ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Diocese of Ottawa



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FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 7th, 2019 at 9.30 am

PRELUDE

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, whose kingdom comes near, share with us the authority that sets others free and send us on the way of challenge and conversion; through Jesus, who empowers us. **Amen.**

Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favour with his master, because by him the Lord had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from leprosy. Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. She said to her mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy." So Naaman went in and told his lord just what the girl from the land of Israel had said. And the king of Aram said, "Go then, and I will send along a letter to the king of Israel." He went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten sets of garments. He brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, "When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you my servant Naaman, that you may cure him of his leprosy." When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a guarrel with me." But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel." So Naaman came with his horses and chariots, and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored and you shall be clean." But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, "I thought that for me he would surely come out, and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, and would wave his hand over the spot, and cure the leprosy! Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them, and be clean?" He turned and went away in a rage. But his servants approached and said to him, "Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, 'Wash, and be clean'?" So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 30



I will exalt you, O Lord, because you have lifted me up and have not let my enemies triumph over me. O Lord my God, I cried out to you, and you restored me to health.

You brought me up, O Lord, from the dead; you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.

Sing to the Lord, you servants of his; give thanks for the remembrance of his holiness.

For his wrath endures but the twinkling of an eye, his favour for a lifetime. Weeping may spend the night, but joy comes in the morning.

While I felt secure, I said, "I shall never be disturbed. You, Lord, with your favour, made me as strong as the mountains." Then you hid your face, and I was filled with fear.

I cried to you, O Lord; I pleaded with the Lord, saying, "What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the Pit? will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness? Hear, O Lord, and have mercy upon me; O Lord, be my helper."

You have turned my wailing into dancing; you have put off my sack-cloth and clothed me with joy. Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing; O Lord my God, I will give you thanks for ever.

THE SECOND READING

Galatians 6:7-16

Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh; but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith. See what large letters I make when I am writing in my own hand! It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that try to compel you to be circumcised – only that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. Even the circumcised do not themselves obey the law, but they want you to be circumcised so that they may boast about your flesh. May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! As for those who will follow this rule peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN 620

How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds

THE GOSPEL *Luke 10:1-11,16-20*

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.

After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest. Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!' And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the labourer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; cure the sick who are there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.' Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me." The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!" He said to them, "I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

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 60

I Come with Joy

THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

God of heaven and earth, receive our sacrifice of praise, and strengthen us for the perfect freedom of your service, through our Saviour Jesus Christ.. **Amen.**

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

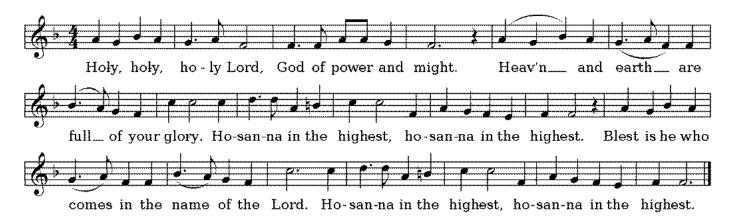
Let us give thanks to God our Maker.

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:



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 *\text{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:



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.

O God, may we who have shared in holy things never fail to serve you in your world, and so come to the fullness of joy, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **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

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 425

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

Presider & Preacher Guest Organist

The Reverend Canon Beth Bretzlaff Ruth Ann Read-Clay

Liturgy: For This Time Being: A Pentecost Communion Liturgy, Pat Bennett, Wild Goose Publications, Iona ©2014. Collect: Prayers for an Inclusive Church (2009) 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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