Creator of earth, sea, and sky, kindle the fire of your Spirit within us that we may be bold to heal and defend the earth, and pour your blessing upon all who work for the good of the planet.

God, Giver of life,

Hear our prayer.

Breath of life, receive our thanks for the beauty of our local habitat and all who dwell in it, and grant us the wisdom and will to conserve it.

God, Giver of life,

Hear our prayer.

Source of life, heal and redeem the wounds of your creation, and visit the places and people who suffer from our indifference, neglect, and greed.

God, Giver of life,

Hear our prayer.

Lover of all you have made, we thank you for the wondrous diversity of your creatures, and we pray for their well-being. We give thanks especially for the creatures who have graced our lives as we name them now, either silently or aloud (*pause*):

God, Giver of life,

Hear our prayer.

Author of the book of nature, receive our gratitude for places of restoration and healing, and continue to bless those places that feed our lives and spirits.

God, Giver of life,

Hear our prayer.

Giver of all good gifts, awaken us daily to our interdependence within your bounty, and make us always thankful for the abundance of your blessings.

God, Giver of life,

Hear our prayer.

Divine Physician, heal our communities. Shelter those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. Bring healing to those whom we hold dear and all those whom we name silently or aloud (*pause*).

God, Giver of life,

Hear our prayer.

Comforter of all the earth, sustain the people of this congregation who desire or need your presence and help.

God, Giver of life,

Hear our prayer.

Rock and refuge of all your creatures, receive into everlasting mercy all those who have died, especially those whom we name in our hearts or aloud (*pause*):

God, Giver of life,

Hear our prayer.

The Presider offers the concluding collect

Eternal God, the light of all who know you, come and fill our hearts with your love.
Help us speak when many keep silent, help us stand for what is right
when many sit in indifference.
Increase our faith and charity, until your kingdom comes
and heaven and earth rejoice in everlasting glory;
through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Confession

Presider Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

Presider and People

**God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.**

Absolution

Presider

Almighty God, have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins
through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness,
and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

A deacon or lay person using the preceding form substitutes “us” for “you” and “our” for “your.”

The Peace

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Announcements + Birthday and Anniversary Blessings

The Holy Communion

Offertory and Offertory Hymn

Announced

All gifts support the life and ministries of Good Shepherd; contribute to the stewardship of the church and land where we gather; and nurture our community relations.

Doxology and Presentation of Gifts

Hymnal 380

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Presider

All thanks and praise
are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God;
through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word,
the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things.
You laid the foundations of the world
and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb;
You brought forth all creatures of the earth
and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing,
all you create is a sign of hope for our journey;
And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings
and all creation as we shout with joy:

Sanctus

S129

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. —

Setting: Robert Powell (b. 1932)

The Presider continues

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all,
your Word has never been silent;
you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations,
you delivered them from bondage
and led them to a land of promise.
Of your grace, you gave Jesus
to be human, to share our life,
to proclaim the coming of your holy reign
and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer,
you have freed us from sin,
brought us into your life,
reconciled us to you,
and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us,
Jesus took bread,
and when he had given thanks to you,
he broke it, gave it to his friends and said:
“Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing,
gave it to his friends and said:
“Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood,
poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

And so, remembering all that was done for us
the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension,
longing for Christ’s coming in glory,
and presenting to you these gifts
your earth has formed and human hands have made,
we acclaim you, O Christ:

Presider and People

**Dying, you destroyed our death.
Rising, you restored our life.
Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

The Presider continues

Send your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon these gifts of bread and wine
that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ.
Grant that we, burning with your Spirit’s power,
may be a people of hope, justice, and love.

Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ,
and in the fullness of time gather us
with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.
Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

Presider and People

Blessed are you now and forever. Amen.

Presider

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

Presider and People

**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,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem

WLP 875



Cantor Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.

People **Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.**

Cantor The bread which we break, alleluia,
is the communion of the body of Christ.

People **Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.**

Cantor One body are we, alleluia, for though many we share one bread.

People **Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.**

Invitation

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.

Post Communion Prayer

Presider Let us pray.

**Great Spirit God,
We give you thanks for this holy day
to enjoy the compassionate goodness of you, our Creator,
as you nurture us in the Communion of the Body and Blood of your Christ.
We acknowledge with one mind and heart,
our respect and gratefulness to all the sacred cycle of life.
Bind us together in the circle of compassion
to embrace all living creatures and one another
through the fellowship of the Holy Trinity. Amen.**

The Blessing

Deep peace of the shining star to you,
Deep peace of the running wave to you,
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you,
Deep joy of the leaping fire to you,
Deep peace of the children of peace to you.

And the blessing of God,
Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier
be amongst you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

Announced

The Dismissal

Minister Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Sources for the Liturgy of the Season of Creation

The Book of Common Prayer (1979)

Confession and Eucharistic Prayer III, *Enriching Our Worship* (1997)

“All Creation Worships,” adapted. Church of England. (*Gathering Dialogue*)
<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/worship-texts-and-resources/common-worship/common-material/new-patterns-22>

Liturgical Materials for Honoring God in Creation. Standing Committee on Liturgy and Music. Reports to the 78th General Convention: Supplemental Materials (2015). (*Prayers of the People and Post-Communion Prayer, adapted*)

“Affirmation of Faith.” Gurukul Lutheran Theological College and Research Institute (a seminary in South India), adapted by Keld B. Hansen (2009), as provided in “Listen to the Voice of Creation,” *Season of Creation Celebration Guide* (2022), p. 33; reprinted in *Season of Creation: A Celebration Guide for Episcopal Parishes*. Perennial Edition 2025, p. 111.
<https://newcreationliturgies.org/seasonofcreation/>

“Celtic Prayer,” adapted. By Sister Susan, Nada Hermitage, Creston, Colorado. In *One Hundred Graces*, eds. Maria and Jack Kelly. (*Final Blessing*)

1982 Hymnal

Wonder, Love, and Praise: A Supplement to the 1982 Hymnal (1997).

All music reprinted/streamed with permission under One License #A-742947. All rights reserved.



Good Shepherd Episcopal Church
1300 Fifth Avenue
Belmont, CA 94002
Tel. (650) 593-4844
Email: contact@goodshepherdbelmont.org
Web: goodshepherdbelmont.org

The Rev. Stephanie Green, Priest-in-Charge
Email: revstephanie@goodshepherdbelmont.org