

The Holy Eucharist

September 15, 2024

The Third Sunday of Creation

Welcome to St. Barnabas!

We experience God's redeeming love in all and through all and respond to love through faithful worship, life-long spiritual growth, and committed outreach.

Our community shares a progressive faith, opens our arms to all seekers, and works to make the world more just.

Three weeks ago we heard Peter's confession of faith as told in John's gospel. This week we hear Mark's version, when Peter says, "You are the Messiah." In John, the stumbling block is Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh, given for the life of the world. In Mark too the scandal has to do with Jesus' words about his own coming death, and here Peter himself stumbles over Jesus' words. But Jesus is anointed (the meaning of messiah) in Mark only on the way to the cross (14:3); so we are anointed in baptism with the sign of the cross.

A bell tolls.

We invite you to quiet your hearts and minds as we prepare for worship.

THE PRELUDE

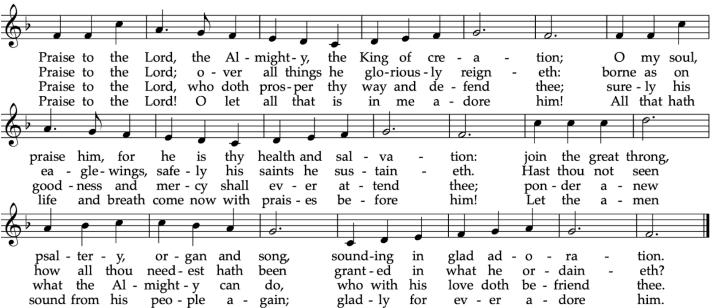
Concertino Hugo Distler

The Liturgy of Gathering

Please stand in body or spirit.

THE GATHERING HYMN *





THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Blessed be God who creates all things.

The Holy One's love is new every morning.

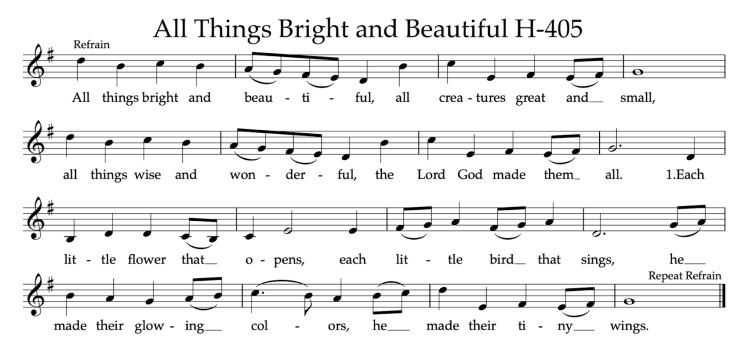
This is the day the Creator has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Let us pray: 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 Savior. Amen.

THE HYMN OF PRAISE*



THE SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray...O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.****

The Liturgy of the Word

Please sit.

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Isaiah 50:4-9a

The image of the servant of the Lord is one of the notable motifs in the book of Isaiah. Today's reading describes the mission of the servant, whom early Christians associated with Jesus. Like Jesus, the servant does not strike back at his detractors but trusts in God's steadfast love.

The reading is introduced.

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher,

that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word.

Morning by morning he wakenswakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward.

I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;

I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.

The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced;

therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together.

Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me.

It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

A brief silence, then: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. Thanks be to God.

PSALM 116:1-8 Dilexi, quoniam

I will walk in the presence of the LORD. (Ps. 116:9)

The psalm is prayed in unison.

I love the Lord, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, * because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.

The cords of death entangled me; the grip of the grave took hold of me; * I came to grief and sorrow.

Then I called upon the Name of the Lord: *
"O Lord, I pray you, save my life."

Gracious is the Lord and righteous; * our God is full of compassion.

The Lord watches over the innocent; *
I was brought very low, and he helped me.

Turn again to your rest, O my soul, *
for the Lord has treated you well.
For you have rescued my life from death, *
my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling.

I will walk in the presence of the Lord * in the land of the living.

Glory to God, Source of All Being, Incarnate
Word, and Holy Spirit; *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be
for ever. Amen.

THE CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURES James 3:1-12

This text uses various images to illustrate how damaging and hurtful the way we speak to and about others can be. Not only are we to control our speech, but what we say and how we say it are to reflect our faith.

The reading is introduced.

A reading from the letter of James.

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue-- a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

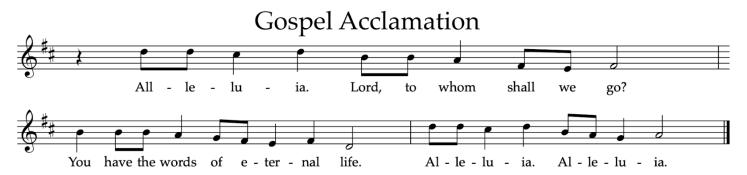
A brief silence, then:

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand in body or spirit.

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *



THE HOLY GOSPEL Mark 8:27-38

This story provides the turning point in Mark's gospel. Peter is the first human being in the narrative to acknowledge Jesus as the Messiah, but he cannot accept that as the Messiah Jesus will have to suffer. Moreover, Jesus issues a strong challenge to all by connecting discipleship and the cross.

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Mark.

Glory to you, O Christ.

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

A brief silence, then:

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit.

THE HOMILY

Pastor Stephanie Kopsch

Please stand in body or spirit.

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us confess our faith.

A brief silence.

We believe in God, who creates all things, who embraces all things, who celebrates all things good, who is present in every part of the fabric of creation.

We believe in God as the source of all life, who baptizes this planet with living water.

We believe in Jesus Christ, the suffering one, the poor one, the malnourished one, the climate refugee, who loves and cares for this world and who suffers with it.

And we believe in Jesus Christ, the seed of life, who came to reconcile and renew this world and everything in it.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God, who moves with God and who moves among and with us today.

We believe in everlasting life in God.

And we believe in the hope that one day

God will put an end to death and all destructive forces.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

It is our custom to light candles for those who are sick or distressed and to remember those who have died. The prayer stations are on either side of the Altar. The refrain is sung once. *



Bidder: As we approach the conclusion of the Season of Pentecost, continuing our journey to be who we are as your people, we offer these intercessions:

For all who seek a deeper faith, especially for those who lead us in the Anglican Communion: Archbishop Justin Welby, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop-Elect Sean Rowe, and Bishop Kym Lucas in Colorado,

In you, Source of Faith,

We put our trust.

For the leaders of the world, that they negotiate conflicting viewpoints to maintain peace, especially in Ukraine, Russia, Israel, Sudan, Palestine and Iran,

In you, Source of Peace,

We put our trust.

For the leaders of our country, that they may serve justly: President Biden, Senate Majority Leader Schumer, Speaker of the House Johnson, and all elected and appointed officials,

In you, Source of Justice,

We put our trust.

For the election of 2024, that it may be preceded by open discussions and an electorate fully informed, resulting in a decisive victory for the winners,

In you, Source of Truth,

We put our trust.

For this beautiful planet we are blessed to call home, that decision makers lead us to do what is needed to secure its vibrant life; that we may be brought out of isolation from the natural world to a place of healing connection; for EarthLinks, an organization that addresses our parish priority of Creation Care by enabling connections with nature and community,

In you, Source of Life,

We put our trust.

For those who lead us at St. Barnabas in this transition as we refine our focus while we seek a new leader to come among us: Interim Rector Stephanie, Pastoral Associate Patti, Wardens Jolene and Jim, the Vestry and the Profile Committee,

In you, Source of Community,

We put our trust.

For all who have sought our prayers for healing of body or spirit, we hold up especially our beloved Patti, the Hildegard White family, the family of Burley Shepard, Jane, the Benson and Manning families, Jill, Charles, Joy, Margaret, Darryl, Jamie, the people of Ukraine, the people of Sudan, the people in Gaza, those who suffer from conflict and natural and human disaster, and those we name aloud or in silence (pause),

In you, Source of Healing,

We put our trust.

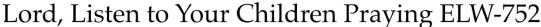
For those whom we love but see no more and now rest in your peace, especially Hildegard White, Marian Robertson, and those we name in silence or aloud (pause),

In you, Source of Eternal Life,

We put our trust.

Celebrant: Confident that you hear our prayers, we give you grateful thanks, Loving God. Amen.

The refrain is sung once more. *





THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

A brief silence is kept.

We confess that we have not paid attention to the whole of creation. In our concern for our own species, we have trampled others. We have not understood how our actions influence the lives of bugs, birds, and fish. We have elevated our existence over that of bears, whales, and dragonflies. We have ignored our scientists and pushed aside the concerns of our children. We beg forgiveness from future peoples. We beg forgiveness from our sibling species with whom we share this planet. God of creation, have mercy on us and help us. Turn us, change us, and heal us, that we might be good siblings and generous partners with creation. Amen.

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.**

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

All share a greeting of peace.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Liturgy of the Meal

THE OFFERTORY

The Offertory Sentence

Please sit.

The Presentation of the Bread and Wine

Please stand in body or spirit.

The Presentation of the Gifts

The Offertory Hymn*



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Preface and Proper Preface

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Celebrant continues

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the stewards of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

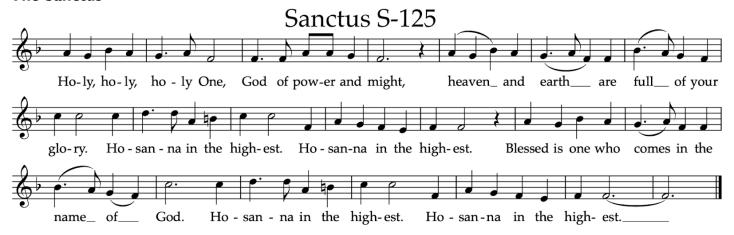
Have mercy, O God, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

The Sanctus*



The Celebrant continues

And so, dear Creator, we who have been redeemed by Christ, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now Christ's work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving, we celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Ancestors: God of Abraham and Sarah, God of Isaac and Rebekah, and God of Jacob, Leah, and Rachel; God of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

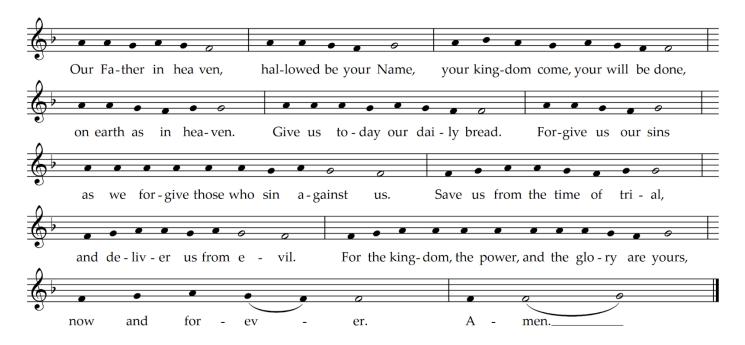
Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **Amen**.

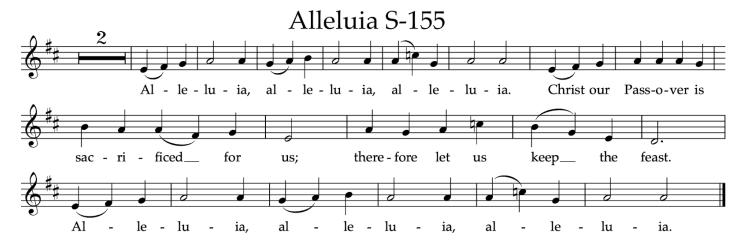
The Lord's Prayer

It is our custom to hold hands during The Lord's Prayer.

As Jesus has taught us, we pray those words that bind us together:



THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND FRACTION ANTHEM*



THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes you to this table. Receive who you are, and become what you receive.

Please sit.

This is the table of God. As Jesus welcomed everyone to his table, and so we at St. Barnabas welcome everyone to this table. Gather around the Altar as you are directed. You may stand or kneel as is your custom. The Celebrant will place a wafer into your hand. Gluten free wafers are available upon request. You have two options to receive the wine. A Chalice Bearer will offer the Common Cup from which you may drink, or you may dip the bread in the wine when a second chalice comes in turn. You may also choose not to partake of the Cup. When you have received the Sacrament, please return to your seat. If you or your children prefer only to receive a blessing, please indicate this by crossing your hands over your chest.

THE SENDING OUT OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS (Occasional)

N., in the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts that those to whom you go may share with us the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

We who are many are one Body, because we all share one Bread, one Cup.

Please stand in body or spirit.

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray...Eternal God,

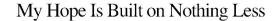
create in us a new heart and a new vision, that the gifts of your Spirit may work in us and renew the face of the earth. May we be one with you so that our work is yours and your work is ours. Lead us to transform our lives to reflect your glory in Creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive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

The Liturgy of Sending

THE BLESSING

Pray more with your life than with words for the hope for God's reign to be fulfilled. And as you leave this place of worship may the blessing of God who continuously creates, redeems, and sanctifies, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen**.

THE SENDING HYMN* ELW 597





Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt. Music: MELITA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

THE DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Chorale-Fantasie

Max Drischner

St. Barnabas Episcopal Parish

1280 Vine St., Denver, CO 80206 303.388.6469 www.stbdenver.org office@stbdenver.org

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday through Friday, 9:00 am to Noon.

Interim Rector
Pastoral Associate
Organist
Parish Administrator
Bookkeeper

Those In Need of Prayer

The Holbrook family, the Hayes family, Dennis Kennedy, Bill Miles, Marty and Diana Flahive, Larry Volmert, Carol Wier and family, John and Patrice Hayes, Larry Konkel, Andrea, Nicolle, Selah Kay, Jessica Sweet, Claire Hayes, the Long family, Atlee Witt, Jim Hostler, Meghann and Kai, RJ Campbell, KaJune Kent, Kathy Labargethy Alden, Brian Reid, Shanelle Duran, Greg Roosevelt, the Benson and Manning families, Jill Schlegal, Charles Michael Goodall, Joy Sandoz, Patti Walter, Irene and the family of Burley Shepard, Margaret Noteman, Darryl Searuggs, Jamie Henderson, Jim Esten, Anne Wolfrum, Mat Gere, Rob, the people of Ukraine, the people of Sudan, the children in Gaza, those who suffer from conflict and natural and human disaster.

New to the prayer list

Jane Schmitz, former Children's and Family Minister at St. Barnabas.

Pastor Stephanie Kopsch (she/her)
Ms. Patti Walter (she/her)
Ms. Ronda Hilton (she/her)

Ms. Julia Wade (she/her)

Ms. Lexi Jones (she/her)

Those who have died

Hildegard White, Marian Robertson, friend of Diana Whitley. Rest eternal grant them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.

This Week's Parish Schedule

Sunday, September 15: The Third Sunday of Creation

- 9:30 am: *Holy Eucharist* (sung) in the Sanctuary.
- 11:00 am: Holy Conversation in the Brady room.

Wednesday, September 18

- 10:00 am: Bible Study in the Brady room.
- 6:00 pm: Benedictine Way.
- 7:00 pm: Finance committee via Zoom.

Saturday, September 21

- 3:00 pm: Mass of Christian Burial for Hildegard White.
- 3:00 pm: Youth Group Karaoke at the Sefton's.

^{*}Hymn music and lyrics are reprinted under One License #A-729701.

^{**}Liturgical pieces are from Sundays and Seasons: Year B 2024, Augsburg Fortress, Publishers, Minneapolis.

Sunday, September 22: The Fourth Sunday of Creation

- 9:30 am: *Holy Eucharist* (sung) in the Sanctuary.
- 11:00 am: Holy Conversation in the Brady room.

Birthdays

Pax Sefton September 16
Jeffrey Nelson September 17
Elizabeth Dupuis-Spiva September 19
Janmarie Pilcher September 24
The Rev. Dennis Kennedy September 27

Anniversaries

Rachael Lee and Sean Nakamoto Toni and Tom Potter September 18 September 19

Announcements

THE FIRST HOLY CONVERSATION IS TODAY IN LUKENS

The next three conversations will be held on September 22, 29, and October 6.

This week the Profile Committee will focus on **What We Value.** The questions to consider were emailed and also appear in the Weekly eNews.

Subsequent topics include:

9/22 - Moments of hurt or disappointment 9/29 - Your dreams for the future of St. B's and your commitments toward helping bring them into reality

10/6 - Open questions and reflections

I strongly urge you to attend all four sessions, but if you can't, we will have a process for you to submit your thoughts.

We are a people of story, and in listening to others along with sharing our own, we will more clearly identify the qualities we need in our next rector.

With much love and gratitude for each of you, Jolene Whitney, Senior Warden.

HILDEGARD WHITE CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Saturday, September 21 at 3:00 pm

A reception will follow.

CONTINUATION OF THE COVENANT BIBLE STUDY OF THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS TUESDAYS, OCTOBER 8 - NOVEMBER 26

9:30 am - 11:00 am

This is the last of our eight-week, three-part series using a curriculum entitled "Covenant" that Patti Walter, Jana Everett, and Jody Will will continue to facilitate. This study of the whole Bible emphasizes the Biblical concept of Covenant--the faithfulness of God's love toward us--as a unifying pattern through all the books of the Old and New Testaments. We welcome new participants to join in discussing the last part of the series: "Trusting the Covenant". This includes discussing an abundant, eternal life with others; bringing everything to God in prayer; God's role in human suffering; and restoration and rebuilding life together. No prior attendance is required to join in.

Please get in touch with Julia Wade, our Parish Administrator, to sign up. Or reach out to Jana or Jody to know more about the conversations and readings. The cost is \$25.00 for the Guide Book. A link to the book is in the Weekly. We know you will find the hour-and-a-half of scintillating conversation priceless!

GIVING-2-OTHERS SEPTEMBER EARTHLINKS

For many years now, Christians around the world have celebrated the Season of Creation from September 1 to October 4. Creation Care is also one of St. Barnabas' priorities. So it's only fitting that September's recipient of Giving-2-Others donations is EarthLinks.

EarthLinks is an innovative urban nonprofit that provides a work program for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. They maintain an urban garden, learn new skills, and create earth-friendly products that sustain people AND the planet. Other services include case management, housing navigation, and professional and peer support. They

have been very successful in helping participants obtain AND maintain housing. For more information about their program, visit the Weekly for a link to their website.

You may donate to Giving-2-Others via the Weekly eNews, drop a check in the plate or send a donation directly to the office. Remember to add "Giving-2-Others" in the memo line.

PATTI WALTER UPDATE

See the Weekly for occasional updates.

SECOND CHANCE AUCTION ITEMS

Visit the Weekly for a list of Second Chance Auction items through the end of the year.

LABYRINTH EVENT AT ILIFF

See the Weekly for more information.

ST FRANCIS CENTER IS ASKING FOR DONATIONS.

A list of items is on the large resource table.