

THE PARISH OF MISSISSIPPI LAKE
September 26, 2021

18th Sunday after Pentecost– 9:00 AM
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Praying Hands

Presider: The Reverend Canon Mary Ellen Berry
Communion Assistant: Peter Hicks
Reader/Prayers: Lynn Hyndman
Live Producer: Helen Vandermey
Musician: Ian Guenette

Thank you for joining us in worship today! We invite you to find a candle you can light and prepare a space where you can join us in worship from wherever you are. Please have your candles already lit and prayer spaces ready before we begin.

We begin by acknowledging aboriginal land that has been cared for and inhabited by indigenous people since the beginning. For those who gather from beyond our parish, we invite you to acknowledge the traditional territory you are on today.

The Gathering of the Community

We gather today on the traditional, unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishinaabe nation.

May we dwell on this land with respect and peace.

Announcements may be offered at this time. The people stand.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

And also with you.

All may sing, this or another hymn as announced.

Hymn 314. Sing Praises, All You Peoples

Sing praises, all you peoples, sing praises to the Lord.

Sing praises, all you peoples, sing praises to the Lord!

The Collect of the Day

Let us pray.

Grant, O merciful God,
that your Church,
being gathered by your Holy Spirit into one,
may show forth your power among all peoples,
to the glory of your name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

A reading from the book of Esther.

So the king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, "What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled." Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have won your favour, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me - that is my petition - and the lives of my people that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king." Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, "Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?" Esther said, "A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!" Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen. Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, "Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high." And the king said, "Hang him on that." So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated. Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by

year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

Esther 7: 1-6, 9-10; 9: 20-22

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

If the Lord had not been on our side,
let Israel now say;

If the Lord had not been on our side,
when enemies rose up against us;

Then would they have swallowed us up alive
in their fierce anger toward us;

Then would the waters have overwhelmed us
and the torrent gone over us;

Then would the raging waters
have gone right over us.

Blessed be the Lord!
he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.

We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler;
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.

Psalm 124

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.

Gospel

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward. If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched. For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

Mark 9: 38-50

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

The Prayers of the People

As disciples of Christ Jesus called to love and serve all people, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all God's creation with the words "Hear our prayer".

O God, make your church around the world generous in service and care to those who are poor.

- In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Episcopal Church
- In the Canadian Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Rt. Rev. Lincoln Mckoen, Bishop, and the clergy and people of The Territory of the People
- In our Diocese, we pray for +Shane, our Bishop; St. Matthew's, Ottawa: The Reverend Geoff Chapman; For the chaplain to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police: The Reverend Canon Catherine Ascah; In our Companion Diocese, the Diocese of Jerusalem, we pray for St. Matthew's Church, Zababdeh, West Bank; We also pray for the Theodore Schneller Chapel, Amman Jordan, and for the School for Boys. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

O God, bring favourable weather to farmlands, clean air to cities, and calm seas to coastlines. Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Spirit of righteousness, bring peace to conflicts and disputes around the world. Fill leaders with mercy and gentleness born of your wisdom. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

God our helper, it is you who sustains our life. Hear the prayers of those in trouble or in need, especially remembering **Julie, Al, Pat, Cindy, John, Chris, Rick, Jerry, Margaret, Lynn, Marilyn, Prim, Thomas, Thelma, Frank, Carol, Andre, Brent** and any others we pray for, silently or aloud, this morning...Draw near to them with your healing presence. Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

God of all, prepare us to welcome everyone into our midst, and readily accept the gifts they bring to the life and ministry of the congregations of this parish. Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Everlasting God, we give thanks for your servants of every generation. Help and defend us from all evil, until we worship and praise you around your throne with the angels and archangels and all the company of heaven. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Hear our prayers, faithful God, and renew us by your Spirit, that we may joyfully love and serve you and one another, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour.

Amen.

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

All may sing, this or another hymn as announced.

Hymn Here I Am, Lord

1 I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
My hand will save.
I who made the stars of night.
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

Refrain

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

2 I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?

Refrain

3 I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
Till their hearts be satisfied
I will give my life for them.
Whom shall I send?

Refrain

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Eternal God,
in Jesus Christ we behold your glory.
Receive the offering of your people gathered before you,
and open our hearts and mouths to praise your great salvation,
the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The 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.

Eternal God, Source of all being,
we give you thanks and praise
for your faithful love.
You call us into friendship
with you and one another
to be your holy people,
a sign of your presence in the world.

When those we trust betray us,
unfailingly you remain with us.
When we injure others,
you confront us in your love
and call us to the paths of righteousness.

You stand with the weak,
and those, broken and alone,
whom you have always welcomed home,
making the first last, and the last first.
Therefore we raise our voices
with angels and archangels,
forever praising you and saying (*singing*):

CP 719, LAND OF REST

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven 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.**

Blessed are you, O Holy One:
when Hagar was driven into the wilderness
you followed her and gave her hope.
When Joseph was sold into bondage,
you turned malice to your people's good.
When you called Israel out of slavery,
you brought them through the wilderness
into the promised land.
When your people were taken into exile
you wept with them by the river of Babylon
and carried them home.
Restore us, O God, let your face shine!

At the right time you sent your Anointed One
to stand with the poor,
the outcast, and the oppressed.
Jesus touched lepers, and the sick, and healed them.

He accepted water from a woman of Samaria
and offered her the water of new life.
Christ knew the desolation of the cross
and opened the way for all humanity
into the redemption of your reconciling love.

On the night he was betrayed,
Jesus, at supper with his friends,
took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread,
gave it to them, and said, "Take and eat:
this is my body which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine,
and when he had given thanks,
he gave it to them,
and said, "Drink this, all of you:
this is my blood of the new covenant
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it,
do this for the remembrance of me."

Loving and Holy One,
recalling Christ's death and resurrection,
we offer you these gifts,
longing for the bread of tomorrow
and the wine of the age to come.
Therefore we proclaim our hope.
**Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life.
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Pour out your Spirit on these gifts
that through them you may sustain us
in our hunger for your peace.
We hold before you
all whose lives are marked by suffering,
our sisters and brothers.
When we are broken and cast aside,
embrace us in your love.
Restore us, O God, let your face shine!

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours,
O Source of all life,
now and for ever.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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

**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 Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

**We, being many, are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.**

The Communion

The gifts of God for the People of God.
Thanks be to God.

*At live-streamed services the priest will invite the people to offer a prayer of communion using these words: “**Dear friends, wherever you may be, receive Christ; in communion with the saints and the gathering of God’s people, unseen yet present with us now.**” At other parish liturgies, the priest may remind the people that others who are not able to be present will be praying the following prayer:*

And so, together we pray,
Lord Jesus Christ,
you have put your life into our hearts;
now we put our lives into your hands.
Take us, renew us and remake us.
What we have been is past;
what we shall be, through you,
still awaits us.
Lead us on. Take us with you.
In your name we pray. Amen.

*Adapted from A Wee Worship Book,
Wild Goose Resource Group*

The people physically present receive communion. Those who do not wish to drink from the cup should cross their arms over their chest to indicate that. The minister will lift, not offer, the cup while saying ‘The blood of Christ, the cup of salvation’ or similar words. The communicant gives the usual response of ‘Amen’.

Prayer after Communion

We give you thanks, almighty God,
that you have refreshed us
through the healing power of this gift of life.
In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift,
in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Glory to God,
**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.**

Dismissal

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 our Lord;
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son,
and the Holy Spirit, be among you
and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go forth into the world,
rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
Thanks be to God.

All may sing, this or another hymn as announced.

Hymn 342. We Praise You, O God

- 1 We praise you, O God, our redeemer, creator;
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;
we bless your holy name; glad praises we sing.

- 2 We worship you, God of our mothers and fathers,
through trial and tempest companion and guide.
When perils o'ertake us, you will not forsake us,
but faithful to your promise, you walk by our side.

- 3 With voices united, our praises we offer
and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
Our sins now confessing, we pray for your blessing.
To you, our great redeemer, forever be praise!