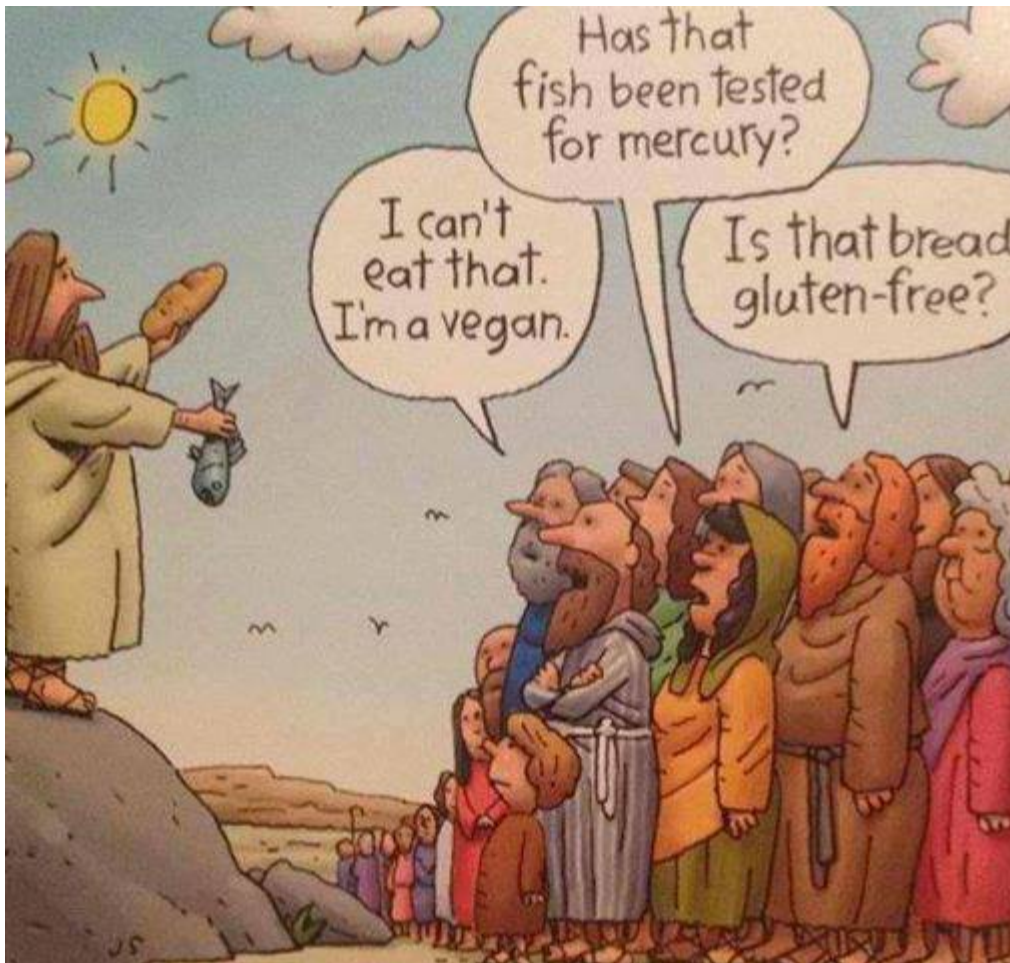


Sunday 2 August – Pentecost 9



www.reflectionary.org

Land Acknowledgement

We gather here mindful of the many who, for millennia, have called this valley home or depended on its trails for safe passage. We know this community as Fernie; it is also the unceded territory of the Ktunaxa people. May we be good and gracious guests of this corner of Creation.

Lighting the Christ Candle

This candle dances with the presence of the Spirit, reminding us of the warmth of the community in which God calls us to gather and the light that shines with wisdom, insight and clarity for us in our time of worship.

Peter Chynoweth, Yellowknife, NT

Call to Worship

All God's children are welcome and wanted here,
no matter your need.

God will give you rest from weariness,
comfort from your pain,
balm for your soul, food for your mind,
and hope for your tomorrow.

God's ability to tend and nurture,
calm and inspire, knows no bounds and never ends.

Let us open our hearts and minds
to God's loving-kindness and welcome.

Let us be God's loving-kindness and welcome
for each other as we worship together.

Allison Abbott-Wiebe, Gaysville, MB

Opening Prayer

A prayer as I put on my mask:

Creator,
as I prepare to go into the world,
help me to see the sacrament in the wearing of this cloth -
let it be "an outward sign of an inward grace" -
a tangible and visible way of living love for my neighbours,
as I love myself.

Christ,
since my lips will be covered, uncover my heart,
that people would see my smile in the crinkles around my eyes.
Since my voice may be muffled, help me to speak clearly,
not only with my words, but with my actions.

Holy Spirit,
As the elastic touches my ears, remind me to listen carefully -
and full of care - to all those I meet.
May this simple piece of cloth be shield and banner,
and each breath that it holds, be filled with your love.

In your Name and in that love, I pray.

May it be so.

May it be so.

Right Rev. Richard Bott, Moderator of the United Church of Canada

HYMN – MV92 Like a Rock x2

Like a rock, like a rock, God is under our feet.
Like the starry night sky God is over our head.
Like the sun on the horizon God is ever before.
Like the river runs to ocean, our home is in God evermore.

Like a rock, like a rock, God is under our feet.
Like the starry night sky God is over our head.
Like the sun on the horizon God is ever before.
Like the river runs to ocean, our home is in God evermore.

Prayer of Illumination

Good God, Generous God, God the Giver of All Gifts,
holy is your name.

Today we assemble:

some feeling buoyant, some sinking under the weight of of life;
some full of confidence, some insecure and hesitant;
some joyous, others sad – but we are here.

So, we open ourselves to you.

We wait to receive your word proclaimed for our lives today.

We wait to meet, in scripture and in community,
your good news for our lives.

AMEN.

Kate Gregory, Belwood, ON

Reader: Bev Delyea

READINGS FOR THE DAY

Genesis 32.22-31

Jacob Wrestles at Peniel

The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, 'Let me go, for the day is breaking.' But Jacob said, 'I will not let you go, unless you bless me.' So he said to him, 'What is your name?' And he said, 'Jacob.' Then the man said, 'You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed.' Then Jacob asked him, 'Please tell me your name.' But he said, 'Why is it that you ask my name?' And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, 'For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved.' The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

Romans 9.1-5

God's Election of Israel

I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit— I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen.

Matthew 14.13-21

Feeding the Five Thousand

Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, 'This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.' Jesus said to them, 'They need not go away; you give them something to eat.' They replied, 'We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.' And he said, 'Bring them here to me.' Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

HYMN – VU516 Come, You Thankful People Come (v.1&4)

Come, you thankful people come,
raise the song of harvest home!
All is safely gathered in,
safe before the storms begin;
God, our maker, does provide
for our needs to be supplied:
come to God's own temple, come,
raise the song of harvest home.

Even so, God, quickly come
to your final harvest home!
Gather all your people in,
free from sorrow, free from sin;
there for ever purified
in your presence to abide:
come, with all your angels come,
raise the glorious harvest home.

Sermon: The Reverend Andrea L. Brennan
Title: Wrestling...

We Responding in Giving and Gratitude
Our Church Tithes and Offerings

Call to Offering

Jacob knew what it meant to struggle to find meaning in his life. We often struggle to find the meaning of stewardship. How do we divide up the gifts of time, talent and money that you have given us so that they can become part of the blessing you have promised to us and to the world?

Wrestling, but committed to our giving we present our offering.

Fern Gibbard, Penticton, BC

Hymn of Thanksgiving

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures high and low

Give thanks to God in love made known

Creator, Word and Spirit one!

If you wish to make a donation to support our ministry
please send a cheque
or e-transfer to:

Knox United Church
Box 1808, Fernie, BC V0B 1M0
knoxferniefinance@gmail.com

Christ Church Anglican
Box 279, Fernie, BC V0B 1M0
christchurchferniefinance@gmail.com

A New Creed

We are not alone,
we live in God's world.

We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.

We are not alone.
Thanks be to God.

Prayers of the People

Petition and **Response:**

God, as we fear – **Open our hearts to love**

God of love and mercy, be with us as we gather in these uncertain times.
Calm our minds, give us the deep peace we seek as we yearn to know you.
God, as we fear – **Open our hearts to love.**

Bless all those front line workers; hospital, health unit, police, ambulance
and EMT's; grocery clerks, pharmacists and their assistants who are testing
their own health that they may keep us safe, fed and supported.

God, as we fear – **Open our hearts to love.**

Bless all those in the Elk Valley who care for our corner of creation.
For our Mayor, Ange; our Premier, John; and our Prime Minister, Justin.
For Adrian Dix and Dr. Bonnie Henry.

God, as we fear – **Open our hearts to love.**

Bless all those who lead us in small and large ways.
For our Conference Minister Kathy, our Regional Minister Treena, our
Regional Council President Blair, and for our Moderator, Richard.
For our Regional Dean Neil, our Bishop Lynne, our Metropolitan Melissa,
and for our Primate, Linda.
For the Pacific Mountain Region, for the United Church of Canada.
For the Diocese of Kootenay, for the Anglican Church of Canada
God, as we fear – **Open our hearts to love.**

Bless and protect those who are on our hearts today.
Who's names we offer to you silently or aloud -- PAUSE
God, as we fear – **Open our hearts to love.**

Be with those who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 and are separated
from their families. We give thanks for those who have recovered from the
virus. We pray that for those whom cure is not possible, that their death
may be merciful, swift and gentle.
God, as we fear – **Open our hearts to love.**

God of Mercy be with those who will die this day. Draw them into your
arms and let them know they have found a home with you.
God, as we fear – **Open our hearts to love.**

Joining our prayers and praises together,
Let us pray the prayer our Saviour taught us...

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.

HYMN – VU606 In Christ There is No East or West (v.1&2 - Tune 75)

In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north,
but see one great family of love
throughout the whole wide earth.

In him shall true hearts everywhere
their high communion find;
his service is the golden cord
close binding humankind.

MINUTE FOR MISSION – Mary Elson

Commissioning

Go into the world
prepared to catch a glimpse of Jesus in your midst,
prepared to let others catch a glimpse of Jesus in you.

Sue Webb, Selkirk, ON

Extinguishing the Christ Candle

Our time together has come to an end,
we now go about the rest of our day,
knowing in small and in large ways,
we are connected to each other, through you, O God. Amen

Andrea Brennan, Fernie, BC

SENDING HYMN – MV90 Don't Be Afraid (2x)

Don't be afraid. My love is stronger,
my love is stronger than your fear.
Don't be afraid. My love is stronger,
and I have promised, promised to be always near.

Upcoming this week...

Monday 3 August – B.C. Day

Tuesday 4 August – Reverend Andrea at Knox United

12:30 pm – Physically distant lunch at Causeway Bay, Sparwood

4:30 pm – Pre-marriage prep with B&C by Zoom

Wednesday 5 August – 1:30 pm – JCCM by Zoom

Thursday 6 August – Reverend Andrea at Christ Church

Friday/Saturday – Reverend Andrea's Sabbath

Sunday 9 August – 10:00 am – Worship (Anglican-style) (by Zoom)

Please mark your calendars:

Sunday 30 August is our First Anniversary Service which will be by Zoom.

If you know of parishioners who do not have access to technology, please consider inviting them to attend with you. More details available shortly.

Credits: The liturgy today has been compiled with resources from Gathering: Pentecost 1, 2020, Voices United and More Voices. Candle extinguishing prayer and Prayers of the People written by Reverend Andrea Brennan.