

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Diocese of Ottawa



THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 30th, 2019 at 10.15 am

PRELUDE

Bist du bei mir (J.S. Bach)

OPENING HYMN 323

Ye Holy Angels Bright

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Dear friends, we gather this morning on the traditional territory of the Algonquin Nation, and we recognize the continuing presence of First Nations, Métis and Inuit in this region.

May we dwell on this land with respect and peace.

Gracious Spirit, encouraging, yet not coercing –
**thread through time and engender love and compassion in us,
and through us.**

Challenging Spirit, enlightening, yet not constraining –
**thread through time and enlarge knowledge and understanding in us,
and through us.**

Passionate Spirit, empowering, yet not controlling –
**thread through time and enable freedom and justice in us,
and through us.**

Paradoxical Spirit, engaging with us, yet not graspable by us –
**weave together our time and God's time, that we may know God
at work in us, and through us.**

THE COLLECT

Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

God, you set us free in Jesus Christ. Grant that we may live gracefully in this freedom without selfishness or arrogance, becoming servants through love to the freedom of the gospel for the sake of your reign. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

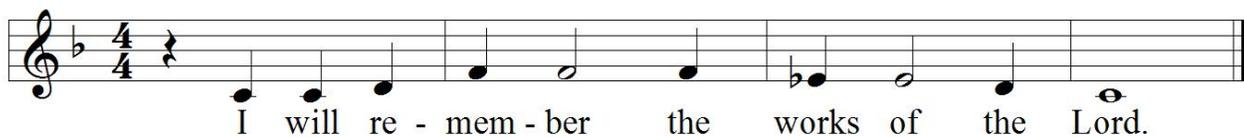
2 Kings 2:1–2, 6–14

Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces. He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. He took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, saying, "Where is the Lord, the God of Elijah?" When he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha went over.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 77



I will cry aloud to God; I will cry aloud, and he will hear me.
In the day of my trouble I sought the Lord;
my hands were stretched out by night and did not tire;
I refused to be comforted.

I will remember the works of the Lord,
and call to mind your wonders of old time.
I will meditate on all your acts
and ponder your mighty deeds.

Your way, O God, is holy;
who is so great a god as our God?
You are the God who works wonders
and have declared your power among the peoples.

THE SECOND READING

Galatians 5:1, 13–25

For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another. Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN 171

What Does the Lord Require?

THE GOSPEL

Luke 9:51–62

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

When the days drew near for Jesus to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" But he

turned and rebuked them. Then they went on to another village. As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." But Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." Another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home." Jesus said to him, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

HYMN 44

I Believe in God Almighty

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

CONFESSION

Triune God your Spirit brings us many different gifts –
forgive us when we have coveted only the spectacular ones ...

Your Spirit speaks to us through many different voices –
forgive us when we have cut off the disconcerting ones ...

Your Spirit offers us many different insights –
forgive us when we have considered only the comfortable ones ...

Your Spirit invites us into many different moments of possibility –
forgive us when we have closed down the costly ones ...

Spirit of the living God, beyond time, and yet here with us now –
**give us the wisdom to receive and treasure all your gifts, the discernment to hear and respond to your voice,
the understanding to see and follow your patterns,
and the courage to recognise and seize your moments.**

Silence is kept.

Hear and believe these words of Jesus: Your sins are forgiven. ✠ So may you grow in knowledge of Christ's Kingdom, deepen in dependence on its grace, and love in accordance with its measures. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

May you know the peace which the Spirit brings: a peace rooted in love, patience and self-control, shaped by kindness, generosity and faithfulness, marked by gentleness, and crowned with joy.

Peace be with you.

And also with you.

OFFERTORY HYMN 59

Jesus Calls Us Here to Meet Him

THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

God of wisdom, receive all we offer you this day. Enrich our lives with the gifts of your Spirit, that we may follow the way of our Lord Jesus Christ, and serve one another in freedom. We ask this in his name. **Amen.**

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to God our Maker.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

God has prepared a room for us: fire to warm our hearts, water to wash our weary feet, the table set and waiting. And now, from beyond time, the breath of the Spirit comes whispering through the fabric of time to call us in.

So come, whether your time is just beginning or many years in the marking; whether your hours are filled and fruitful or wanting and withered; whether you have invested wisely or buried your coins in the ground. For here at this table, through the power of the Spirit, God's time and our time come together in bread and wine, a place of timeless and timely grace.

And we as inheritors in this time of both the challenge and the comfort, join now with all who have made this journey in other places and at other times, raising our voices in the timeless song of praise:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly__ Lord, God of__ pow - er and might, heav'n and earth are



full of your glo - ry, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

In the beginning, the Spirit brooded time into being so that God could give form to the world. At the Incarnation, the Spirit breathed God's time into being so that the world could receive the Word. Through Pentecost, the Spirit brought transformed time into being so that the Word could be everywhere encountered. Entering these gifts of bread and wine, the Spirit blesses this time so that encounter can comfort, challenge and transform us.

And so, through the remembrance gifted to us by the Spirit, we recall how Jesus, drawing near to the end of his time on earth, ate a last meal with his friends. He took bread, and when he had blessed it, he broke it and said, 'This is my body. It is given for you. Do this to remember me.'

Jesus took a cup of wine, and when he had blessed it, he said, 'This cup is the new relationship with God made possible because of my death. Drink it, all of you, to remember me. I shall not share this with you again until I do so in God's coming kingdom.'

We remember how his words and actions disconcerted and dismayed them; but also, how Jesus offered them comfort and encouragement for the time to come – breaking open a loaf of bread, and pouring out a cup of wine to share with them as a sign of his Kingdom, and promising them the companionship of the Spirit as they followed its Way.

And as we share these gifts of grace, may the Holy Spirit take and transform them ✠ that we may know both their comfort and their challenge and so find ourselves and our time in turn transformed. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As Jesus taught us, we pray:

Our Fa - ther in heav'n, hal - lowed be your name, your king - dom come, your
will be done, on earth as in heav - en. Give us to - day our dai - ly
bread, for - give us our sins, as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.
Save us from the time of trial, and de - liv - er us from e - vil, for the
king - dom, the pow'r and the glo - ry are yours, now and for ev - er. A - men.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Silence is kept.

Here is bread and wine –
touched and transformed by the Spirit.

Come, eat and drink and be healed and strengthened for this time being
and for time to come.

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION

Please request a gluten-free wafer if required or a blessing if desired.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. *Silence is kept.*

God of power, we are nourished by the riches of your grace. Raise us to new life in your
Son Jesus Christ and fit us for his eternal kingdom, that all the world may call him Lord.
We ask this in his name. **Amen.**

May the Spirit who mothered creation and enabled Incarnation
continue to form and nurture us as we stumble towards maturity;

The Spirit who led Jesus into the wilderness
stir us out of ease and safety as we follow the way of Christ;

The Spirit who transformed the disciples
grace and gift us for the task of building God's Kingdom;

The Spirit whom Jesus bequeathed
**continue to comfort and discomfort us until justice prevails,
peace reigns and love directs all. Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NATIONAL ANTHEM 659

First in French, then in English

BLESSING

And now, may God fill you with all joy and peace in believing, and bless you, ✠ so that
you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN 576

For the Healing of the Nations

DISMISSAL

Go forth in the power of the Spirit.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Grand Choeur (William Reed)

Presider & Preacher
Organist

The Reverend Canon Beth Bretzlaff
Dr Gordon Johnston

Liturgy: *For This Time Being: A Pentecost Communion Liturgy*, Pat Bennett, Wild Goose Publications, Iona ©2014. Collect: *Revised Common Lectionary Prayers (2002) alt.* Readings: *New Revised Standard Version Bible (NRSV) Anglicized Edition*, © 1989, 1995, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Psalm: ©2001 Gordon Johnston.

To find out what is happening in the parish, please see This Week at St John's (TWSJ) on our website (www.stjohnsottawa.ca) or pick up a hard copy on the table at the Elgin Street entrance.

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