

## Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

### \*Celebration of Holy Communion

One: God be with you.                      **Many: And also with you.**  
One: Lift up your hearts.                **Many: We lift them up to God.**  
One: Let us give thanks to God.        **Many: It is good to give God thanks & praise**

### \*Creation's Praise

*Santo Santo Santo*

*Santo, santo, santo, mi corazon te adora. Mi corazon te sabe decir, santo eres Dios. Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you. My heart is glad to say the words, you are holy God.*

*(Please be seated)*

### Sharing of the Bread & Cup

Receive the Bread of Life. **Amen.**  
The Cup of Love, the Drink of Compassion. **Amen.**

## On Earth as it is in Heaven

### \*Prayer of Thanksgiving & the Lord's Prayer

*Our Mother/Father, always and everywhere, 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.*

### \*Hymn of Sending

*O Mighty God When I Survey in Wonder*  
(Black New Century Hymnal No.35)

### \*Benediction

### Postlude

*Spirit in the Sky*  
Peter Black

### Prelude

*Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart*  
Peter Black

*Please use this time for quiet reflection and preparation for worship*

### Welcome & Announcements

### Lighting of Altar Candles & Ringing in the Hour

Let us recognize the light of the world within us and ring in the hour of worship.

### Introit

*Love and Justice*

*Love and Justice, Peace and Power, show us how to live each hour.  
Raise us up, and set us free, show us how to live and be.  
Tell your neighbors, tell your friends, here's a place hope never ends.  
Love and Justice, Peace and Power, God is with us in this hour.  
God is with us in this hour, God is with us in this hour,  
God is with us in this hour.*

### Call to Worship

*Psalm 19*

One: The Sky is telling the glory of God;

**Many: Let all the Earth proclaim God's handiwork.**

One: The day sky pours forth speech, and the night sky declares knowledge.

**Many: Yet, there is no speech, nor are there any words.**

One: Their voice is not heard, yet goes out through all the Earth.

**Many: The Sky is telling the glory of God. Let all creation sing! Amen.**

### \*Opening Hymn

*We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky*  
(Black New Century Hymnal No.563)

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\* = Stand if you wish to, and are able  
**Congregational response in bold**

## Unison Prayer

*God, our Creator, as we look up into the sky, we celebrate the wonders of the Universe that surrounds us. Help us to see your presence in the evening stars, to sense your Spirit in the wind, and to see your grace in the falling rain. Teach us to hear the Good News from the thunderous sky celebrating your glory. Rejoice with us as we behold the dawn revealing the mysteries of the skies above and Earth below. This we pray in the Spirit of Christ who unites heaven and Earth. Amen.*

## Assurance of Grace and Peace

One: Peace be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Let us offer one another a sign of Peace.

## \*Passing the Peace

*We Pray for Peace*

*We pray for peace, for peace among the nations. We pray for peace, good will among all people. 'Til love comes down like a summer rain; 'til the rivers of justice flow again, 'til the day of jubilee is come, we pray for peace upon our planet home.*

## Words of Integration & Guidance

Richard Rohr

Most Christians know about Jesus of Nazareth, but very few know about the Christ, and even fewer were ever taught how to put the two together. Many still seem to think that Christ is Jesus' last name. By proclaiming my faith in Jesus Christ, I have made not just one, but two acts of faith, one in Jesus and another in the Christ. The first and cosmic incarnation of the Eternal Christ happened at the Big Bang 13.8 billion years ago. Christians believe that Jesus of Nazareth was the human incarnation of that same Mystery a mere 2,000 years ago, when we were perhaps ready for this revelation. Christ is not Jesus' last name, but the title of his historical and cosmic purpose. The Christ is much bigger and older than either Jesus of Nazareth or the Christian religion, because the Christ is whenever the material and the divine co-exist—which is always and everywhere. I think we are all sad to admit that organized Christianity has often resisted and opposed the true meaning of the Cosmic Christ. Rather than being taught that we can and should follow Jesus as “partners in his great triumphal procession” (2 Corinthians 2:14), we were told to be grateful spectators and admirers of what he once did. We were taught that although Jesus was “fully human and fully divine,” the best most of us could do was to see ourselves as *only* human, and Jesus, for all practical purposes, as *only* divine. We thus missed the whole point, which was to put the two together and then dare to discover the same mystery in ourselves and in all of creation!

## Creation Season: Sky

### The Words of Holy Scripture

One: A Reading of Scripture from Philippians 2:1-11

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Many: Thanks be to God.

### The Gospel Lesson

One: The Holy Gospel according to Mark 15:33-39

Many: **Glory to you, O Christ.**

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Many: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### Homily

"The Cosmic Christ"

Rev. Salvatore Sapienza

### Offering & Offertory

"Peace to Me"

Pamela Chappell

Songwriter: Pamela Chappell

### Joys & Concerns/ Tibetan Prayer Bell

One: Thanks be to God! **Many: Alleluia!**

One: O God, **Many: Hear our prayer.**

### \*Doxology

*Give Thanks to the Lord*

***Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good and God's mercy shall endure.***

***For God alone has done marv'ulous things, give thanks unto the Lord.***

***God made the earth and heaven with a strong and mighty hand.***

***God has moved us to sing, proclaim this song! Give thanks unto our God.***