

St. Mark's Presbyterian Church
Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost – November 5, 2023

Psalm 46:1

Isaiah 40:31

John 14:27

Hymn 800 O Canada

**1. O Canada our home and native land,
true patriot love in all our hearts command.**

**With glowing hearts, thy children stand,
the true north strong and free;
from far and wide, O Canada,
we stand on guard for thee.**

**God keep our land glorious and free;
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.**

**2. Almighty Love, by thy mysterious power,
in wisdom guide, with faith and freedom dower,
be ours a nation evermore
that no oppression blights,
where justice rules from shore to shore,
from lakes to northern lights.**

**May love alone for wrong atone;
Lord of the lands, make Canada thine own.
Lord of the lands, make Canada thine own.**

Prayer of Praise

**They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old; age
shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going
down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember
them. When you go home tell them of us and say, for your
tomorrow we gave our today.**

Hymn 743 Lead on, eternal Sovereign

(not in the public domain)

Prayer of Confession (congregation)

**Merciful God we offer to you the fears in us, that have not
yet been cast out by love; may we accept the hope you have
placed in the hearts of all people and live lives of justice,
courage, and mercy. Help us to lift our eyes above the**

torment of this broken world and grant us the grace to pray for those who wish us harm. As we honour the past, may we put our faith in your future. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

- silent confession -

The Lord's Prayer (Debts/Debtors)

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in
heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

**For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory. For ever
and ever. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon *(minister)*

Hymn 632 Help us accept each other
(not in the public domain)

Responsive Reading Psalm 121 p. 546 NT & Psalms

¹I look up to the mountains—
does my help come from there?

**²My help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth!**

³He will not let you stumble;
the one who watches over you will not slumber.

**⁴Indeed, he who watches over Israel
never slumbers or sleeps.**

⁵The Lord himself watches over you!
The Lord stands beside you as your protective shade.

**⁶The sun will not harm you by day,
nor the moon at night.**

⁷The Lord keeps you from all harm
and watches over your life.

**⁸The Lord keeps watch over you as you come and go,
both now and forever.**

Scripture Lessons

Isaiah 56:1-7

Ephesians 2:13-19

Luke 10:25-37

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon Do fences & walls cause wars??

Prayers of the People *(minister)*

Let us pray for all who have suffered as a result of conflict, for the service of men and women who have died in the violence of war, each one remembered by and known to God

God give peace.

For those who love them in death as in life, offering the distress of our grief and the sadness of our loss

God give peace.

For all members of the armed forces who are in danger this day, remembering family, friends, and all who pray for their safe return

God give peace.

For civilian women, children, and men whose lives are disfigured by war

God give peace.

For peacemakers and peacekeepers, who seek to keep this world free

God give peace.

For all who bear the burden and privilege of leadership—political, military, and religious; we ask for gifts of wisdom and resolve in the search for peace

God give peace.

Hymn 749 Be still my soul

**1. Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side;
bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
leave to thy God to order and provide;
in every change God faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heavenly Friend
through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.**

**2. Be still, my soul: thy God doth undertake
to guide the future wisely, as the past.
Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake;**

all now mysterious shall be bright at last.

**Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
the voice that ruled them here on earth below.**

**3. Be still, my soul: when dearest friends depart,
and all is darkened in the vale of tears,
then shalt thou better know God's love, God's heart,
who comes to soothe thy sorrow and thy fears.**

**Be still, my soul: thy Jesus can repay
from his own fullness all death takes away.**

**4. Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on
when we shall be forever with the Lord,
when disappointment, grief and fear are gone,
sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.**

**Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,
all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.**

Offering & Offertory

***Doxology 830 Praise God from whom all blessings flow**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise him all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

Prayer of Dedication (*minister*)

Hymn 324 Great is thy faithfulness
(not in the public domain)

Choral Blessing

**Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will be with you each hour of every day.
God will be there, watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.**

Benediction

Three-fold Amen

Piano Postlude