

SpringHouse Ministry Center Joint Worship in Minnehaha Park August 16, 2026 – 10:00 am

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
Lyndale United Church of Christ
Salem English Lutheran Church



Today we join the wider church in praising the Creator for the mystery of creation, woven together in the wisdom of Christ and, with the Spirit, sighing and singing for liberation.

Responding to an invitation from the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople (Eastern Orthodox) to pray for creation on September 1, an emerging ecumenical consensus proposes a Feast of Creation in Christ to join Christmas, Easter, Pentecost, and other holy days that form and focus discipleship. May we welcome this opportunity to unite with siblings across the world, and with them join the chorus of planetary praise.

GATHERING

Gathering Music

SpringHouse Musicians

Welcome

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Rev. T. Michael Rock

Let us give thanks for the waters in this font.

Water is poured into a baptismal font.

Holy Love, here is your gift of water:

dancing in Minnehaha Falls,

singing in Mni Owé Sni,

flowing to bless the world.

For this gift, we raise our voices in gratitude:

Thank you, God! **Thank you, God!**

For snow, nourishing the fields;

for rain, quelling wildfires' rage;

for ancient glaciers that shaped this sacred land

entrusted to the Dakota and Ojibwe;

we raise our voices in gratitude:

Thank you, God! **Thank you, God!**

With a wise woman in Samaria quenching her thirst for living water;

with a trembling jailer in Phillipi, astonished by mercy;

with a faithful sibling traveling home to Ethiopia,

claiming a place in your covenant story;

we raise our voices in gratitude:

Thank you, God! **Thank you, God!**

Welcomed into creation's kinship;

plunged into Christ's baptismal grace;

anointed by the Spirit to heal, to harbor, to hallow all living;

we raise our voices in gratitude:

Thank you, God! **Thank you, God!**

Thanks and praise to you, O God:

Fountain of justice,

Wellspring of joy,

Cool cup of compassion, shared in our midst. **Amen.**

Friends, rejoice for the gift of these waters:

you, baptized into Christ's life,

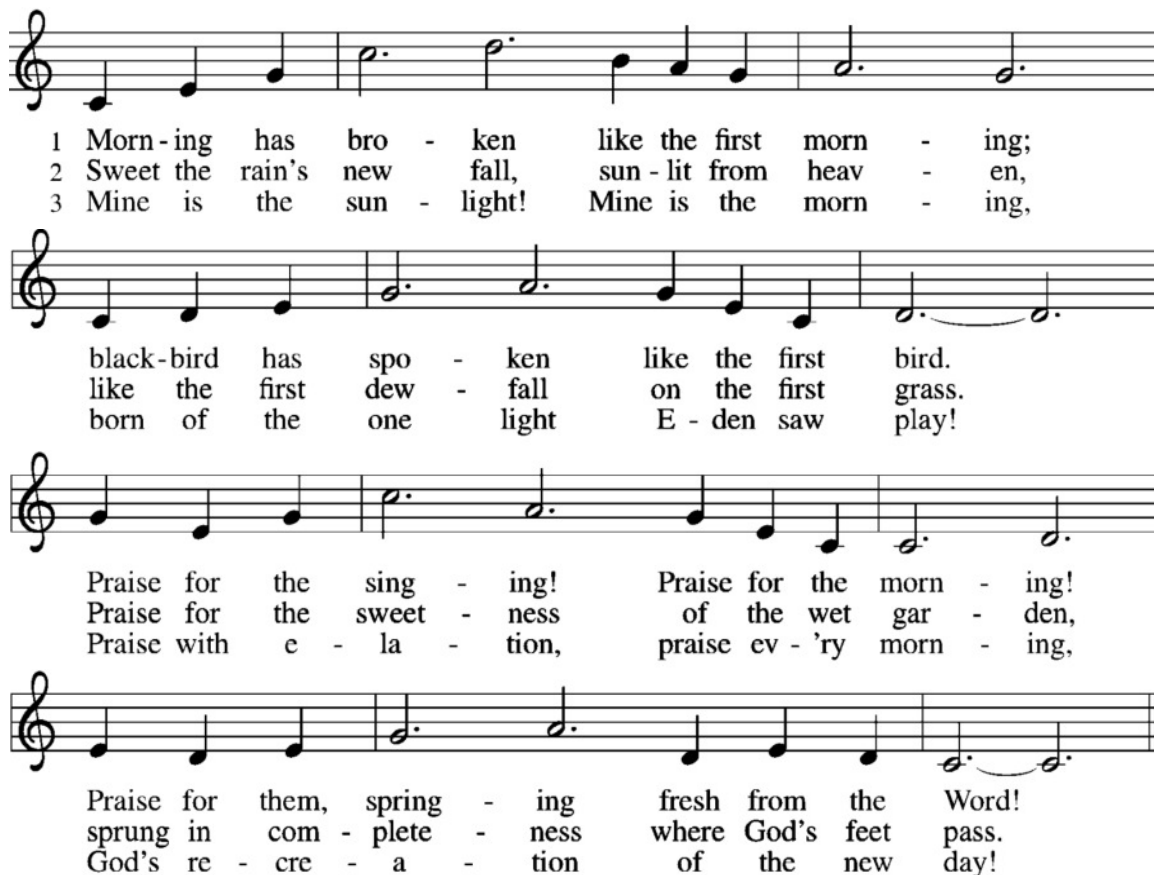
you, carrying the oceans in your veins;

all of you, beloved children of God!

As we sing together, let the sprinkled waters ground you and make you glad!

Hymn

Morning Has Broken



1 Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing;
2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sun - lit from heav - en,
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing,

black-bird has spo - ken like the first bird.
like the first dew - fall on the first grass.
born of the one light E - den saw play!

Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the morn - ing!
Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet gar - den,
Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - 'ry morn - ing,

Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!
sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.
God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

Faith through a Youthful Eye

Deb Murphy

Any children who are interested and comfortable are invited to come forward for a reflection and a blessing of backpack tags. Parents and guardians are welcome too!

Sharing the Peace

You are invited to respond in dialogue before sharing signs of peace with your neighbors.

The peace of Christ be with you always!

And also with you!

WORD

Prayer of the Day

Creator God, when we look up to the night sky,
how amazing to contemplate: we are family with those stars!
You fashioned us from the same material as galaxies and geckos,
lowland gorillas and prairie grasses.

How could we understand how you hold all this together?
Ninety-eight percent of everything that has lived is gone.
But you still whisper: "I am here. Even here. With you."
Yes, even with those creatures that have been lost.

Creative God, clothed with flesh made from the stardust,
you reached out to this messy world.
Your touch blessed the quiet spots
where forgotten species have faded,
and the soil where seeds struggle to break through and bring life.

In your all-embracing grace,
transform our lives into a cosmic "Yes"—
"Yes" to compost and kindness, to protest and planting;
"Yes" to loving what is dying, to fighting for what might survive.

Creating God, we pray in the power of your Spirit,
in the name of Christ, your love shaped from star stuff,
your solidarity with silenced creatures. **Amen.**

Song

All Creatures, Worship God Most High

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, using quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the notes.

All crea - tures, wor - ship God most high! Sound ev - 'ry voice in earth and
sky: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Sing, bro - ther sun, in splen - dor
bright; sing, sis - ter moon and stars of night: Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Scripture

Psalms 148

As the music continues, listen to the ancient poet rouse all creation to praise.

- 1 Alleluia! Praise the LIVING ONE from heaven! Praise God on the heights!
- 2 Praise God, all of you angels!
Praise God, all of you who comprise the heavenly forces!
- 3 Sun and moon, praise God! All of you bright stars, praise God!
- 4 You highest heaven, praise God!
Do the same, you waters that are above the sky!
- 5 Let all of these praise the name of the LIVING ONE
by whose command they were created.
- 6 God set them in place always and forever.
God gave a decree that will not pass away.

The musical score is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, using quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

- 7 Praise the LIVING ONE from the earth,
you sea monsters and all you ocean depths!
- 8 Do the same, fire and hail, snow and smoke,
stormy wind doing God's will!
- 9 Do the same, you mountains, every single hill,
fruit trees, and every single cedar!
- 10 Do the same, you animals—wild or tame—
you creatures that creep along and you birds that fly!
- 11 Do the same, you earthly sovereigns and every single person,
you royals and every single ruler on earth!
- 12 Do the same, you young women, you young men—
you who are old together with you who are young!



- 13 Let all of these praise the name of the LIVING ONE
whose name alone is exalted,
whose majesty is over earth and heaven.
- 14 God has raised up a horn for the people—
a horn for praise, for all God's faithful servants—
Israel's descendants, a people who are dear to God. Alleluia!



Reflection

Rev. Ben Masters

Psalm Sharing

Let us listen for the living Word speaking in our lives. Choose at least one verse of Psalm 148 to re-write with your own words and images. You will be invited to share your verse or verses if you choose. Afterwards, as creatures and siblings to all living beings, let us join the everlasting song!



Prayers of the People

Antone Melton-Meaux

We conclude with the prayer that Jesus taught, in the words below or those that live in our hearts.

Our Mother, our Father, our Creator 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.

Musical Offering

Dr. Caroline Povolny

MEAL

Invitation to Offering

Rev. Dan Adolphson

If the Spirit is moving you to offer a financial gift, you may place it in the offering plate during communion, mail it, or give online, perhaps scanning one of the QR codes below. You may designate your gift by congregation ("Lyndale," "First," or "Salem") or give cash to be shared among our three congregations.



First Christian Church



venmo

Salem English Lutheran



Lyndale UCC

Invitation to the Table & Communion Prayer

Rev. Dan Adolphson

Sharing of Communion

No matter where you are on life's journey, all are welcome. If you are worshipping online, please use whatever you have available to partake of communion from wherever you are watching. If you are with us in person, please come forward to receive communion when invited by the FCC Deacons. If you are unable to come forward, please stay seated and the Deacons will come to you. We will use gluten free wafers and grape juice.



Communion Hymns

Come to the Table of Grace

1 Come to the ta - ble of grace. Come to the
ta - ble of grace. This is God's ta - ble; it's
not yours or mine. Come to the ta - ble of grace.

The musical score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of three staves. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn, with lyrics '1 Come to the ta - ble of grace. Come to the'. The second staff continues the melody with lyrics 'ta - ble of grace. This is God's ta - ble; it's'. The third staff concludes the melody with lyrics 'not yours or mine. Come to the ta - ble of grace.' Chord symbols are placed above the notes: F, C, Dm, F7/C, Bb on the first staff; C, F, C, F, Gm on the second staff; F/A, Bb, F/C, C7, F, Bb, F on the third staff.

2. Come to the table of peace... 3. Come to the table of love...
4. Come to the table of hope... 5. Come to the table of joy...

Let Us Break Bread Together

In the refrain you are welcome to sing "Lord" or "God."

1 Let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees;
let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees.
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing
sun, O Lord, have mer-cy on me.

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (Bb, Eb). It consists of four staves. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn, with lyrics '1 Let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees;'. The second staff continues the melody with lyrics 'let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees.'. The third staff continues the melody with lyrics 'When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing'. The fourth staff concludes the melody with lyrics 'sun, O Lord, have mer-cy on me.'.

2. Let us share the cup together... 3. Let us praise God together...



SENDING

Hymn

Let All Things Now Living

1. Let all things now liv - ing a song of - thanks - giv - ing
2. God rules all the for - ces: the stars in - their - cours - es

to God the - cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,
and sun in - its - or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;

who fash - ioned and - made us, pro - tect - ed - and - stayed us,
the hills and the - moun - tains, the ri - vers - and - foun - tains,

who still guides us - on to the end of our days.
the depths of - the - o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.

God's ban - ners are - o'er us, God's light goes be - fore us,
We - too should be - voi - cing our love and re - joic - ing;

a pil - lar - of - fire shin - ing forth in the night,
with glad a - dor - a - tion a song let us raise,

'til sha - dows have van - ished and fear - ful - ness - ban - ished,
'til all things now liv - ing u - nite in - thanks - giv - ing:

as for - ward we - tra - vel from light in - to light.
"To God in - the - high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"

Announcements

*Our three congregations are living into discipleship individually and together.
See the back pages for more details about sabbatical programming and other ministry opportunities.*

Dismissal & Benediction

Go and join the song of creation, singing out in praise to God.
Go and join the cries of creation, yearning for healing.
Go and work for the healing and wholeness of all the earth.

We will! Thanks be to God!

May God our Mother root you deep in grace.
May God our Neighbor stand with you in strength.
May God our Nourishment sustain you in hope
and bless you unto evergreen life. **Amen.**

Sending Music

SpringHouse Musicians

*Go in peace, or remain in peace to enjoy lunch with SpringHouse!
Thanks to all who brought and prepared food,
especially Lu Griffin, Mike Hesano, and Nancy Homdrom.*

*The SpringHouse Board has its quarterly meeting after worship.
All are welcome to listen and learn about what's happening
in the building we steward and the ministry we share.*

WORSHIP LEADERS

SpringHouse Board Members

Salem English Lutheran Church

Paul Harper, Saxophonist + Christ Lomheim, Pianist
Tom Pieper, Jazz Music Coordinator + Antone Melton-Meaux, Pastor-in-residence

Lyndale United Church of Christ

Rev. T. Michael Rock, Pastor for Community Life

First Christian Church of Minneapolis

Rev. Dan Adolphson, Associate Pastor + Rev. Ben Masters, Intentional Interim Pastor
Deb Murphy, Director of Spiritual Formation for Children
Dr. Caroline Povolny, Music Director + Erin Roe, Pianist + FCC Deacons

SOURCES AND PERMISSIONS

+ Front cover image: "In Our Hands," Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman, A Sanctified Art LLC, sanctifiedart.org. + "Morning Has Broken." Words and music: Eleanor Farjeon (England), *Enlarged Songs of Praise*, 1931, alt., © David Higham Assoc., Ltd. Music: Scottish Gaelic traditional, *Songs and Hymns of the Gael*, 1888; harm. Martin Shaw (England), 1931, alt., © Oxford University Press, London. + Thanksgiving for Baptism: Benjamin Masters, 2026. + Prayer of the Day: adapted from Nindyo Sasongko, "Stardust and Solidarity," in *For the Love of the Cosmos: Anabaptist Prayers for Care of Creation* (2025). + "All Creatures, Worship God Most High." Words: Francis of Assisi (present-day Italy), "Laudato si," 1225; trans. William H. Draper (England), *Hymns of the Spirit*, 1926, alt. First verse from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress. Last verse from *Voices Together* © 2020 MennoMedia. Music: *Geistliche Kirchengesäng* (present-day Germany), 1623; adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (England), *The English Hymnal*, 1906, simplified. + "Come to the Table of Grace." Words and music: Barbara Hamm (USA) © 2008 Hope Publishing Company. + "Let Us Break Bread Together." African American spiritual, public domain. + "Let All Things Now Living." Words: Katherine K. Davis (USA) © 1939, 1966 E. C. Schirmer Music Company, alt. *Glory to God* © 2013 Westminster John Knox. Music: Welsh folk melody, harmonized Gerald H. Knight (England), 20th Century © Royal School of Church Music. + Dismissal: *Book of Common Worship*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sabbatical Programs at SpringHouse

There is a banquet of faith formation events at SpringHouse this summer and fall, thanks to the generous Lilly Endowment Clergy Renewal grants awarded to Rev. Rhonda Hlavinka and Rev. Dan Adolphson. Everyone is invited to participate; there's a seat at the banquet for you!

SpringHouse Asset Mapping • Throughout August, September, and October

Have you noticed the post it notes on the back wall of the Gathering Space? The Faith & Neighboring Practices team is encouraging everyone to share the gifts and strengths of SpringHouse's immediate neighborhood, about 5 or 6 blocks in any direction from Lyndale Avenue and 28th Street.

Add your own observations about the local businesses, institutions, and features of this community—and make sure to include your name, because the person who contributes most to the asset map each month will win a local goodie basket!

Faith & Neighboring Practices Workshop #2 • Sunday, August 23, 11:30am-1pm

Join the FN&P team to learn more about our neighborhood's demographics and to practice skills for engaging our neighbors in meaningful ways. Local treats provided. *Save the date for Workshop #3 on Sunday, September 20!*

Pastor Dan's Sending Lunch • Sunday, August 30, after worship

Dan is getting ready to take sabbatical on September 1. Join FCC for a special lunch and blessing on this season. Please RSVP at fccminneapolis.org to help organizers plan for food.

Grounded in Resilience Speakers • Starting Wednesday, September 17

Dr. Kelly Sherman-Conroy of All Nations Indian Church, Minneapolis, kicks off FCC's "Grounded in Resilience" series. Join us for a presentation and discussion on Zoom; find the link and details about all of the sabbatical season's speakers online at fccminneapolis.org/sabbatical-season-2026-grounded-in-resilience.

SpringHouse Happenings

Squiggle Space Cleanout • Sunday, September 6, after worship

The SpringHouse Building Committee and Youth Ministry team are on a mission to create a functional space for our youth. Step 1 is to clear out items from the back half of the Squiggle Space. Lend a hand with moving, organizing, and discarding. If you know of anything in the Squiggle Space that can be removed, please feel free to do so at any time. Questions or suggestions can be directed to Allison at shcoordinator@fccmpls.org.

Joint Worship • Sunday, September 13, 10am

As the academic year begins, gather with SpringHouse congregations for worship and a special service project.

First Christian Church

Special Meeting of the Congregation • Sunday, August 23, after worship

The Board of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Minneapolis, calls all members to a special congregational meeting on Sunday, August 23, 2026, immediately following worship, for the purpose of hearing and acting upon the recommendation of the Search Committee to call Rev. Daniel Adolphson as Senior Minister.

Learn more about the Search Committee's discernment, hear Pastor Dan's vision for FCC's next chapter, and vote on proposed terms of call. Gather in the South Sanctuary at SpringHouse Ministry Center or via Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82910688723>, meeting ID: 829 1068 8723).

According to FCC's constitution, a minister is "elected by a majority vote of the members of the congregation" present at the meeting (VI.2) onsite or online; FCC by-laws do not allow proxy or absentee voting. The minimum number of members that must be present for a vote to take effect (i.e., quorum) is 32. Votes will be cast by paper or via an anonymized online form.

Salem English Lutheran Church

EveryMeal Packing • Wednesday, September 9, 6-8pm

Salem invites SpringHouse neighbors and friends to fight child hunger in Minnesota. Anyone 8 years or older are welcome to join our packing team at the Roseville warehouse on 2723 Patton Road; sign up on the clipboard today! Learn more at everymeal.org.

Lyndale United Church of Christ

Covenant as Resistance: UCC at Lake Harriet • Sunday, August 23, 10am

Join Lyndale UCC and other UCC congregations for outdoor worship at the Lake Harriet Bandshell, at 4135 W. Lake Harriet Parkway. Meet at SpringHouse at 9am to ride your bike to worship with other Lyndalians!

Our Whole Lives Orientation • Wednesday, September 2, 6:30pm

Lyndale UCC and Spirit of Peace Church, Minnetonka, are co-hosting Our Whole Lives (OWL) for senior high students. This comprehensive sexuality education curriculum will center the core beliefs that all humans—no exceptions—are beloved by our creator, that our bodies are gifts meant to be honored and enjoyed, and that we have a profound responsibility to care for others through mutual respect, transparency, and compassion.

[Register online](#) (or contact Chelsea Boyden, springhouseyouth@fccmpls.org) for the required orientation at Spirit of Peace, 13215 Minnetonka Drive. OWL runs September-April, with 12 in-person, 90-minute sessions on Wednesday and Sunday evenings, roughly twice per month.

SpringHouse Ministry Center

610 West 28th Street, Minneapolis, MN 44508

SpringHouse Ministry Center Staff

Allison Jones, *Building Coordinator*

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Chelsea Boyden, *Youth Minister*

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"In Our Hands"



"In the beginning God filled the formless void with color, texture, light, flavor, time, and life. God scooped the clay and carefully molded it, breathing life into the nostrils of humanity. These are the images of a tender, imaginative God who loves Creation limitlessly...

"In this image, God's hands hold various animals and plant life, and are surrounded by the bands of the rainbow, shielding Creation from the swirling waters of chaotic destruction. I chose not to image humanity because the hands are at once God's and ours. We must respond to God's covenant by protecting and keeping the earth. It is our responsibility; it is our calling. God meets us where we are—utterly dependent and bound toward self-destruction—with a promise sealed with a bow bursting with the endless spectrum of colors light holds."

— Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman, artist's statement
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