

23 August 2020 - Twelfth after Pentecost



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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 our Candles

We light this candle to share the light of Christ. Both within ourselves and with each other. May this flame remind us that we are never alone when we trust in and love God with our heart, mind, soul and strength. AMEN

Call to Worship

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

ALL: And also with you

ONE: Let us pray.

We thank you, O God, that you have
again brought us together on the Lord's Day
to praise you for
your goodness and to ask your blessing.
Give us grace to see your hand
in the week that is past, and
your purpose in the week to come;
through Christ our Lord.

ALL: AMEN.

Opening Hymn – CP444 v.1&5 Your Hand, O God, Has Guided

Your hand, O God, has guided
your flock from age to age;
the wondrous tale is written,
full clear, on every page.
Our forebears owned your goodness
and we their deeds record,
and both of us bear witness:
one church, one faith, one Lord.

Your mercy will not fail us
nor leave your work undone;
with your right hand to help us,
your people shall be one;
and then, by all creation,
your name shall be adored,
and this shall be their anthem:
one church, one faith, one Lord.

Confession and Absolution

ONE: Dear friends in Christ,
as we turn our hearts and minds
to worship almighty God,
let us confess our sins,
confident in God's forgiveness.

ALL: Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word and deed,
by what we have done
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us,
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your name. AMEN

ONE: Merciful God,
grant to your faithful pardon and peace,
that we may be cleaned from all our sins
and serve you with a quiet mind;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit,
One God, now and for ever.

ALL: AMEN

Collect of the Day

ONE: Living God,
you accept our stumbling faith,
our misplaced answers,
our false horizons,
and through them you build a way of peace.
Empower and enable us
to bind the woulds of the world
and loose the bonds of oppression,
so that all may confess the grace
that is your work alone;
through Jesus Christ, your anointed one.

ALL: AMEN

The Proclamation of the Word

Reader – Bill Silversides

The Old Testament Reading is from the Book of Genesis

Exodus 1.8-2.10

The Israelites Are Oppressed

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, 'Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land.' Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labour. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labour. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, 'When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live.' But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live.

So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, 'Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?' The midwives said to Pharaoh, 'Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them.' So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, 'Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live.'

Birth and Youth of Moses

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. 'This must be one of the Hebrews' children,' she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?' Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because', she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'

One: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

The Epistle is from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

Romans 12.1-8

The New Life in Christ

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

One: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn – CP484, v.1

In Christ There Is No East or West

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

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to St. Matthew

All: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Matthew 16.13-20

Peter's Declaration about Jesus

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

One: The Gospel of Christ

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gradual Hymn – CP484, v.2

In Christ There Is No East or West

In Christ shall true hearts everywhere
their high communion find,
whose service is the golden cord
close-binding humankind.

Sermon: The Rt. Rev. Dr. Lynne McNaughton
Bishop of Kootenay

Statement of Faith: Nicene Creed

One: Let us confess our faith as we say,

All: We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father.

With the Father and the Son
he is worshipped and glorified.

He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic
and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn of Praise – CP384 v.1-2

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation.
O my soul praise him, for he is thy health and salvation.
All he who hear, brothers and sisters draw near,
praise him in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth;
hast thou not seen, how thy entreaties have been
granted in what he ordaineth.

Intercessions and Thanksgivings

Norma Bayer

ONE: In peace we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work:

ALL: For our families, friends, and neighbours, and for all those who are alone.

ONE: For this community, our country, and the world;

ALL: For all who work for justice, freedom and peace.

ONE: For the just and proper use of your creation;

ALL: For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice and oppression.

ONE: For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

ALL: For all those who minister to the sick, the friendless,
and the needy.

ONE: For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

ALL: For all who proclaim the gospel,
and all who seek the truth.

ONE: For Neil our Regional Dean, Lynne our Bishop,

Melissa our Metropolitan, Linda our Primate;

For Kathy our Regional Minister, Blair our Regional President,

Treena our Executive Minister, Richard our Moderator.

ALL: For all who serve God in the Church.

ONE: For our own needs and those of others.

ALL: Hear us Lord, for your mercy is great.

ONE: We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.
SILENCE. The people may add their own thanksgivings.

ONE: We will exalt you, O God our king;
ALL: And praise your name for ever and ever.

ONE: We pray for those who have been diagnosed
with COVID-19.
We pray that they may recover fully.
And if it be that a cure may not be had,
may their death be swift and gentle as they are called
home into your arms.

ALL: Hear us Lord, for your mercy is great.

ONE: We pray for all those who continue to work on the front-lines;
the medical personnel, the truckers,
the grocery clerks and cashiers;
For the local small-businesses who are
trying to remain safely open;

ALL: Hear us Lord, for your mercy is great.

ONE: We pray for 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 add their own petitions.

ONE: Lord, let your loving kindness be upon them;

ALL: Who put their trust in you.

ONE: Gracious God,
you have heard the prayers of your faithful people;
you know our needs before we ask,
and our ignorance in asking.

Grant our requests as may be best for us.

This we ask, in the name of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

ALL: AMEN

Offertory Hymn – CP667

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.

Prayer Over the Gifts

ONE: Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.
Through your goodness
you have blessed us with these gifts:
our selves, our time and our possessions.
Use us, and what we have gathered,
in feeding the world with your love,
through the one who gave himself for us,
Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.

ALL: AMEN

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

COVID-19 Prayer

Holy and Compassionate God,
You accompany us in the wilderness.
You are present with us in this crisis time in our lives and in the world.
We pray for the people of the Diocese of Kootenay,
For clergy, leaders, parishes, and people.
Strengthen our community.
May your Holy Spirit connect us even in our distance.
May we know you abide with us:
Be our Calm as we face uncertainty and readjust plans and routines.
Be our Rock in rapid change; give us resilience.
Be our Shelter in the whirlwind;
hide us under the safety of your loving wings.
Be our Peace; free us from fear.
Be our Strength; replenish us with courage.
Be our Compassion; enliven us to serve those in need.
Into your hands we commend our spirits,
In the name of Jesus, our Healer and Redeemer. Amen

Rt. Rev. Dr. Lynne McNaughton, Bishop of Kootenay

The Lord's Prayer

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

Doxology

One: Glory to God

All: 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.

One: May the God of hope

fill us with all joy and peace in believing
through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen

Extinguishing our Candles

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

Sending Song – MV75 – Don't Be Afraid – Please sing twice

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.

Key

CP = Common Praise

VU = More Voices

MV = More Voices

Upcoming This Week:

Reverend Andrea is on "Staycation".
In the event of Pastoral Emergency, please call
Lynda Bird or Carole Chorostecki.

Our next worship:

Sunday 20 August @10:00 am MDT
Anniversary Service – YAHOO!

Credits:

The liturgy today has been compiled with resources from Service of the Word, Alternative Collects from the Anglican Church of Canada, Common Praise, and More Voices. Candle lighting and extinguishing prayers written by Reverend Andrea L. Brennan (c) 2020.