**ANTE-COMMUNION SERVICE JUNE 21, 2020**

**NATIONAL INDIGENOUS DAY OF PRAYER and FATHERS’ DAY**

*(Father Roy to start)*

As we mark National Indigenous Day of Prayer today, we acknowledge that our church and many of our homes are situated upon traditional territories. The territories include the Wendat, Anishinabek Nation, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, the Mississaugas of Scugog, Hiawatha and Alderville First Nations and the Métis Nation. The treaty that was signed for this particular parcel of land is collectively referred to as the Williams Treaties of 1923 and applied to lands east of Woodbine Avenue. We recognize the enduring presence of Indigenous people on this land.

The Spirit of truth will bear witness to me, says the Lord; and you also are witnesses. *John 15.26, 27*

**HYMN** **CP 465 Here in this Place New Light is Streaming (Gather Us In) v 1, 2, 4**

Here in this place new light is streaming;

Now is the darkness vanished away.

See in this space our fears and our dreamings,

Brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;

Gather us in, the blind and the lame;

Call to us now, and we shall awaken;

We shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a mystery;

We are the old who yearn for your face.

We have been sung throughout all of history,

Called to be light to the whole human race.

Gather us in, the rich and the haughty;

Gather us in, the proud and the strong;

Give us a heart so meek and so lowly;

Give us the courage to enter the song.

Not in the dark of buildings confining,

Not in some heaven light-years away,

But here in this place the new light is shining,

Now is the kingdom, now is the day.

Gather us in and hold us for ever;

Gather us in and make us your own;

Gather us in, all peoples together,

Fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

*Celebrant* 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.**

*Celebrant* Almighty God,

*All* **to you all hearts are open, all desires known,**

**and from you no secrets are hidden.**

**Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts**

**by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,**

**that we may perfectly love you,**

**and worthily magnify your holy name;**

**through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Celebrant* Glory to God in the highest,

*All* **and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father,**

**we worship you, we give you thanks,**

**we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,**

**Lord God, Lamb of God,**

**you take away the sin of the world:**

**have mercy on us;**

**you are seated at the right hand of the Father:**

**receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,**

**you alone are the Lord,**

**you alone are the Most High,**

**Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,**

**in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**Collect**

O God our defender, storms rage about us and cause us to be afraid.

Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear,

and preserve us all from unbelief; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and ever.

**AMEN**

**A READING FROM THE BOOK OF GENESIS** (Monica Francis)

The child grew, and was weaned; and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac. So she said to Abraham, "Cast out this slave woman with her son; for the son of this slave woman shall not inherit along with my son Isaac." The matter was very distressing to Abraham on account of his son. But God said to Abraham, "Do not be distressed because of the boy and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for it is through Isaac that offspring shall be named for you. As for the son of the slave woman, I will make a nation of him also, because he is your offspring." So Abraham rose early in the morning, and took bread and a skin of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed, and wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba. When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes. Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, "Do not let me look on the death of the child." And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept. And God heard the voice of the boy; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, and said to her, "What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid; for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make a great nation of him." Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. She went, and filled the skin with water, and gave the boy a drink. God was with the boy, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness, and became an expert with the bow. He lived in the wilderness of Paran; and his mother got a wife for him from the land of Egypt. GENESIS 21:8-21

The Word of the Lord **THANKS BE TO GOD**

HYMN **CP 531 On Eagle’s Wings**

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,

Who abide in his shadow for life;

Say to the Lord: “My refuge,

My rock in whom I trust!”

(refrain)

And he will raise you up on eagle’s wings,

Bear you on the breath of dawn,

Make you to shine like the sun,

And hold you in the palm of his hand.

Snares of the fowler will never capture you,

And famine will bring you no fear;

Under his wings your refuge,

His faithfulness your shield.

(refrain)

You need not fear the terror of the night,

Nor the arrow that flies by day;

Though thousands fall about you,

Near you it shall not come.

(refrain)

For to his angels he’s given a command

To guard you in all of your ways;

Upon their hands they will bear you up,

Lest you dash your foot against a stone.

(refrain)

**A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE ROMANS**  (R. Luther)

Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

**ROMANS 6:1B-11**

The Word of the Lord **THANKS BE TO GOD**

**HYMN CP 455 Dear God, Compassionate and Kind**

Dear God, compassionate and kind,

Forgive our foolish ways.

Reclothe us in our rightful mind,

In purer lives thy service find,

In deeper reverence, praise,

In deeper reverence, praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard,

Beside the Syrian sea,

The gracious calling of the Lord,

Let us, like them, without a word,

Rise up and follow thee,

Rise up and follow thee.

Drop Thy still dews of quietness

Till all our strivings cease;

Take from our souls the strain and stress,

And let our ordered lives confess

The beauty of thy peace,

The beauty of thy peace.

*(Deacon Jacquie)*

*Reader* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Reader* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Jesus said, "A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household! So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows. Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and one's foes will be members of one's own household. Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it."

MATTHEW 10:24-39

*Reader* The Gospel of Christ.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**SERMON: Pastor Pam Trondson**

**DUET: I am a child of God** sung by Aayat and Alyana Daniel

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*(Father Roy)*

**The Apostles’ Creed**

*Celebrant* Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

*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 the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,**

**the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**The Prayers of the People**  (Audrey Shepherd)

God of justice, of peace, of compassion, we come to you for guidance and for forgiveness. We acknowledge that we have created systems that hurt others, and that we often have not even noticed that we have done so. We offer our prayers today as penitents, asking only that you hear us in Jesus’ name.

We pray for the Church, for Linda, Andrew and Kevin and for Pam, Roy and Jacquie. We are told that their responsibility is to “comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable”. Give them the strength to speak boldly in your name and encourage us to follow their good example.

**Hear us, good Lord.**

We pray for the world, in a turmoil of sickness of body, mind and spirit. We have brought your beautiful planet to the edge of disaster and many of your people, created in your own image, to despair. Heal us, and help us to heal each other of the grievous ills we have caused.

**Hear us, good Lord.**

We pray for the Indian, Metis and Inuit people of Canada. On this day we call the National Indigenous Day of Prayer, we confess that we have allowed situations of poverty and neglect to deny whole generations of our fellow citizens the right to the basic necessities we take for granted – pure water, decent housing, medical care, education. Forgive our blindness, and remind us of our duty as Christians to care for all your people.

**Hear us, good Lord.**

We pray for people everywhere who are despised, rejected and even killed for the colour of their skin. You made us all beautiful, with different hair, eyes and stature, and when you were finished you looked at your creation and said, “It is very good”. Teach us to find that goodness again, Father. Bring the nations to their senses, and comfort all those who suffer under this terrible sin.

**Hear us, good Lord.**

We pray for the sick, lifting them up to the light of your presence. We name them now ….. trusting in your compassion and your love.

**Hear us, good Lord.**

We pray for the families of those who have finished their journey with us and are in your loving embrace forever. Be with them in their sorrow, and help them to remember the happy times of love and laughter together.

**Hear us, good Lord.**

On this Father’s Day, we thank you for all the fathers whose children love and bless them for their faithful care. Give them the grace to nurture their little ones with joy and the pleasure of seeing them grow up to know you and to serve you.

**Hear us, good Lord.**

Holy God, at this time of trouble and confusion, give us the courage and the wisdom to live a resurrected life, thinking and acting as faithful disciples of Jesus.

We walk in your strength, so we ask

Heart of Jesus, think of me.

Eyes of Jesus, look on me.

Face of Jesus, comfort me.

Feet of Jesus, guide me.

Arms of Jesus, hold me. **Amen.**

*(Pastor Pam)*

**Confession and Absolution**

*Celebrant* Dear friends in Christ,

God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;

he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table.

Let us confess our sins, confident in God’s forgiveness.

*Silence is kept.*

*Celebrant* Most merciful God,

*All* **we confess that we have sinned against you**

**in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done,**

**and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;**

**we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.**

**We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.**

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,**

**have mercy on us and forgive us,**

**that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,**

**to the glory of your name. Amen.**

*Celebrant* Almighty God have mercy upon you,

pardon and deliver you from all your sins,

confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,

and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*People* **Amen.**

*Celebrant* And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*All* **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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**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.**

**The Peace**

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

**Closing prayer** Eternal God,

you have made our Saviour Jesus Christ

the head of all creation.

Receive all we offer you this day

and renew us in his risen life,

in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **AMEN**

**Doxology**

*Celebrant* Glory to God,

*All* **whose power, working in us,**

**can do infinitely more**

**than we can ask or imagine.**

**Glory to God from generation to generation,**

**in the Church and in Christ Jesus,**

**for ever and ever. Amen.**

**BLESSING:** The peace of God, which passes all understanding,

Keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God

And of his son Jesus Christ; and the blessing of God,

Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you and those you love, now and always.

**AMEN**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**HYMN CP 602 Lift High the Cross**

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim

Till all the world adore his sacred name!

Come, Christian people, sing your praises, shout!

If we are silent, even stones cry out.

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim

Till all the world adore his sacred name!

Jesus, you wept to see our human strife;

Teach us compassion for each human life.

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim

Till all the world adore his sacred name!

Great is the cost of walking on this road;

To follow and suffer with the Son of God.

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim

Till all the world adore his sacred name!

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