

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Lectionary 20 August 16, 2020

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.

HYMN - 858 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

GREETING – “The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

The Prayer of the Day may be prayed.

Let us pray. God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Then the readings for this Sunday may be read, as follows:

First Reading: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

¹Thus says the LORD:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come,
and my deliverance be revealed.

⁶And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,
to minister to the LORD, to love the name of the LORD,
and to be the LORD’s servants,
all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it,
and hold fast my covenant—

⁷these I will bring to my holy mountain,
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar;
for my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.

⁸Thus says the LORD God,

who gathers the outcasts of Israel,
I will gather others to them
besides those already gathered.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Semicontinuous Psalm: Psalm 133

How good and pleasant it is to live together in unity. (Ps. 133:1)

1How good and how pleas- | ant it is,
when kindred live togeth- | er in unity!

2**It is like fine oil upon the head, flowing down up- | on the beard,
upon the beard of Aaron, flowing down upon the collar | of his
robe.**

3It is like the dew of Hermon flowing down upon the | hills of Zion.
For there the LORD has commanded the blessing: life for- | evermore.

Second Reading: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

[Paul writes:] 1I ask, then, has God rejected the chosen people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. 2aGod has not rejected the people whom ages ago God chose.

29For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. 30Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, 31so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. 32For God has imprisoned all in disobedience in order to be merciful to all.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel: Matthew 15:21-28

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

21Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. 22Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." 23But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." 24Jesus answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." 25But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." 26Jesus answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." 27She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." 28Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great

is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed instantly. The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Reflection

HYMN OF THE DAY - 612 Healer of Our Every Ill

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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Confident of your care and upheld by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need, responding with the Canaanite woman to each petition “Help us, O Lord.” *A brief silence.*

We pray for the Christian church around the world, for humility where the church is dominant, for courage where it is oppressed, and for faithfulness when it cannot assemble for worship: *A brief silence.*

Bless your church, faithful God: **help us, O Lord.**

We pray for your bountiful earth,
for cleaner air,
for the fields on which our food grows,
for the renewal of lands and waters that have suffered from disregard:

A brief silence.

Protect your earth, creative God: **help us, O Lord.**

We pray for the nations of the earth,
for the peaceful resolution of disputes around the world,
for just policies that care for the poor,
and for the upcoming political conventions in our land:

A brief silence.

Save humankind, sovereign God: **help us, O Lord.**

We pray for all in need of healing,
for the residents of Beirut and other distressed cities,
for those suffering from hurricane damage,
for those sick and dying of COVID-19,
for the unemployed,
for people without medical care,
for medical workers and researchers,
for the outcasts of our society,
and for those we name here:

A brief silence.

Heal the sick, merciful God: **help us, O Lord.**

We pray for a spirit of respect the world's religions,
for wisdom concerning the many houses of prayer,
and for guidance where religion serves as an arm of the government:

A brief silence.

Direct all people of faith, gracious God: **help us, O Lord.**

We pray for schools around the globe,
for educators who must plan for the fall,
and for children without the resources to access remote learning:

A brief silence.

Guide us, compassionate God: **help us, O Lord.**

We pray, finally, for ourselves,
for whenever we feel tormented by demons,
and for all our family and friends:

A longer period of silence.

Loving God: **help us, O Lord.**

We mourn the deaths of those we love,
and we praise you for the lives of all your faithful people.
At the end, gather us all into the joy of your presence.

A brief silence.

Grant us salvation, eternal God: **help us, O Lord.**

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Then conclude with these prayers:

Let us pray.

**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.**

OFFERING AND PRAYER

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forever.
Amen.

HYMN - 650 In Christ There Is Not East or West