st. peter's chelsea

The Feast of St. Francis
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 4, 2026

10:00 AM

The Season of Creation, September 1st through October 4 (Feast of St. Francis observed), is celebrated by Christians around the world as a time for renewing, repairing and restoring our relationship to God, one another, and all of creation. Our liturgy and prayers will reflect this theme as we are invited to consider anew our ways of living in the world.

Note for parents: We love the "joyful noise" of kids and welcome them into our worship! In the back of the church, there is an area with children's toys and books. If you need a quiet space, the rectory is open and available with toys and a diaper changing station. You are welcome there anytime or you can ask a greeter for help.

Please rise in body or spirit.

OPENING SONG *All Creatures of Our God and King*

All creatures of our God and King
Lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam!
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Allelu - - ia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong
Ye clouds that sail in Heaven along,
O praise Him! Alleluia!

Thou rising moon, in praise rejoice,
Ye lights of evening, find a voice!
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

And all of those with tender heart,
Forgiving others, take your part,
O sing ye! Alleluia!

Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
Praise God and on Him cast your care!
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship Him in humbleness,
O praise Him! Alleluia!

Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, Three in One!
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

WORDS/MUSIC: St Francis of Assisi

OPENING ACCLAMATION

+ indicates a place where we traditionally cross ourselves

Celebrant +Blessed be the One who creates all things.
All **The Holy One's love is new every morning.**

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
All **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

All **Most high, omnipotent, good Lord, grant your people grace to renounce gladly the vanities of this world; that, following the way of blessed Francis, we may, for love of you, delight in your whole creation with perfectness of joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, Three in One!
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Please be seated.

PREPARING TO LISTEN

SCRIPTURE READING | Job 39: 1–18

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to all God's creation.
All **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSIVE PSALM | Psalm 121

I lift my eyes up to the hills;
from where is my help to come?
My help comes from the LORD,
the maker of heaven and earth.
The LORD will not let your foot be moved
the LORD who watches over you will not fall asleep.
Behold, the LORD who keeps watch over Israel
shall neither slumber nor sleep;
The LORD alone watches over you;
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,
So that the sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.
The LORD shall preserve you from all evil;
it is God who shall keep you safe.
The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in,
from this time forth for evermore.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Please rise.

GRADUAL SONG *Breathe*

Breathe, breathe on us now
Open your mouth
And speak the word that heals this broken ground
Say, say what You will
As we are still
As we breathe in the very breath of God

CHORUS
Oh, Spirit of God
Here with us now, give in us life again
Breathe, breathe on us now
Fill us with Your love
Send us with Your power
Spirit of God

WORDS/MUSIC: Lisa Gungor, Michael Gungor, David Gungor, and John Arndt

Celebrant +The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.
All **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

GOSPEL | Luke 12: 13–21

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord
All **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Oh, Spirit of God
Here with us now, give in us life again
Breathe, breathe on us now
Fill us with Your love
Send us with Your power
Spirit of God

Please be seated.

Children ages 3 to those in 5th grade are invited to a time of children's worship; they will return to the sanctuary in time for Communion.

SERMON The Rev. Lisha Epperson

Please rise.

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *Written by Ally Bergman*

Let us pray to the God who makes all things new, for the Church and for our world.

God who brings the formless waters into light and darkness, ocean and sky, and land that bears fruit—dwell in this sanctuary today, that our hearts might also become fertile ground for the good that you are growing in our world.

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

God of the lilies and the sparrow, give us a reverence for your creation that leads us into loving relationship with all You have made. Form us to be nurturers and defenders of beauty as we move through the earth, participating well in the life you have given us in this world.

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

God who binds up the injured and strengthens the weak, grow justice in our world. Make the waters of life a stream through our cities, creating a peace in which all people have a place to rest.

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

God who tends to what is broken and breathes life into the dust, be present with those who are afraid today; with those who are sick; those who are grieving; those who feel far from hope; and with those who are living in the midst of war. Pour out your Spirit who brings water into desert places, and be near to them.

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

God of life, we give thanks for the fullness of your Kingdom, which stretches beyond the grave and draws us into unity with all those who have lived and died before us. With resurrection already in our bones through Christ, help us to live in this world with unshakable hope.

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

CONFESSION *for the Season of Creation*

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbors.

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.

Celebrant 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.*

PEACE

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.
All **And also with you**.

Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OFFERING

Please connect with us on our website by using the QR code:

You can give in the offering box near the doors, through our website or by using the QR code:

OFFERTORY *You Are Love & Love Alone*

God and Father, great and holy
Fearing not, we come to Thee
Fearing not, though weak lowly
For Your love has set us free

And by the blue sky bending over
By the green earth's flowery home
Teach us Lord the angel chorus
You are Love and love alone!

[Chorus]
You are Love and love alone
You are Love and love alone
You are Love and love alone
You are

Wind and water, creatures with us
Join the song before your throne
Mother Earth in joyful chorus
Shows the love that you have sown

With Your name the heavens praising
Angels hymn no sweeter tone
Than the songs our hearts are raising
You are love and love alone

DOXOLOGY

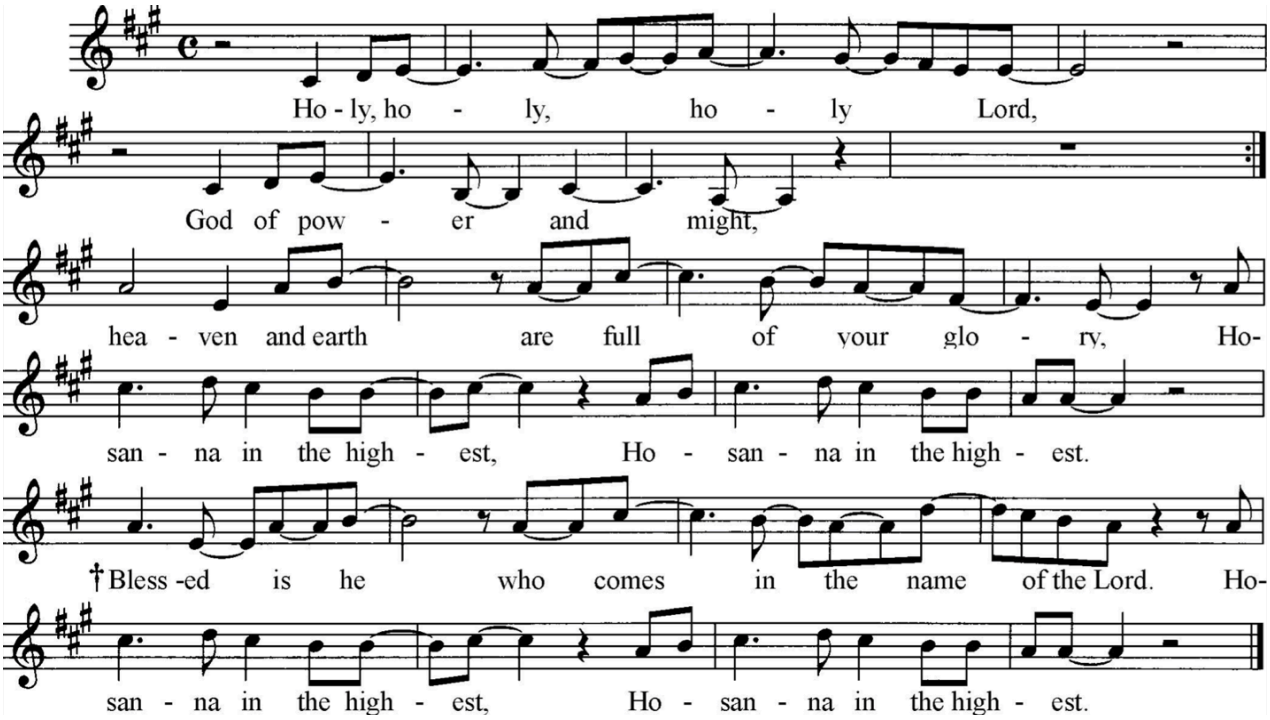
Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise him all creatures here below
Praise him above ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Creator be with you.
All **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
All **We lift them to the Creator.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

SANCTUS



WORDS: Book of Common Prayer MUSIC: Brian Milner, from Mass for the Beloved

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God…

…Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(adapted from Creation Care Prayers, Church of England)*

Celebrant Our Father and Mother in heaven
All **You are also at home in the air, soil, forests and oceans**
Celebrant Hallowed be your name
All **By the care we take of your Creation**
Celebrant Your kingdom come
All **All that you see is good**
Celebrant Your will be done on earth, as it is in Heaven
All **Your will to till and care**

Celebrant Give us this day our daily bread
All **That all may have enough to live life in fullness**
Celebrant Forgive us our trespasses
All **Our greed, our exploitation, our lack of concern**
for other species and for future generations
Celebrant As we forgive those who trespass against us
All **By reconciliation with justice and peace.**
Celebrant Lead us not into temptation
All **The temptation to dominate and exploit**
Celebrant And deliver us from evil
All **The evil of destroying your gift of creation**

Celebrant For yours is the kingdom
All **Yours, Lord, not ours**
Celebrant The power and the glory
All **In the cross and resurrection**
Celebrant For ever and ever
All **You are the beginning and you are the end. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
All **We who are many are one body, for we all share the one bread.**
Celebrant This is the table of Jesus Christ.
It is made ready for those who love God
and who want to love God more.

So come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed, you who are here for the very first time. Come, it is Christ who invites you to be known and fed here.

If you would like to receive communion, hold your palms open when the celebrant comes to you. All wafers are gluten-free. If you prefer a blessing instead, cross your arms over your chest.

COMMUNION SONGS *Everything / Open Up*

God in my living, there in my breathing
God in my waking, God in my sleeping
God in my resting, there in my working
God in my thinking, God in my speaking

Be my everything (4x)

God in my hoping, there in my dreaming
God in my watching, God in my waiting
God in my laughing, there in my weeping
God in my hurting, God in my healing

Christ in me, Christ in me
Christ in me, the hope of glory
You are everything

You are everything (4x)
Jesus everything (4x)

WORDS / MUSIC: Tim Hughes

Open Up

You heard the cry of our hearts
And you came down
Freely you gave us your love
Showing us how

Make me an instrument of your peace
Where there is hatred let me show love
Where there is darkness let me shine light and

May Your love cause us to open up
Cause us to open up our hearts
May Your light cause us to shine so bright
That we bring hope into the dark

All that we do without love
It means nothing
Grant us the courage to give
As you're calling

Make me an instrument of your peace
Where there is hatred let me show love
Where there is darkness let me shine light and

May Your love cause us to open up
Cause us to open up our hearts
May Your light cause us to shine so bright
That we bring hope into the dark

WORDS/MUSIC: David Gungor & John Arndt

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **Create in us a new heart and a new vision, O God, that the gifts of your Spirit may work in us and renew the face of the earth. May we be one with you so that our work is yours and your work is ours. Transform our lives to reflect your glory in Creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior who is alive with you and the Holy Spirit one God now and for ever. Amen.**

FINAL BLESSING

CLOSING SONG *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
The King of Creation.
O my soul praise Him for He is my
Health and Salvation.
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near
Join in the glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord who with marvelous
Wisdom has made thee.
Blessed you with health and with loving hand
Guided and stayed thee.
Often in grief, has He not brought you relief?
Spreading His wings for to shade thee.

Hallelujah, Hallelujah,
Hallelujah, Amen!
Hallelujah, Hallelujah,
Hallelujah, Amen!

Praise to the Lord, O let all that is
In me adore Him.
All that hath life and breath come now
With praises before Him.
Let the Amen! Sound from His people again.
Gladly because we adore Him.

Hallelujah, Hallelujah,
Hallelujah, Amen!
Hallelujah, Hallelujah,
Hallelujah, Amen!

WORDS/MUSIC: Joachim Neander

DISMISSAL

All **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

WELCOME TO ST. PETER'S CHELSEA!

We're so glad that you joined us today! Please sign up for our email newsletter at www.stpeterschelsea.org, follow us on Instagram and Facebook @stpeterschelsea and find out more ways to get connected.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Journeying with the Black Madonnas: Images and Stories from France and Spain, Sunday, October 11 at 11:30 am. This summer, during her sabbatical, the Rev. Lisha Epperson made a pilgrimage to some of the oldest and most beloved shrines to Mary in Europe. These shrines are home to the Black Madonnas, ancient images of the Mother of God, most seated in majesty with the Christ child on her lap. Join us after the service for an informal presentation of photographs and stories from the road. Come hear about the places, the people, and the questions that met her along the way, and why these dark-faced Madonnas have drawn pilgrims for nearly a thousand years. Bring your coffee and your curiosity. All are welcome.

Spiritual Practice Pilgrimage. Are you looking for some space for stillness, reflection, and a deeper awareness of God in the midst of everyday life? Join our spiritual practice pilgrimage led by Kimberly Malone this fall. You'll be invited to design a spiritual practice that is meaningful and sustainable for you, and then explore how that practice shapes your daily life. Whether you are new to spiritual practice or looking to deepen an existing rhythm, you'll have space to practice, reflect, and share alongside others. **Pilgrimage Check-Ins** will be held virtually from 8–9:30 p.m. on **October 15, November 19, and December 17.** To learn more or sign up, email 30days@stpeterschelsea.org.

Family Table, Sunday, October 18. Please save the date for our next Family Table! Immediately after the worship service on October 18, we will gather as a community to check-in and Christine will share updates about our church finances and capital campaign.

St. Peter's Brooklynites, Unite! Monday, October 26. Do you live in Brooklyn - or nearby? Ashley Hong and Jeff Chan will be hosting a gathering for St. Peter's folks who live in the area. It's a chance to share a meal, get to know one another better, and build community a little closer to home. Join us for dinner on Monday, October 26, 6:30 pm. RSVP to ashleysunghae@gmail.com.

Bring a Photo & Food to Share for All Saints' Day, Sunday, November 1. During worship service on All Saints' Day, we will remember those we've loved and lost with candle lighting and by placing their photo on the altar. If you would like to participate, please bring a physical photo of your loved one. Also, for Coffee Hour on November 1, we will enjoy a "Feast of the Ancestors" and invite you to bring a favorite food of the person you're remembering to share with the community.

Advent Chorale Invitation. The St. Peter's Chorale will sing on December 6th (Advent Week 2) and we need your lovely voice! We'll practice after church on: **November 8, November 15** and do a run-through before service on **Dec. 6th.** Contact Beeca Lin to join at beecalin@gmail.com.

Please visit our website for a full list of our events and weekly gatherings:
www.stpeterschelsea.org/connect

Cover art is *Tree of Life #1 by Rasula Art Gallery*