

LIBERATION OF CREATION:

As preached on Sunday, June 15th, 2025

Read: Romans 8 (focus: vv. 17-21)

1. As you read vv. 17-21, what word or phrase stands out to you from the passage? Why do you think God is grabbing your attention through that word/phrase? How does it interact with your life now?
2. What was your first idea of heaven? Where did this concept come from? What did it mean to you?
3. Why do you think our imagination of heaven is important (or not important)? What are the implications of your understanding?
4. How has your understanding and imagination of heaven changed over the years?
5. Read 1 Corinthians 3:16; and 6:19. A temple is a place where heaven and earth meet. How does this truth relate to our being co-heirs with Christ?
6. How do you think our inheritance involves the liberation of creation?
7. Read and pray over the Prayer of St. Francis (Prayer for Peace). Ask God to reveal opportunities to participate in the liberation of creation and give you the courage to be led by God's Spirit.

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:

where there is hatred, let me sow love;

where there is offense, pardon;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

O Lord, grant that I 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.