

Morning Prayer – 7th Sunday of Easter, May 24, 2020

*Families or small groups might gather, taking turns serving as “Leader” and others responding with words in **bold print**, or the entire service is said by one person, knowing that others are praying in the same way in their own locations.*

A candle may be lit, to set apart this time of prayer.

A Penitential Rite & Territorial Acknowledgment

The freedom in which we live is bounded by promises we are called to keep.

As children of Noah, we inherit his Covenant: to honour all life.

Grafted on to the root of Abraham, we inherit his Covenant: we are blessed, so that we might be a blessing to all nations.

Having received, through Moses, the 10 Commandments, we inherit his covenant: to worship no other gods; to rest from ceaseless work; to honour the wisdom of our elders; to keep our promises; to disavow idolatry, blasphemy, murder, theft, dishonesty, and greed.

As Canadians we are party to the treaties which formed us as a nation- in this place, by Upper Canada Treaty #3.

As we gather here, on the traditional lands of, at different times, the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishinaabek, the Haudenosaunee, and other Indigenous Nations, we remain party to the Dish with One Spoon treaty, in which we acknowledge that we all eat from the same dish, and our need to keep both dish and spoon clean: to commit to taking no more than we need, sharing the abundance of the earth’s resources, and preserving continued abundance for future generations.

In our baptism, we vow to seek, and find, and honour God in scripture and sacrament, in each other, in the stranger, the outsider, and the marginalized. We vow to seek justice, safeguard the integrity of creation, to resist evil and whenever we fall into sin, to repent and return to the Lord.

In the death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus we are embraced into a new covenant, of eternal hope, and the forgiveness of sins.

According to our baptismal covenant, we confess that we have failed to live within the bounds of these promises. We confess our sins- individual, institutional, and systemic, and repent of the harm that is caused by our collective failure to honour all life.

Trusting that God keeps God's promises, that light shines in the darkness and is not overcome, that love has power to make all things new; that God's will can and one day shall be done on earth as it is in heaven: we ask for strength and courage to live each day as people of covenant, vow, and treaty.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Opening Responses

"I will not leave you desolate", says the Lord; "I will come to you".

O Come, Let us Worship.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Lord, open our lips

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Christ our Passover

1 Corinthians 5.7–8; Romans 6.9–11; 1 Corinthians 15.20–22

Alleluia!

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; *

therefore let us keep the feast,

Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, *

but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. **Alleluia!**

Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; *

death no longer has dominion over him.

The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; *

but the life he lives, he lives to God.

So also consider yourselves dead to sin, *

and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Alleluia!**

Christ has been raised from the dead, *
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.
For since by a human came death, *
by a human has come also the resurrection of the dead.
For as in Adam all die, * so also in Christ shall all be made alive. **Alleluia!**

"I will not leave you desolate", says the Lord; "I will come to you".
O Come, Let us Worship.

The Proclamation of the Word

Acts 1:6-14 New Revised Standard Version

So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 66:1-10, 32-35 (Inclusive Language Psalter)

- 1 Arise, O God, and let your enemies be scattered; * let those who hate you flee.
- 2 **Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives it away; * as the wax melts at the fire,
so let the wicked perish at your presence.**
- 3 But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before you; *
let them also be merry and joyful.
- 4 **Let us sing to God, sing praises to the divine name; ***

let us exalt the One who rides upon the heavens;
 Yahweh is the divine name, * before whom we shall rejoice!
 5 **Protector of orphans, defender of widows, * the One who dwells in holiness,**
 6 who gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners into freedom; *
 but the rebels shall live in dry places.

 7 **O God, when you went forth before your people, ***
when you marched through the wilderness,
 8 the earth shook, and the skies poured down rain, at your presence, O God of Sinai, *
 at your presence, O God of Israel.
 9 **You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance; ***
you refreshed the land when it was weary.
 10 Your people found their home in it; * in your goodness, O God,
 you have made provision for the poor.
 32 **Sing to God, O dominions of the earth; * sing praises to the Lord.**
 33 You ride in the heavens, the ancient heavens, O God; *
 sending forth your voice, your mighty voice.
 34 **Ascribe power to God; * whose majesty is over Israel;**
whose strength is in the skies.
 35 How wonderful is God in the divine sanctuary! *
 The God of Israel gives strength and power to this people!
Blessed be God!

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11 *New Revised Standard Version*

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice in so far as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters throughout the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Music might be Inserted here, either a "live" offering of praise to God, or a recorded selection.

Stand or sit for the Gospel reading, as seems appropriate for your setting.

A reading from the Gospel according to John (17:1-11)

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

'I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Did anything stand out for you in this story while you heard it this time?

What does this story have to say to you today?

Affirmation of Faith

Hear, O Israel,

the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God

with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.

This is the first and the great commandment. The second is like it:

Love your neighbour as yourself.

There is no commandment greater than these.

Intercessions and Thanksgivings

(In joy and hope let us pray to the source of all life, saying, "Hear us, Lord of glory!")

For the beauty and wonder of creation,

We thank you, Lord.

For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women, revealing the image of Christ,

We thank you, Lord.

For our daily food, for our homes and families and friends,

We thank you, Lord.

For minds to think and hearts to love,

We thank you, Lord.

For health, strength, and skill to work, and for leisure to rest and play,

We thank you, Lord.

For those who are brave and courageous, patient in suffering and faithful in adversity,

We thank you, Lord.

For all who pursue peace, justice, and truth,

We thank you, Lord.

For James, and Matthias, and all the saints whose lives have reflected the light of Christ,

We thank you, Lord.

For our own needs and those of others.

Silence. people may add their own petitions.

Hear us, Lord; **For your mercy is great.**

We pray for all those who have died in the peace of Christ, and for those whose faith is known to you alone, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence. The people may name their remembered dead

Lord, let your loving kindness be upon them; **Who put their trust in you.**

Collect

Almighty God,

you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ
with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven.

Mercifully give us faith to know

that, as he promised,

he abides with us on earth to the end of time;

who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Book of Alternative Services.

The Lord's Prayer

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us,
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 for ever. Amen.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

May the God of peace give us peace in all ways and at all times. **Amen.**

If a candle was lit, it is extinguished now

*This service is assembled from resources found in the Book of Alternative Services,
Published by the Anglican Church of Canada.*

*And from ALTERNATIVE COLLECTS FOR YEARS A, B & C OF THE REVISED COMMON
LECTIONARY AND SEASONAL PRAYERS OVER THE GIFTS AND AFTER COMMUNION
Prepared by the Liturgy Task Force, Faith, Worship, and Ministry Committee
Of the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada and found online at
<https://www.anglican.ca/wp-content/uploads/Alternative-RCL-Collects-Final-2019.pdf>*

*The Psalms are drawn from the Inclusive Language Psalter, commended for use by the
Council of General Synod, March 2019 and found online at <https://www.anglican.ca/wp-content/uploads/GS2016-Liturgical-Psalter-2016-05-04.pdf>*