



## Sunday, July 19th—The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost A Service of the Word

### THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

#### Land Acknowledgement

*Officiant* We acknowledge that we are in Nogojiwanong, the traditional territory of the Mississauga Anishinaabe, adjacent to the territory of the Haudenosaunee, on whose land and by whose waters we gather by the Williams Treaty to worship, listen, learn, share, and heal together in the name of our Creator, the Holy One of Blessing.

#### The Greeting

*Officiant* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

*People* **And also with you.**

#### The Penitential Rite

*Officiant* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbour. *Silence.*

*People* God of all mercy,  
**we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore and strengthen us through our Saviour Jesus Christ, so that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

*Officiant* May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by the Holy Spirit, and raise you to new life in Jesus Christ.

*People* **Amen.**

#### Introductory Responses

*Officiant* O God, let our mouth proclaim your praise

*All* **and your glory all day long.**

*Officiant* Christ has triumphed over death:

*All* **O come let us worship.**

*Officiant* Glory to God, Source of all being, eternal Word and Holy Spirit:

*All* **as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.**

# THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

## First Reading

Genesis 28:10-19a

*Reader* A Reading from the Book of Genesis.

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went towards Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the Lord stood beside him and said, 'I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.' Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, 'Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!' And he was afraid, and said, 'How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.' So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm

139:1-11, 22-23

*The Officiant and Congregation read the Psalm responsively by verse.*

*Officiant* LORD, you have searched me out and known me; \*  
you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.

*People* **You trace my journeys and my resting-places \*  
and are acquainted with all my ways.**

*Officiant* Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, \*  
but you, O LORD, know it altogether.

*People* **You press upon me behind and before \*  
and lay your hand upon me.**

*Officiant* Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; \*  
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.

*People* **Where can I go then from your Spirit? \*  
where can I flee from your presence?**

*Officiant* If I climb up to heaven, you are there; \*  
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.

*People* **If I take the wings of the morning \*  
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,**

*Officiant* Even there your hand will lead me \*  
and your right hand hold me fast.

*People* **If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, \*  
and the light around me turn to night,"**

*Officiant* Darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day; \*  
darkness and light to you are both alike.

*People* **Search me out, O God, and know my heart; \*  
try me and know my restless thoughts.**

*Officiant* Look well whether there be any wickedness in me \*  
and lead me in the way that is everlasting.

*All* **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, \***  
**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

### **Second Reading**

Romans 8:12-25

*Reader* A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, ‘Abba! Father!’ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

### **Responsory**

*Officiant* Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead. And Christ shall give you light.

*All* **Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead. And Christ shall give you light.**

*Officiant* You have died and your life is hid with Christ in God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on the earth.

*All* **Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead. And Christ shall give you light.**

*Officiant* When Christ our life appears you will appear with him in glory.

*All* **Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead. And Christ shall give you light.**

### **Gospel**

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

*Officiant* A Reading from the Gospel of Matthew.

Jesus put before the disciples another parable: ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, “Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?” He answered, “An enemy has done this.” The slaves said to him, “Then do you want us to go and gather them?” But he replied, “No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.”’ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, ‘Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.’ He answered, ‘The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

People Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **Sermon**

*A silence for reflection follows the Sermon.*

## **Affirmation of Faith and the Baptismal Covenant**

*Officiant* Let us affirm our faith and renew our baptismal covenant.

*All* **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in God the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

**I will continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers.**

**I will persevere in resisting evil and, whenever I fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord.**

**I will proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ.**

**I will seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving my neighbours as myself.**

**I will strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being.**

**I will strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation, and respect, sustain and renew the life of the Earth. Amen.**

## **The Prayers of the People**

*Officiant* Let us offer prayers to God who judges us with mildness and governs us with great forbearance.

For Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; the Anglican Communion; Linda, our Primate; Anne, our Metropolitan; and Andrew and Riscylla, our bishops; for this holy gathering and for the people of God in every place. Abba! Father!

*All* **hear us and save us, we pray.**

*Officiant* For all nations, peoples, tribes, clans, and families, that the truth of your word may take root in all peoples and the truth and unity of your ways be known in the world. Abba! Father!

*All* **hear us and save us, we pray.**

*Officiant* For mercy, justice, and peace in the world; that for those who have lost their birthright, they shall receive their just inheritance. Abba! Father!

*All* **hear us and save us, we pray.**

*Officiant* For those who sow and those who reap the harvest, for those on vacation, and for safety from violent storms. Abba! Father!

*All* **hear us and save us, we pray.**

*Officiant* For all who thirst and hunger: the sick and the suffering, the poor and the oppressed, travellers and prisoners, and the dying and the dead. Abba! Father!

*All* **hear us and save us, we pray.**

*Officiant* For all those in despair and in need of a word of hope; for ourselves, our families, our companions, and those we love. Abba! Father!

*All* **hear us and save us, we pray.**

*Officiant* Lifting our voices with all creation, with the Blessed Virgin Mary, St John the Evangelist, St Barnabas the Apostle, and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ.

*All* **To you, O Lord.**

*Officiant* God and Father of all things, hear the prayers we offer today and set free your creation from its bondage to decay; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

### **The Collect of the Day**

*Officiant* O God, patient and forbearing, strengthen our spirit when we are slow and temper our zeal when we are rash, so that in your own good time you may produce in us a rich harvest from the seed you have sown and tended; through Jesus Christ, the promise of a new creation.

*All* **Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*Officiant* As our Saviour taught us, let us pray:

*All* **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 for ever. Amen.**

### **Announcements & Offering**



*Although we are not gathering for worship and other parish activities at this time, our ministry is continuing. As part of your worship today, please consider making an offering to support St John's work and witness. You can visit [www.stjohnspeterborough.ca/donate](http://www.stjohnspeterborough.ca/donate) for options including e-transfers and online giving through CanadaHelps, or scan the QR Code to the left with your mobile device. Thank you for your generous support of our ministry.*

### **The Blessing**

**Hymn** 631—The Kingdom of God is Justice and Joy

Paderborn

**The kingdom of God is justice and joy,  
for Jesus restores what sin would destroy.  
God's power and glory in Jesus we know  
and here and hereafter the kingdom shall grow.**

**The kingdom of God is mercy and grace;  
the captives are freed, the sinners find place.  
The outcasts are welcomed God's banquet to share,  
and hope is awakened in place of despair.**

**The kingdom of God is challenge and choice:  
believe the good news, repent and rejoice!  
His love for us sinners brought Christ to his cross,  
our crisis of judgement for gain and for loss.** →

**God's kingdom is come, the gift and the goal,  
in Jesus begun, in heaven made whole.  
The heirs of the kingdom shall answer his call,  
and all things cry "Glory!" to God All-in-All.**

**Dismissal**

*Officiant* Let us go in peace to love and serve God by loving and serving others.



Thanks be to God, thanks be to God, thanks be to God, al - le - lu - ia!

Thanks be to God, thanks be to God, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!

**All are welcome to attend a Virtual Coffee Hour  
on the internet at [www.stjohnspeterborough.ca/coffee](http://www.stjohnspeterborough.ca/coffee)**

*Liturgy from the Book of Alternative Services (Toronto: Anglican Church of Canada, 1985); "Trial Use Collects for Years A, B, & C and Seasonal Prayers over the Gifts and After Communion" (Toronto: the Propers Working Group of the Liturgy Task Force of General Synod, 2016); and "Morning and Evening Prayer for Ordinary Time" (Toronto: the Liturgy Task Force of General Synod, 2016). Hymn 631 from Common Praise (Toronto: Anglican Church of Canada, 1998). Scripture quotations from the New Revised Standard Version (1989).*