



Sunday, September 6th—The 14th Sunday after Pentecost A Service of the Word in the Season of Creation

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Land Acknowledgement

Officiant We gather in this place in person and virtually and we acknowledge that we are in Nogojiwanong, the traditional territory of the Mississauga Anishinaabe, the Original inhabitants and stewards of this part of the Creation, 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 forgetfulness of the needs of the poor, and repent of the ways in which we waste the resources of the world. *Silence.*

People God of all mercy,
We confess our sin, and the sins of our society, in the misuse of your creation. We are sorry for the times when we have used your gifts carelessly, and acted ungratefully. We enjoy the fruits of the harvest, but sometimes forget that you have given them to us. We belong to a people who are full and satisfied, but ignore the cry of the hungry. We are thoughtless, and do not care enough for the world you have made. We store up goods for ourselves alone, as if there were no God and no heaven. Father, in your mercy: forgive us and help us.

Officiant Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ has given us a kingdom that cannot be destroyed, forgive you your sins, open your eyes to God's truth, strengthen you to do God's will and give you the joy of God's kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

All **Amen.**

Introductory Responses

Officiant Consider the birds of the air; they do not sow or gather into barns,
All **yet our heavenly Father feeds them.**

Officiant Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they do not toil nor spin,
All **yet even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.**

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

Exodus 12:1-14

Reader A Reading from the Book of Exodus.

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbour in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the Lord. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgements: I am the Lord. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

149

The Officiant and Congregation read the Psalm responsively by verse.

Officiant Hallelujah! Sing to the LORD a new song; *
sing his praise in the congregation of the faithful.

People **Let Israel rejoice in his Maker; ***
let the children of Zion be joyful in their King.

Officiant Let them praise his Name in the dance; *
let them sing praise to him with timbrel and harp.

People **For the LORD takes pleasure in his people ***
and adorns the poor with victory.

Officiant Let the faithful rejoice in triumph; *
let them be joyful on their beds.

People **Let the praises of God be in their throat ***
and a two-edged sword in their hand;

Officiant To wreak vengeance on the nations *
and punishment on the peoples;

People **To bind their kings in chains ***
and their nobles with links of iron;

Officiant To inflict on them the judgement decreed; *
this is glory for all his faithful people. Hallelujah!

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 13:8-14

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

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, 'You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet'; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires. Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Responsory

Officiant God has spoken to us through his Son:

All **through whom he created the worlds.**

Officiant Lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are ripe for harvesting.

All **Gather the fruit for eternal life.**

Officiant Shine your light on us, O God,

All **as we gather around your Word.**

Gospel

Matthew 18:15-20

Officiant A Reading from the Gospel of Matthew.

Jesus said, 'If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax-collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.'

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People **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 God's word tells us that those who love their neighbours have fulfilled the law. Out of love and compassion for a broken world, let us pray to the Lord for the Earth and all who dwell upon it.

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. We are gathered in God's name:

All **hear us and help us, O God.**

Officiant Unchanging God, change us from the heart until the whole Church awakens to your love that reaches out, nurtures, and celebrates; neither holding back from what is difficult, nor rushing where angels fear to tread. We pray for sensitivity and courage. We are gathered in God's name:

All **hear us and help us, O God.**

Officiant Almighty God, give us such love for the world that we may pray with longing and desire, 'Your kingdom come.' Give our leaders the grace to see their work as service and their role as stewards; and sharpen both the recognition of needs and the commitment to just provision. We are gathered in God's name:

All **hear us and help us, O God.**

Officiant Merciful God, break all habits of destructive behaviour in our homes and families, our friendships, and in all the homes of this parish. Develop our ability to celebrate what is good and face what is not with honesty. We are gathered in God's name:

All **hear us and help us, O God.**

Officiant Healing God, lay your hands on those who suffer, so that they may know the support of your presence and find wholeness and peace in your love. We pray especially for those who are locked into the conviction that they are beyond your forgiveness. May they quickly discover the freedom of your acceptance. We are gathered in God's name:

All **hear us and help us, O God.**

Officiant Eternal God, in your unchanging love receive all those who have died in faith, that they may rejoice in you for ever. Receive our thanks for the provision of a sure hope in which we can face the worst and not be overwhelmed. We are gathered in God's name:

All **hear us and help us, O God.**

Officiant Creator God, who fashioned the earth, upon human labour send a blessing. Prosper the work of our hands; encourage equity in the workplace, that all may all find dignity and just reward in their work; and free the exploited and oppressed. We are gathered in God's name:

All **hear us and help us, O God.**

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 Lord, on this day which we observe as a day of remembrance of the resurrection of your Son, we celebrate it as a festival to the Lord. Hear our prayers, wake us from our slumber that we may lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light, and empower us to show forth your love in all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus, who is one with you and the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

Officiant God of unity and truth, encourage the fervent, enlighten the doubtful, and bring back the wayward. Gather us all together in mutual love, so that our prayer may be pleasing to you. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.

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 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 486—Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Hyfrydol

**Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion; pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.**

**Come, almighty to deliver; let us all thy grace receive;
suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.**

**Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee,
changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.**

Dismissal

Officiant

Tend the earth, care for God's good creation, and bring forth the fruits of righteousness.
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**

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); "Morning and Evening Prayer for Ordinary Time" (Toronto: the Liturgy Task Force of General Synod, 2016); and "Let All Things Their Creator Bless": Liturgy for Use During the Season of Creationtide, adapted, Diocese of Guildford. Hymn 486 from Common Praise (Toronto: Anglican Church of Canada, 1998), words by Charles Wesley, tune by Rowland Huw Prichard, words and music in the public domain. Scripture quotations from the New Revised Standard Version (1989).