



**Thirteenth Sunday of Pentecost  
Fall Kick-off Sunday  
September 7, 2014  
A Meditation before Worship**

“The second parable of creation . . .  
imagines God as a divine Potter  
who creates the first *earthling* (*adam* in Hebrew)  
by taking *earth* (*adama*),  
molding it into shape, breathing into it,  
and creating a “living being” (2:7).”

- John Dominic Crossan  
(in *The Greatest Prayer*, p. 61)

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# Gathering the Community

Our focus during September:  
"Awakening to the Holy in our diverse world"

PRELUDE

Ray Staroscik  
Pianist

WELCOME

Dr. Sharon L. Mook

INTROIT

Ray Staroscik

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Mark Topping

One: When we feel the ground beneath our feet,  
when we lift our eyes to the sky above,  
when we wander among the trees and plants,  
when we walk, and talk, with the creatures of the earth---

**Many: We recognize our connectedness.**

One: When we see the vast variety in our world,  
when we experience the diversity of creation---

**Many: We stand in wonder and in awe.**

One: When we realize our place in the world---

**Many: We understand how connection makes us whole.**

One: When we realize our place in the world---

**Many: We understand the responsibility given to us  
by the Creative Presence of the Universe.**

One: We live in connection with all that is.  
We live with responsibility for all that is.

**All: As we feel the power of possibility rising within us,  
we sing the mighty power of God.**

\*HYMN # 288 (PH)

*"I Sing the Mighty Power of God"*

COMMUNITY PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Maggie Fleming

**Creating God, we come into life connected to the earth beneath our feet, to the sky above our heads, to the plants surrounding us, to the creatures weaving in and out of our lives. We confess that our connection with the earth and its creatures, our connection with one another, our connection with the Holy, are often strained, and damaged, and broken, and sometimes ignored, and even denied. Holy God, lead us back to the garden, joyfully living in intertwined relationships, so that we may be healed and become whole.**

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS *(in silence)*

RESPONSE IN SONG *"Have Thine Own Way, Lord!" (v. 3)*

**Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way!  
Wounded and weary, help me, I pray!  
Power, all power, surely is Thine!  
Touch me and heal me, Savior divine.**

THE ASSURANCE

RESPONSE IN SONG

*"Have Thine Own Way, Lord!" (v. 1)*

**Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way!  
Thou art the Potter, I am the clay.  
Mold me and make me after Thy will,  
While I am waiting, yielded and still.**

\*SHARING THE PEACE

Mark Topping

The Peace of the Living Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

## THE WORD

THE FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 2: 4b - 9  
*(p. 2 in pew Bible)*

Maggie Fleming

God's Word for us. **Thanks be to God.**

SPECIAL TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM FOR SALIYAH MILAN ANTHONY

Dr. Mook

HYMN # 488 (GG)

*"I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry"*

SECOND READING

Genesis 2: 18 - 23  
*(p. 2 in pew Bible)*

Maggie Fleming

God's Word for us. **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

Ray Staroscik

SERMON

**"Awakening to the World Around Us"**

Dr. Sharon L. Mook

\*HYMN # 274 (PH)

*"O God of Earth and Space"*

## THE RESPONSE

REFLECTION ON THE PRESBYTERIAN MULTICULTURAL CONFERENCE

Maggie Fleming

\*RESPONSE IN SONG # 294 (PH) *"Wherever I May Wander"*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE PRAYER JESUS TAUGHT  
*(Feel free to use the language and words closest to your heart)*

OUR OFFERING TO GOD

*(Loose offering will be used by the Deacons for their work.)*

OFFERTORY

Ray Staroscik

\*DOXOLOGY # 591

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ, all people here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Maggie Fleming

\*HYMN # 554 (PH)

*“Let All Things Now Living”*

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Dr. Mook

*(Please sit quietly enjoying the postlude as part of your worship experience.)*

POSTLUDE

Ray Staroscik

+ + +

\*You are invited to rise in body or spirit at your discretion

Today we celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism for Saliyah Milan Anthony, born April 9, 2013, daughter of Keyra French and R. Justice Anthony, and little sister to Saheem Anthony. We share in the joy of this important event with Saliyah’s parents and brother; grandparents Rodney and Twiler French and Wilford Huggins and Mary Huggins-Anthony ; great-grandmother Benniecue Sloan; uncles R. Alexander French, Wilford Anthony, and Carmelo Anthony; and aunts Michele Anthony and Alani Anthony. We rest assured that great-grandparents Ezra Sloan and Dorothy and Glen Anthony are here with us in memory and spirit.

*The Call to Worship and the Community Prayer of Confession are copyrighted by Sharon L. Mook and may be used only by permission.*

### **FALL ADULT EDUCATION**

At the stated meeting of the Session on September 3, it was decided that the Bible study using Mark Achtemeier’s new book will not begin next Sunday, September 14, as previously scheduled. More information will be forthcoming.

Liturgists

Maggie Fleming  
Mark Topping

Acolyte

Emeka Uduma

Sound Technician

Nancy Jackson

Videographer

Randy Commissaris

Worship Coordinator

Kalu Uduma

**Ushers are available to provide assistance with particular needs:**

Large Print Hymnals  
Hearing Assist System  
Wheelchair Access Ramp  
Wheelchair Seating--locations available in the sanctuary  
Handicap Restroom--using elevator to second floor

**FORT STREET STAFF:**

Judith Sheldon, Director of Christian Education; Ben Ogden, Director of Open Door; Edward Kingins, Music Director; LaMonica Harris, Finance Office Temp; Lola JF Davidson, Secretary; Kenneth McCoy, Building Engineer; Donna Bryant, Bob Haynes, Parking Security; Marilyn Moore, Karen Wright, Donlin Center Staff; Stacey Kershaw, Johnnie Hester, Cheryl Glidden, Open Door Staff.

**Pastor**

The Rev. Dr. Sharon L. Mook, Ph.D.,  
revdrMook@fortstreet.org  
www.facebook.com/fortstreet

**Pastor Emeritus:** The Rev. Dr. Robert H. Crilley

**Prayers for Military loved ones.**

Lt. Harrison L Coleman USN, Taylor Hansen USMC, Jonathan Heyler, SSGT Shanell Howard AFB, Sgt. Christopher King, Capt. Michael Kurtti, Lt. Theo Moran USAF, Alta Morrison, Lt. Jon Palmer USA, Lt. Marty Palmer USA, Charles Andrew Parsons II USN, USMC Captain Katy Spicer Hess, Alexander Szelestey, USMC, Lt. Mark Webster.

**Prayer List for the month of September 2014**

Don/Lois Bardwell, Lynne Bieniek, The Claire family, Coleman family, Bobbie Edwards, Rose Grosscup, Shannon Howard, Geraldine Adams Jones, Valerie Kimbrough, Leaming family, Lemus family, Don/Virginia Lorimer, Karen Marcil, Dan Muench, Cheryl Myers, Sarah Morgan, Jerry Naragon, Derrick Parker/family, Richard Petrie, Easter Ponder, Jennie/David Poole, Richard/Suellen Sale family.