

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Diocese of Ottawa



SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 21st, 2019 at 9.30 am

PRELUDE

OPENING HYMN 393

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

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.*

Eternal God, you draw near to us in Christ and make yourself our guest: amid the cares of our daily lives, alert us to your presence and make us attentive to your voice, so that we may treasure your word above all else. We ask this through Jesus Christ, your Son.

Amen.

THE FIRST READING

Amos 8:1-12

This is what the Lord God showed me – a basket of summer fruit. He said, “Amos, what do you see?” And I said, “A basket of summer fruit.” Then the Lord said to me, “The end has come upon my people Israel; I will never again pass them by. The songs of the temple shall become wailings in that day,” says the Lord God; “the dead bodies shall be many, cast out in every place. Be silent!” Hear this, you that trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, saying, “When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain; and the sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah small and the shekel great, and practise deceit with false balances, buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, and selling the sweepings of the wheat.” The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds. Shall not the land tremble on this account, and everyone mourn who lives in it, and all of it rise like the Nile, and be tossed about and sink again, like the Nile of Egypt? On that day, says the Lord God, I will make the sun go down at noon, and darken the earth in broad daylight. I will turn your feasts into mourning, and all your songs into lamentation; I will bring sackcloth on all loins, and baldness on every head; I will make it like the mourning for an only son, and the end of it like a bitter day. The time is surely coming, says the Lord God, when I will send a famine on the land; not a famine of bread, or a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord. They shall wander from sea to sea, and from north to east; they shall run to and fro, seeking the word of the Lord, but they shall not find it.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 52



You tyrant, why do you boast of wickedness against the godly all day long?
You plot ruin; your tongue is like a sharpened razor, O worker of deception.

You love evil more than good and lying more than speaking the truth.
You love all words that hurt, O you deceitful tongue.

Oh, that God would demolish you utterly,
topple you, and snatch you from your dwelling,
and root you out of the land of the living!

The righteous shall see and tremble,
and they shall laugh at him, saying,
"This is the one who did not take God for a refuge,
but trusted in great wealth and relied upon wickedness."

But I am like a green olive tree in the house of God;
I trust in the mercy of God for ever and ever.
I will give you thanks for what you have done
and declare the goodness of your Name in the presence of the godly.

THE SECOND READING

Colossians 1:15-28

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel. I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. I became its servant according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN 537

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

THE GOSPEL

Luke 10:38-42

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.

Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

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 525

The Church's One Foundation

THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

O God, accept our praise and thanksgiving. Help us in all we do to offer ourselves as a true and living sacrifice; through Jesus Christ the Lord. **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 making; 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 power 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.'

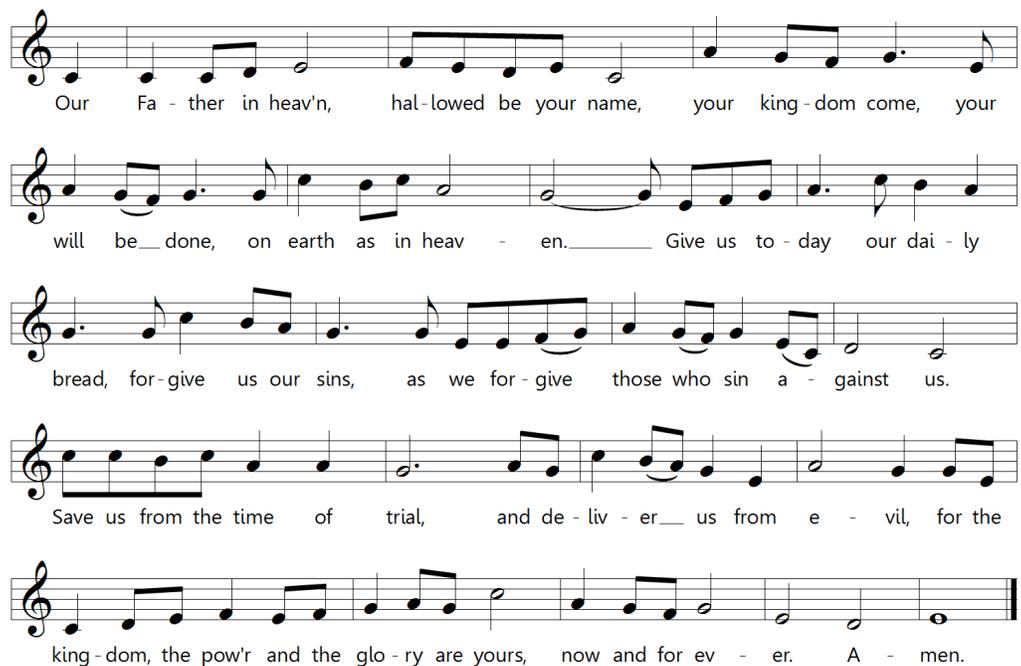
Jesus took a cup of wine, and when he had blessed it, he said, 'This cup is the new relationship with God made possible because of my death. Drink it, all of you, to remember me. I shall not share this with you again until I do so in God's coming kingdom.'

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.*

O God, as we are strengthened in these holy mysteries, may our lives be a continual
offering, holy and acceptable in your sight; through 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 577

God of Grace and God of Glory

DISMISSAL

Go forth in the power of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Presider
Deacon & Preacher

BGen (ret'd) The Venerable John Fletcher
The Reverend Dr Caroline Ducros

Liturgy: *For This Time Being: A Pentecost Communion Liturgy*, Pat Bennett, Wild Goose Publications, Iona ©2014. Collect: *A Prayer Book for Australia (1995)*. 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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