

5th Sunday after Epiphany – Feb 7, 2021

Treaty 4 Territory

We are privileged to gather today in Treaty 4 Territory and the traditional homeland of the Metis.

Welcome Statement

You are welcome here, you, whose face does not resemble mine, whose spirit I may not define,

you, whose eyes have seen, what I will never dream. You, whose frame is bent or broken,

whose mind fears the unspoken. You are welcome here.

Regardless of your race, your age, your gender identity or expression, your marital status, physical and mental ability, your sexual orientation, country of origin, economic and religious status, you will be honoured here.

For Christ has made us whole and Christ has set us free. His daily grace enables us to live in harmony.

Opening Hymn – 715 Christ Be Our Light (verses 1,2 & 5)

Greeting - The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all. **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day – Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 40:21-31

²¹Have you not known? Have you not heard?
Has it not been told you from the beginning?
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

²²It is God who sits above the circle of the earth,
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,
and spreads them like a tent to live in;

²³who brings the great to naught,
and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

²⁴Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,
when God blows upon them, and they wither,
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

²⁵To whom then will you compare me,
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see:

Who created these?

The one who brings out their host and numbers them,
calling them all by name;
because God is great in strength,
mighty in power,
not one is missing.

²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,

“My way is hidden from the LORD,
and my right is disregarded by my God”?

²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

The LORD does not faint or grow weary;
the understanding of God is unsearchable.

²⁹The LORD gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless.

³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;

³¹but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 147:1-11, 20c

¹Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God!

How pleasant it is to honor God with praise!

²The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem,
and gathers the exiles of Israel.

³The LORD heals the brokenhearted
and binds up their wounds.

⁴The LORD counts the number of the stars
and calls them all by their names.

⁵Great is our LORD and mighty in power;

there is no limit to God's wisdom.

⁶The LORD lifts up the lowly,
but casts the wicked to the ground.

⁷Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving;
make music upon the harp to our God,

⁸who covers the heavens with clouds
and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow upon the mountains.

⁹God provides food for the cattle
and for the young ravens when they cry.

¹⁰God is not impressed by the might of a horse,
and has no pleasure in the speed of a runner,

¹¹but finds pleasure in those who fear the LORD,
in those who await God's steadfast love. ^{20c} Hallelujah!

Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁹As soon as Jesus and the disciples left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹Jesus came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³²That evening, at sundown, they brought to Jesus all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, Jesus got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³⁸Jesus answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." ³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon – A Visit from Peter's Mother-in-Law

Hymn Of The Day - Those Who Wait on the Lord

CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.

Prayer of Intercession

Trusting in God's power to heal, let us offer our prayers for all who are in need, responding to each petition with words from today's psalm, "We await your steadfast love."

A brief silence.

We pray for the church's many ministries of healing; for hospital, hospice, and military chaplains; for those serving in prisons, camps, and institutions; and for bishops and pastors facing illness of which we are unaware.

A brief silence.

We pray to you, saving God:
We await your steadfast love.

We pray for the health of the earth; for its myriad animals and their habitats; and for all created life that has been harmed by human misuse.

A brief silence.

We pray to you, provident God:
We await your steadfast love.

We pray for the health of people around the globe, especially for the people of Ethiopia and India; for international health organizations; for local and national medical services; and for school officials and teachers facing the pandemic.

A brief silence.

We pray to you, benevolent God:
We await your steadfast love.

We pray for wholeness in our nation; for the safety of our nation's elected leaders; for an end to domestic violence; for an end to prejudice; and for an end to civic terrorism.

A brief silence.

We pray to you, sovereign God:
We await your steadfast love.

We pray for a halt to the pandemic; for all who have contracted Covid-19; for health workers; for the prompt distribution of vaccines; and for all who today will die from the virus.

A brief silence.

We pray to you, compassionate God:
We await your steadfast love.

We pray for all who are sick and suffering; for those with chronic pain; for those experiencing despair; for infants born impaired and for the aged in decline; and for all whom we name here: Terri, Beth, Lynne, Maureen, Paul, Michael, Dennis, and Harley,

A brief silence.

We pray to you, consoling God:
We await your steadfast love.

We pray finally for ourselves; for steady trust in your power; and for health in our weakness.

A longer period of silence.

We pray to you, loving God: **We await your steadfast love.**

We praise you for the faithful departed and for their lives of service to others; and we pray that despite sickness and death, at our end we join with them to find our wholeness in you.

A brief silence.

We pray to you, eternal God: **We await your steadfast love.**

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE - The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING (ELW p. 206) & OFFERING PRAYER (ELW p. 206)

Let us pray. O God, receive these gifts as you receive us: like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide. Nourish us anew in your tender care, and empower us in faithful service to tend to others with this same love, through Jesus Christ, our saving grace. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE (ELW p. 207)

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations;
in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son
and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 207)

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest,
hosanna in the highest.

Thanksgiving at the Table (ELW p. 207)

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming. **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us. Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people. Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever. Amen.

Lord's Prayer (ELW p. 208)

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

COMMUNION (ELW p. 208)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (ELW p. 208)

Let us pray. Christ Jesus, at this table we have feasted on your very life
and are strengthened for our journey.
Send us forth from this banquet nourished in body and in spirit
to proclaim your good news and serve others in your name. Amen.

BLESSING

God the creator strengthen you;
Jesus the beloved fill you;
and the Holy Spirit the comforter + keep you in peace.
Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING SONG – 661 I Love to Tell the Story (verses 1&3)

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Be the light of Christ

THOSE WHO WAIT ON THE LORD

- *Lyrics remember and adapted*

Those who wait on the Lord, shall renew their strength
They shall mount up on wings as eagles
They shall run and not be weary.. They shall walk and not faint
Help us Lord, help us Lord, in your way.

Those who pray to the Lord, shall renew their strength
They shall mount up on wings as eagles
They shall run and not be weary.. They shall walk and not faint
Help us Lord, help us Lord, in your way.

Those who love the mystery, shall renew their strength
They shall mount up on wings as eagles
They shall run and not be weary.. They shall walk and not faint
Help us Lord, help us Lord, in your way.

I Love to Tell the Story

Capo 1: G
A \flat C D \flat G A \flat

1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat
3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best

D E \flat G A \flat D E \flat

of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.

G A \flat Em Fm B C

I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;
I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,

C D \flat G A \flat D E \flat G A \flat

it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else would do.
the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.
I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

Refrain D E \flat G A \flat C D \flat G A \flat

I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry

C D \flat G A \flat D E \flat G A \flat

to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.