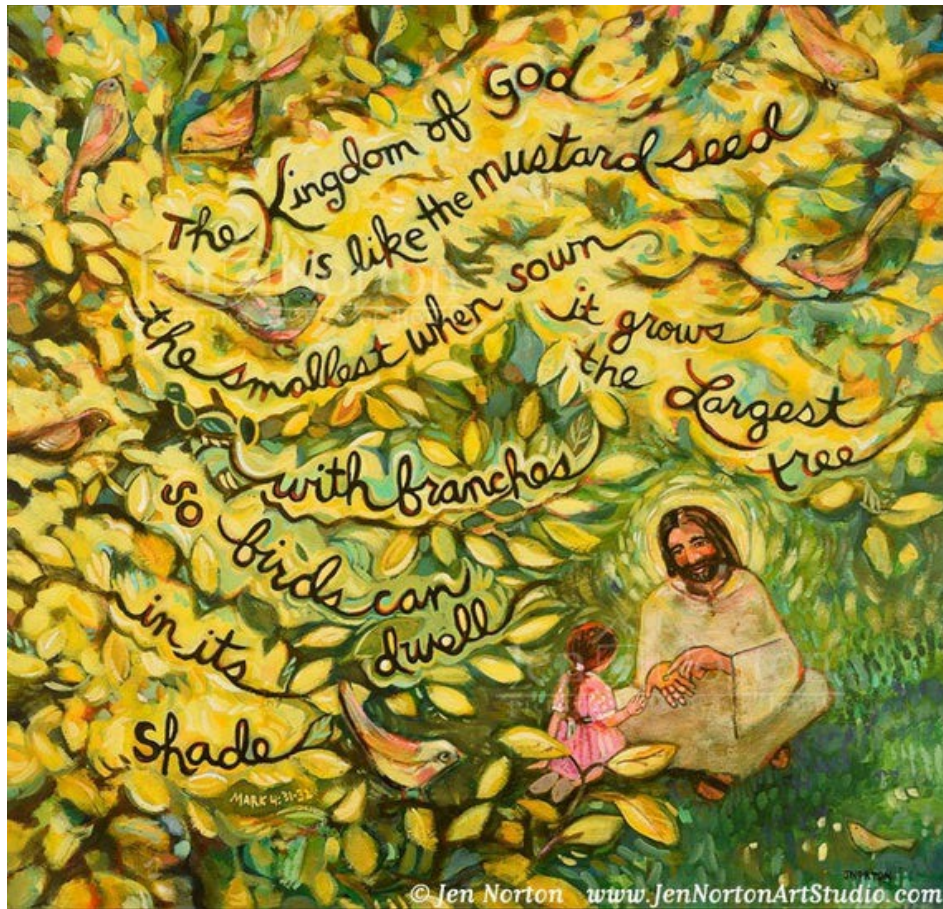


26 July 2020 - Eighth after Pentecost



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 – CP328 v.1,3)

Lo, God is Here, Let Us Adore

Lo, God is here! Let us adore
and own how awesome is this place;
let all within us feel God's power
and bow before the hidden face.
Redeeming Lord, your grace we prove,
serve you with awe, with reverence love.

Being of beings, may our praise
your courts with grateful fragrance fill;
still may we stand before your face,
still hear and do your sovereign will;
to you may all our thoughts arise,
ceaseless accepted sacrifice.

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: Scandalous God,
you sow weeds among the crop,
raise bread with impure yeast,
offer treasure without price
and cast a net that catches good and bad:
throw down our idols of purity and possession,
so that you might reveal in us your wide-branching love;
through Jesus Christ, the stumbling block.

ALL: AMEN

The Proclamation of the Word

Reader – Suzanne Artley

The Old Testament Reading is from the Book of Genesis

Genesis 29.15-28

Jacob Marries Laban's Daughters

Then Laban said to Jacob, 'Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?' Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah's eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, 'I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel.' Laban said, 'It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me.' So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.

Then Jacob said to Laban, 'Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed.' So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, 'What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?' Laban said, 'This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me for another seven years.' Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

One: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

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

Romans 8.26-39

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

God's Love in Christ Jesus

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

'For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.'

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

One: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn – CP361 v.1
Surely It is God Who Saves Me

Surely it is God who saves me; I shall trust and have no fear.
For the Lord defends shields me and his saving help is near.
So rejoice as you draw water from salvation's healing spring;
in the day of your deliverance thank the Lord, his mercies sing.

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 13.31-33, 44-52

The Parable of the Mustard Seed

He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.'

The Parable of the Yeast

He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.'

Three Parables

'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Treasures New and Old

'Have you understood all this?' They answered, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.'

One: The Gospel of Christ

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gradual Hymn – CP361 v.2

Surely it is God Who Saves Me

Make God's deeds known to the peoples; tell out his exalted name.

Praise the Lord, who has done great things;
all his works God's might proclaim.

Zion, lift your voice in singing; for with you has come to dwell,
in your very midst, the great and Holy One of Israel.

Sermon: The Reverend Andrea L. Brennan

Statement of Faith: Apostles Creed

One: Let us confess our faith as we say,

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the virgin Mary.

He 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,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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

Hymn of Praise – CP350 Stand Up and Bless the Lord v.1,2

Stand up and bless the Lord,
you people of God's choice;
stand up and bless the Lord of hosts
with heart and soul and voice.

Though high above all praise,
above all blessing high,
who would not fear God's holy name,
and laud and magnify?

Intercessions and Thanksgivings

Bill Silversides

Thanksgiving Litany, BAS

(Let us give thanks to God our Father, always and for everything, saying, "We thank you, Lord.")

ONE: For the beauty and wonder of creation,

ALL: We thank you, Lord.

ONE: For the leaders of our churches, For our partners in mission, For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women, revealing the image of Christ,

ALL: We thank you, Lord.

ONE: We pray for those who lack food, or family, or home, or friend, For our daily food, for our homes and families and friends,

ALL: We thank you, Lord.

ONE: For minds to think and hearts to love,

ALL: We thank you, Lord.

ONE: For our health practitioners, our health advisors. For health, strength, and skill to work, and for leisure to rest and play and worship,

ALL: We thank you, Lord.

ONE: For those we know who are ill in mind, spirit or body accept our prayers, For those who are brave and courageous, patient in suffering and faithful in adversity,

ALL: We thank you, Lord.

ONE: For Leaders of communities, regions and nations, For all who pursue peace, justice, and truth,

ALL: We thank you, Lord.

ONE: Today we give thanks especially for the opportunity to worship together in this novel way,

ALL: We thank you, Lord.

ONE: For Anne, mother of Mary and all the saints whose lives have reflected the light of Christ,

ALL: We thank you, Lord.

ONE: together we say:

ALL: Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise
for all you have done for us.

We thank you for the splendour of the whole creation,
for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life,
and for the mystery of love.

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends,
and for the loving care
which surrounds us on every side.

We thank you for setting us tasks
which demand our best efforts,
and for leading us to accomplishments
which satisfy and delight us.

We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us
to acknowledge our dependence on you alone. Above all, we thank
you for your Son Jesus Christ;

for the truth of his word and the example of his life;

AMEN.

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: Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills
were gathered together to become one bread,
so let your church be gathered together
from the ends of the earth into your kingdom,
for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ,
now and for ever.

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:

Monday – Administration

Tuesday @ 10:00 am – Andrea+ at Knox until 1:00 pm

Wednesday – PMRC Regional Zoom (UCC) by Zoom @2:00 pm

Thursday – Interment of Ashes – Edgewater Cemetery

Friday/Saturday – Andrea+'s Sabbath

Our next worship:

Sunday 02 August @10:00 am MDT

Seventh after Pentecost – Worship with United Church Resources

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.