

ST. JAMES PARISH CHURCH

Holetown, St. James, Barbados

TO BE A BEACON RADIATING GOD'S LOVE AMONG ALL PEOPLE

THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

PROPER 18C

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2025



7:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist and Sermon

9:15 a.m. Sung Holy Eucharist and Sermon

THE SEASON OF CREATION - OCEAN SUNDAY

RECTOR: THE REV. CANON BEVERLEY SEALY-KNIGHT

ASSISTANT PRIEST: REV. GRAVENEY BANNISTE

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ORGAN PRELUDE

ORGANIST: DR. PHILIP FORDE, FRCO

PRAYER:

PRESIDENT:

Jesus Christ, teach us to empathize with Earth.

Make our spirits sensitive to the cries of creation, cries for justice from the land, the seas and the skies.

Jesus Christ, make our faith sensitive to the groans of the Spirit in creation, groans of longing for a new creation.

Jesus Christ, make our hearts sensitive to the songs of our kin, songs of celebration from the sea, the forest and the air.

In our worship today, Christ, teach us to care. ***Amen***

In the name of the Spirit of God who hovered over the primal waters. In the name of the Word of God who parted the waters for Earth to appear. In the name of the Wisdom of God, who filled the deeps with amazing designs. **Amen**

ALL: Holy! Holy! Holy!

The oceans are filled with God's presence.

PRESIDENT: Christ, we come into your presence, today, to worship in this sanctuary called Earth,

ALL: Holy! Holy! Holy!

Earth is filled with your presence

INTROIT HYMN:**SONGS OF THE WATERS**

(Tune: Praise, my Soul the King of Heaven)

1. Watch once more the windswept storm clouds;
Suddenly the sky has wings!
God has come to rain among us,
Giving hope to all dry things.
Sing a song of splashing waters,
Pulsing through the veins of Earth.
2. Taste the moisture of the morning,
Smoother than the best red wine;
Toast the lifeblood of the planet:
Here's to God's wild wet design!
Sing a song of flowing waters,
Pulsing through the veins of Earth.
3. View anew the dark blue ocean,
Whales cavorting, spraying foam;
God at play with deep sea monsters,
Feeling very much at home.
Sing a song of laughing waters,
Pulsing through the veins of Earth.
4. Feel the breath of God move softly,
Gentle mists that brush the skin;
Earth is breathing God's own spirit,
Life renewed from deep within.
Sing a song of living waters,
Pulsing through the veins of Earth.

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OPENING SENTENCE:

The sea is yours, O God, and you made it; the dry land also which your hands have fashioned.

(Psalm 95:5)

PRESIDENT:

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Alleluia!
Alleluia

ALL: And blessed be His Kingdom, now and forever.

Amen.

Alleluia! Alleluia

COLLECT FOR PURITY

ALL:

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 Lord.

Amen.

THE KYRIES

V. As we celebrate our seas.

R. Lord have mercy.

V. As we connect with our oceans.

R. Christ have mercy.

V. As we care for the water of life.

R. Lord have mercy.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS:

Glory to God in the highest,
 and peace to His people on earth.
 Lord God, heavenly King,
 almighty God and Father,
 we worship you, we give you thanks,
 we praise you for your glory.
 Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
 Lord God, Lamb of God,
 you take away the sin of the world:
 have mercy on us;
 you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
 receive our prayer.
 For you alone are the Holy One;
 you alone are the Lord:
 you alone are the Most High,
 Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
 in the glory of God the Father. *Amen.*

THE COLLECT:**THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for,
 as you always resist the proud who confide in their own
 strength, so you never forsake those who make their
 boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord,
 who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one
 God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE COLLECT FOR THE STEWARDSHIP OF CREATION

O merciful Creator, your hand is open wide to satisfy
 the needs of every living creature: Make us always

thankful for your loving providence; and grant that we, remembering the account that we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your good gifts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever.

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST LESSON - JOB 38: 1 - 18

The Mysteries of Creation:

In this portrait of God creating the universe, Earth is constructed like a grand edifice, the ocean is born like a baby and restrained with boundaries while down below lie domains called the deep and the realm of the dead. Earth with its oceans is a complex of profound mysteries designed by the Creator.

A Reading from the Word of God, found in the book of Job, Chapter 38, beginning at the first verse.

Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind:

‘Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?

Gird up your loins like a man,

I will question you, and you shall declare to me.

‘Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?

Tell me, if you have understanding.
Who determined its measurements—surely you know!

Or who stretched the line upon it?
On what were its bases sunk,
or who laid its cornerstone
when the morning stars sang together
and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?

‘Or who shut in the sea with doors
when it burst out from the womb?—
when I made the clouds its garment,
and thick darkness its swaddling band,
and prescribed bounds for it,
and set bars and doors,
and said, “Thus far shall you come, and no farther,
and here shall your proud waves be stopped”?

‘Have you commanded the morning since your days began,
and caused the dawn to know its place,
so that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth,
and the wicked be shaken out of it?
It is changed like clay under the seal,

and it is dyed like a garment.
 Light is withheld from the wicked,
 and their uplifted arm is broken.

‘Have you entered into the springs of the sea,
 or walked in the recesses of the deep?
 Have the gates of death been revealed to you,
 or have you seen the gates of deep
 darkness?
 Have you comprehended the expanse of the
 earth?

Declare, if you know all this.

The Word of the Lord

The people: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 104: 1 - 9, 24 – 26

A World Created by Wisdom

***The whole world is formed by the Wisdom of God
 thereby giving it all its discrete parts, laws, design and
 purpose. That world even includes domains where
 God ‘plays’ with wild creatures in the ocean.***

Bless the LORD, O my soul; *
 O LORD my God, how excellent is your
 greatness!
 you are clothed with majesty and splendor.

You wrap yourself with light as with a cloak *
 and spread out the heavens like a curtain.

You lay the beams of your chambers in the
waters above; *
you make the clouds your chariot;
you ride on the wings of the wind.

You make the winds your messengers *
and flames of fire your servants.

You have set the earth upon its
foundations,*
so that it never shall move at any time.

You covered it with the Deep as with a
mantle; *
the waters stood higher than the mountains.

At your rebuke they fled; *
at the voice of your thunder they hastened
away.

They went up into the hills and down to the
valleys beneath, *
to the places you had appointed for them.

You set the limits that they should not pass; *
they shall not again cover the earth.

O Lord, how manifold are your works!
In wisdom you have made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.

Yonder is the sea, great and wide,
creeping things innumerable are there,
living things both small and great.

There go the ships,
and Leviathan that you formed to sport in
it.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son:*
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now:*
and shall be forever. **Amen.**

THE SECOND LESSON: EPHESIANS 1:3-10

MRS. JOYCE LESLIE (MMABE)

The Cosmic Christ:

In Jesus, the Christ, we not only face the eternal mystery of forgiveness and salvation, but also the truth that as the cosmic one, Christ gathers all things together and unites the cosmos. The cosmic Christ fills the universe!

A Reading from the Word of God, written in the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians, Chapter 1, beginning at the third verse.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the

Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

The Word of the Lord

The people: *Thanks be to God.*

HYMN FOR THE GRADUAL:

I FEEL THE WINDS OF GOD TODAY

1. I feel the winds of God today;
 today my sail I lift,
 though heavy oft with drenching spray
 and torn with many a rift;
 if hope but light the water's crest,
 and Christ my bark will use,
 I'll seek the seas at his behest,
 and brave another cruise.

- 2 It is the wind of God that dries
 my vain regretful tears,
 until with braver thoughts shall rise
 the purer, brighter years;
 if cast on shores of selfish ease

or pleasure I should be,
 O let me feel your freshening breeze,
 and I'll put back to sea.

- 3 If ever I forget your love
 and how that love was shown,
 lift high the blood-red flag above;
 it bears your name alone.
 Great pilot of my onward way,
 you will not let me drift;
 I feel the winds of God today,
 today my sail I lift.

THE GOSPEL - LUKE 5:1-11

Facing the Deep:

When Peter and his friends catch no fish, Jesus asks them to take a risk and cast into 'the deep', the realm of the unknown. An even greater risk faces the disciples when they one day, catch humans with a new message.

Gospeler: The Lord be with you

All: And also with you

Gospeller: A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Response: Glory to Christ Our Saviour.

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, 'Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.' Simon answered, 'Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets.' When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they signalled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, 'Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!' For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.' When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

This is the Gospel of Christ

The people: *Praise to Christ our Lord.*

(NRSV)

REFRAIN: WIDE, WIDE AS THE OCEAN

Wide, wide as the ocean
 High as the heavens above
 Deep, deep as the deepest sea
 Is my Saviour's love;
 I, though so unworthy,
 Still am a child of His care,
 For His word teaches me
 That His love reaches me everywhere.

THE SERMON

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

OFFICIANT: Let us affirm our faith together.

OFFICIANT: We believe that God creates all things,
 renews all things and celebrates all things.

ALL: We believe Earth is a sanctuary, a sacred planet
 filled with God's presence, a home for us to share with
 our kin.

OFFICIANT: We believe that God became flesh and
 blood, became a piece of Earth, a human being called
 Jesus Christ, who lived and breathed and spoke among
 us, suffered and died on a cross, for all human beings
 and for all creation.

ALL: We believe that the risen Jesus is the Christ at the
 core of creation reconciling all things to God, renewing
 all creation and filling the cosmos.

OFFICIANT: We believe the Spirit renews life in creation, groans in empathy with a suffering creation, and waits with us for the rebirth of creation.

ALL: We believe that with Christ we will rise and with Christ we will celebrate a new creation.

THE INTERCESSION: FORM C

LEADER: With all our heart and all our mind let us pray to the Lord. saying, "Lord, have mercy."

LEADER: For the peace from above, for the loving kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls: Let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

LEADER: For the peace and welfare of the world, for the witness and work of the Church, and for the unity of all peoples: Let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

LEADER: For our Bishops and all ministers of God's Word and Sacraments, that they may be filled with truth and love and be found without fault at the Lord's coming: Let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

LEADER: For the leaders of the nations and for those in authority among us, that they may serve justice and promote the freedom and dignity of all peoples: Let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

LEADER: For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice and oppression, and for all who labour in the cause of human liberation and fulfillment: Let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

LEADER: For the sick, the suffering, the sorrowful, and the dying; and for all who remember and care for them: Let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

LEADER: For deliverance from the ravages of hurricane, earthquake, drought or flood, and for a just and proper use of God's creation: Let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

LEADER: For ourselves and all who confess the name of Christ, that we may show forth the excellencies of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvellous light: Let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

Silence may be kept.

ALL: O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people in the multitude of your mercies. Look with compassion on us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O Lord of love, and to you we give glory, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

Amen.

THE ACT OF PENITENCE

PRESIDENT:

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(1 John 1: 8 - 9)

PRESIDENT:

Let us therefore confess our sins.

ALL: Most Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with all our heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves, we have not loved ourselves as we ought. We have polluted the Earth's waters with toxins, and killed millions of species in the ocean. We have turned our greed into global warming. We have loved progress more than the planet. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen

THE ABSOLUTION

PRESIDENT: Almighty God, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

ALL: Amen.

THE GREETING OF PEACE

PRESIDENT: The Kingdom of God is justice, peace and joy, inspired by the Holy Spirit.

ALL: They who thus serve Christ are acceptable to God and approved by others.

PRESIDENT: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

ALL: And also with you.

LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH

Let there be peace on earth,
And let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth
The peace that was meant to be.
With God as our Father
Brothers all are we.
Let me walk with my brother
In perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me
Let this be the moment now.
With every step I take
Let this be my solemn vow.
To take each moment
And live each moment
With peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth,
And let it begin with me.

OFFERTORY HYMN: 416 (CPWI HYMNAL)

(I, THE LORD OF SEA AND SKY)

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

Refrain

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

2. I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?

Refrain

3. I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
my hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide

till their hearts are satisfied.
 I will give my life to them.
 Whom shall I send?

Refrain

THE PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERINGS

PRESIDENT AND PEOPLE:

Father, we offer you these gifts which you have given us: this bread, this wine, this money. With them we offer ourselves, our lives, and our work, to become through your Holy Spirit a reasonable, holy, and lively sacrifice. As this bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ, so may we and all your people become channels of your love; through the same Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING:

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

PRESIDENT: The Lord be with you

ALL: And also with you

PRESIDENT: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them up to the Lord.

PRESIDENT: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

ALL: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

PRESIDENT:

THE PROPER PREFACE

It is right to give you thanks, loving Creator. Your

Word is the impulse for all things to be, for space, stars and stardust to appear, for Earth to emerge from the deep, for life to be born of the Earth and for humans to be born of Earth and the Spirit.

You chose to be born a human being, to become a part of the Earth, to suffer, die and rise from death to redeem humankind, renew creation, and affirm all born of Earth and the Spirit.

Your presence is the living impulse in all things, the Christ deep among us, filling Earth – land, sea and air; filling every element and place, filling the grain and the grape we share with you this day.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

ALL:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might;
heaven and earth are full of your glory,
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is He who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER - FORM E:

PRESIDENT:

Sovereign Lord and Father,
To you be glory and praise for ever.
In your boundless wisdom
you brought creation into being;
In your great love
you fashioned us in your image;
In your tender compassion
you sent your Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour,
to share our human nature;
In the power of the Holy Spirit,
He overcame the power of sin and death
and brought your people to new birth
as first fruits of your new creation.

On the night that He was betrayed
He took bread,
and when He had given thanks to you,
He broke it and gave it to his disciples
and said: "Take this, and eat it:
This is my Body which is given for you,
Do this for the remembrance of me."

And after supper
He took the cup of wine:
and when He had given thanks,
He gave it to them and said:
"Drink this, all of you:
This is my Blood of the New Covenant,
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it,
do this for the remembrance of me."

PRESIDENT:

Therefore, Father, according to the command
of your dearly beloved Son,

ALL:

**We remember His death;
We proclaim His resurrection;
We await His coming in glory.**

PRESIDENT:

And we offer you, Father,
our sacrifice of thanks and praise.
Send your Holy Spirit on these gifts of
bread and wine that they may become
the Body and Blood of your Son,
Jesus, our Lord and Redeemer.
As we partake of this holy food of new
and unending life, may your Holy Spirit
establish us as a royal priesthood
with the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. N-
and all your sons and daughters who share
in your eternal inheritance;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
With Him and in Him and through Him,
by the power of the Holy Spirit,
we worship you, Father Almighty,
with all who stand before you
in earth and heaven,
in songs of everlasting praise:

ALL:

Blessing and honour and glory and power

be yours for ever and ever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRESIDENT:

As our Saviour has taught us, so we pray:

Our Father 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.*

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

PRESIDENT:

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

ALL:

Though we are many we are one body, because we all
share in one bread.

THE AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us.

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
grant us peace.**

THE INVITATION:

PRESIDENT:

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

**ALL: Our souls will feast and be satisfied, and we will
sing glad songs of praise to Him.**

COMMUNION HYMNS:

HYMN 499 (CPWI HYMNAL)

(DEAR LORD AND FATHER OF MANKIND)

1. Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
forgive our foolish ways!
Re-clothe us in our rightful mind,
in purer lives thy service find,
in deeper reverence, praise.
2. In simple trust like theirs who heard,
beside the Syrian sea,
the gracious calling of the Lord,
let us, like them, without a word,
rise up and follow thee.
3. * O Sabbath rest by Galilee!
O calm of hills above,
where Jesus knelt to share with thee
the silence of eternity,
interpreted by love!

4. Drop thy still dews of quietness,
till all our strivings cease;
take from our souls the strain and stress,
and let our ordered lives confess
the beauty of thy peace.
5. Breathe through the heats of our desire
thy coolness and thy balm;
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,
O still, small voice of calm.

HYMN 603 (CPWI HYMNAL) **(LET US BREAK BREAD)**

1. Let us break bread together on our knees;
let us break bread together on our knees;

Refrain:

*when I fall on my knees,
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.*

2. Let us drink wine together on our knees;
let us drink wine together on our knees;

Refrain

3. Let us praise God together on our knees;
let us praise God together on our knees;

Refrain

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Eternal God and Heavenly Father,

we thank you for feeding us
 with the Body and Blood
 of your Son Jesus Christ.
 Send us now into the world in peace,
 and grant us strength and courage
 to love and serve you and all persons in you,
 with gladness and singleness of heart,
 through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

THE BLESSING

PRESIDENT: Christ calls you to be his disciples, to serve him with love and compassion, to serve Earth by caring for creation, especially the oceans around us and all the life within them.

ALL: We will follow the risen Lord to become partners in healing our planet. We will care for the ocean! We will nurture our planet! We will celebrate life!

PRESIDENT: May the Spirit of God, who is above all and in all and through all, fill you with the knowledge of God's presence in Earth and the pulsing of Christ within you. And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

PRESIDENT: The Lord be with you

ALL: **And also with you**

PRESIDENT: Go in peace! Serving Christ and loving the Earth

ALL: We go in peace, serving Christ and loving Earth.

RECESSIONAL HYMN 375 (CPWI HYMNAL)

(O PRAISE YE THE LORD! PRAISE HIM IN THE HEIGHT)

1. O praise ye the Lord! Praise him in the height;
rejoice in his word, ye angels of light;
ye heavens, adore him by whom ye were made,
and worship before him, in brightness arrayed.
2. O praise ye the Lord! Praise him upon earth,
in tuneful accord, ye sons of new birth;
praise him who hath brought you his grace from
above,
praise him who hath taught you to sing of his
love.
3. O praise ye the Lord, all things that give sound;
each jubilant chord, re-echo around;
loud organs, his glory forth tell in deep tone,
and sweet harp, the story of what he hath done.
4. O praise ye the Lord! Thanksgiving and song
to him be outpoured all ages along:
for love in creation, for heaven restored,
for grace of salvation O praise ye the Lord!

NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- *We extend a special welcome to the Hon. Kirk Humphrey and personnel from the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and the Blue Economy who will be worshipping with us today.*
- *Best wishes are extended to all celebrating a birthday or an anniversary this week. We wish them many more.*

ST. JAMES PARISH CHURCH



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