

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2026
CREATION IN CHRIST

a little about the Scripture readings today
and the saints of the Church we remember
this week...

SCRIPTURE

FIRST READING **Genesis 1:1—2:4a**
At the beginning of time, God the Creator, God the powerful Word, and God the life-giving Spirit form the earth and all its inhabitants. God sees that all this created work is good and then rests on the seventh day.

SECOND READING **Acts 17:22a, 24-28**
In Athens, Paul faces the challenge of proclaiming the gospel to Greeks who know nothing of either Jewish or Christian tradition. He proclaims that the “unknown god” whom they worship is the true Lord of heaven and earth who will judge the world with justice through Jesus, whom God has raised from the dead.

GOSPEL **John 1:1-5**
John begins his gospel with this prologue: a hymn to the Word through whom all things were created. This Word became flesh and brought grace and truth to the world.



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COMMEMORATIONS FOR THE WEEK

Peter Claver, priest, missionary to Colombia, died 1654
September 9
Born into Spanish nobility, Claver became a Jesuit missionary, and served in present-day Colombia. His ministry was focused on the enslaved people who arrived there. He gave them food and medicine, learned their dialects, and taught them Christianity.



Festive Liturgy
for
Creation in Christ
September 6, 2026

Mt. Lebanon United Lutheran Church

Creation in Christ

September 6, 2026

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW)

Setting 3

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude *Elegy* G.T. Thalben-Ball

The Sanctus Bells proclaim the advent of worship and Christ’s presence with us. Please rise as the bells are rung.

Brief Order of Confession & Forgiveness [the faithful kneel or sit]
Hymn *Earth and All Stars!* *ELW 731*

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**
Prayer of the Day
O God, in whom we live and move and have our being, in Christ you created the worlds, and your Spirit breathes life into the universe. We praise you for your wondrous creation. Bless us and all your handiwork with your infinite light, and direct our lives to the care of this good earth, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Word

God speaks to us in Bible reading, preaching, and song.

Children’s Message [10:00]
First Reading Genesis 1:1—2:4a
Psalm: 148
Second Reading Acts 17:22a, 24-28
Holy Gospel John 1:1-5
Spoken response at the announcement of the Gospel: **Glory to you, O Lord.**
After the reading of the Gospel: **Praise to you, O Christ**
Sermon Pastor Heagy
Hymn of the Day *Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace* *ELW 716*

Apostles’ Creed ELW page 105
Prayers of the Faithful [Response to each petition: **Your mercy is great.**]
Exchange of Peace

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering
Offering Response [the faithful stand] ELW 465 [refrain, stanza 1, refrain]
Offertory Prayer
O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus’ name. **Amen.**

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

Proper Preface *Insert*
Sanctus ELW page 144
Verba [the faithful kneel]
Lord’s Prayer ELW page 145
Invitation to the Table
The gifts of creation for God’s beloved creatures.
Come and share.
**Gluten free wafers available*
Agnus Dei [the faithful stand] ELW page 146
Distribution
ELW 470 is sung during distribution of the Eucharist.
Post Communion Prayer

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing
Hymn *Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven* *ELW 864*
Dismissal
Go in peace. Flourish with creation.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude *Voluntary on Thaxted* Albert L. Travis

Soli Deo Gloria