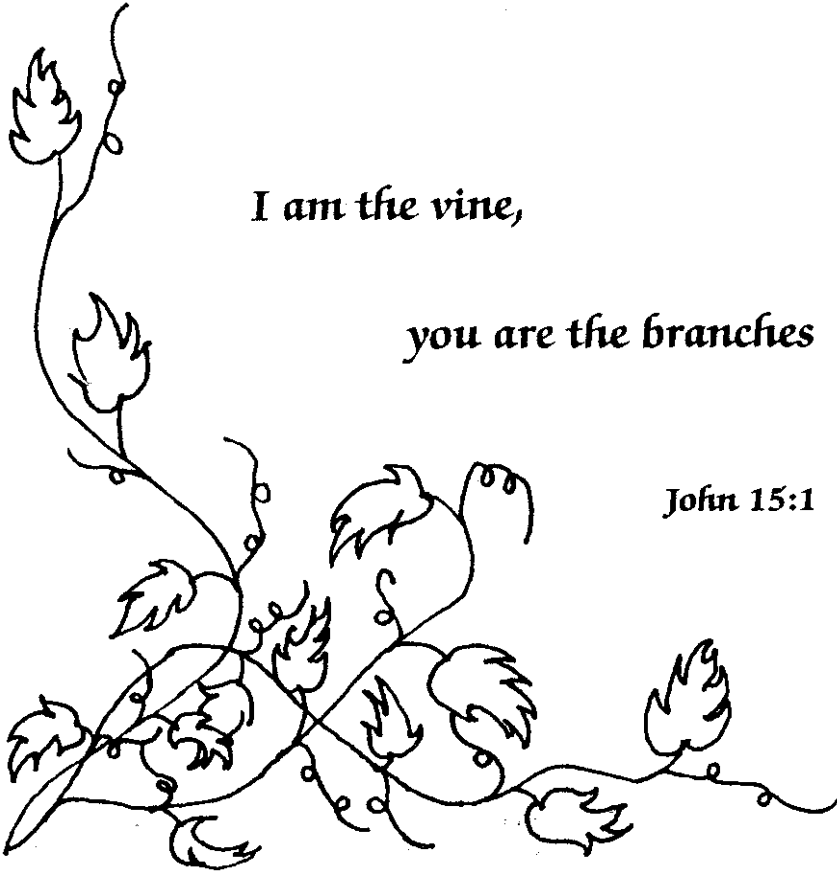


CREATION CYCLE

Pentecost Season



I am the vine,

you are the branches

John 15:1

1995
Creation I
10:15 am

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

200 Main Street, Chatham, New Jersey 07928 (201) 635-8085

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN THE CREATION CYCLE

October 8, 1995 - 10:15 am

Blessing of the Animals

Parishioners gather in the Sanctuary with the animals

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Bless the Lord all you, God's creatures.

People And forget not all God's benefits.

Celebrant The God of creation is with you.

People And also with you.

Collect Most high, omnipotent, good Lord, grant us your 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 and especially in the animals which bring us so much love and joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.

Anthem All Things Bright and Beautiful

Sung by the Children's Choir

People O gracious and loving God, yours is the praise, the glory, the honor and all blessings! To you, alone, do all things belong. Be praised, Creator, for giving us animals, birds, fish and all other creatures which fill your world and bring us joy. As you take care of us, so also we ask that we might care for our pets, and in so doing, share in your love for all creation. Amen.

Clergy I bless you in the name of God, the Creator, who brought you into being.

Prelude: The Emperor's Fanfare

Antonio Soler

Animals may be removed from the Sanctuary

Hymn 398

I sing the almighty power

Proclamation of the Word

The First Lesson:

Genesis 1:24-2:3

Psalm 148 *Sung by congregation and choir*

Book of Common Prayer Page 805

Contemporary Lesson

A consciousness glistens within each creature and each creature's creation, even as it guided the hand of the One who spoke and the world came into being. Rabbi Oshaya, at the beginning of *Genesis Rabba*, reminds us that when even a king builds a castle, he uses a blueprint. So the Creator, too, returns again and again to that underlying pattern of being. This is reality's dream. Holy literature. Organizing motif beneath the apparent surface.

This consciousness is never still, not even for a moment. It will not be photographed or even named. In its wanting to become aware, it rearranges itself in one pattern after

another. Feel it now in the blinking of your eyes. The moisture on your tongue. The gentle filling and emptying of your lungs. It rises unnamed through us, the incessant motion of the four creatures bearing the chariot in Ezekiel's vision: human, lion, ox, and eagle, running and returning. Creation is in us. The plan the Creator used reappears everywhere: from the most erudite contemporary cosmological theory to the opening sentences of Genesis, it is the same. Rabbi Lawrence Kushner, *The River of Light*

Hymn *See pew card*

O all ye works of God

The Sermon **Rabbi Lawrence Troster**

The Prayers

Prayers of the People *See pew card*

The Confession

BCP 360

The Peace

Announcements

The Celebration of Holy Communion

Congregation stands as the elements are brought forward

Offertory Anthem: Let Us With a Gladsome Mind

Alan Ridout

Offertory Hymn 380

From all that dwell

Great Thanksgiving: *Eucharistic Prayer C*

BCP 369

Proper Preface

Sanctus

S-129

Lord's Prayer

BCP 364

Breaking of the Bread

All are invited to receive the bread and wine

Communion Hymn 517

How lovely is thy dwelling place

714

Shalom, my friends

Communion hymns are sung by congregation and choir

Prayer of St. Francis

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

The Blessing

Hymn 376

Joyful, joyful we adore thee

Dismissal

Postlude: The Heavens Declare the Glory of God

Benedetto Marcello

All those desiring the Laying on of Hands for the healing of mind, body or spirit are welcome to come to the communion rail at the end of the service.