

## 24 May 2020 – Ascension



### Land Acknowledgement

We gather here, mindful of the many who, for millennia, have called this valley home, or depended on it's 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 Paschal Candle

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 – Alleluia! Sing to Jesus (v.1&4)

Al-le-lu-ia! Sing to Je-sus! His the scep-tre, his the throne;  
al-le-lu-ia! His the tri-umph, his the vic-to-ry a-lone.  
Hark! The songs of peace-ful Zi-on, thun-der like a mi-ghty flood;  
Je-sus, out of ev-ery na-tion, hath re-deemed us by his blood.

Al-le-lu-ia! King e-ter-nal, thee the Lord of lords we own;  
Al-le-lu-ia! Born of Ma-ry, earth thy foot-stool, heaven thy throne.  
Thou with-in the veil hast en-tered, robed in flesh, our great high priest;  
thou on earth both priest and vic-tim, in the eu-cha-ris-tic feast.

## 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: God unheld by word or wall:  
lift us from dullness and cynical contempt;  
make us ready for your Spirit of transforming power;  
and turn our hearts to the mending of the world,  
through Jesus Christ, the name above all names.

ALL: AMEN

## The Proclamation of the Word

### **Reader – Catherine Ripley**

#### Acts 1.1-11

#### The Promise of the Holy Spirit

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over the course of forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. 'This', he said, 'is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.'

#### The Ascension of Jesus

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.'

## Psalm 47

### **God's Rule over the Nations**

To the leader. Of the Korahites. A Psalm.  
Clap your hands, all you peoples;  
shout to God with loud songs of joy.  
For the LORD, the Most High, is awesome,  
a great king over all the earth.  
He subdued peoples under us,  
and nations under our feet.  
He chose our heritage for us,  
the pride of Jacob whom he loves.  
Selah

God has gone up with a shout,  
the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.  
Sing praises to God, sing praises;  
sing praises to our King, sing praises.  
For God is the king of all the earth;  
sing praises with a psalm.

God is king over the nations;  
God sits on his holy throne.  
The princes of the peoples gather  
as the people of the God of Abraham.  
For the shields of the earth belong to God;  
he is highly exalted.

## Ephesians 1.15-23

### Paul's Prayer

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

### Gradual Hymn – Nada te Turbe (CP 568, 2x, 2x)

*Na-da te tur-be, na-da te es pan-te:*

*Quien a Dios tie-ne na-da le fal-ta.*

*Na-da te tur-be, na-da te es pan-te:*

*So-lo Dio bas-ta.*

*Noth-ing can trou-ble, noth-ing can frighten.*

*Those who seek God shall nev-er go wanting.*

*Noth-ing can trou-ble, noth-ing can frighten.*

*God a-lone fills us.*

## GOSPEL

### Luke 24.44-53

Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.'

### The Ascension of Jesus

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

Response – Nada te Turbe (CP 568, 2x, 2x)

*Na-da te tur-be, na-da te es pan-te:*

*Quien a Dios tie-ne na-da le fal-ta.*

*Na-da te tur-be, na-da te es pan-te:*

*So-lo Dio bas-ta.*

*Noth-ing can trou-ble, noth-ing can frighten.*

*Those who seek God shall nev-er go wanting.*

*Noth-ing can trou-ble, noth-ing can frighten.*

*God a-lone fills us.*

Sermon: The Reverend Andrea L. Brennan

## Statement of Faith: Nicene Creed

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 – CP84, v. 1&2  
Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendour

Lord, en-throned in heaven-ly splen-dour,  
first-be-got-ten from the dead,  
thou a-lone, our strong de-fen-der,  
lift-est up thy people's head.  
Al-le-lu-ia, Je-sus, true and liv-ing bread!

Pas-chal Lamb, thine of-fering, fin-ished  
once for all when thou wast slain,  
in its fullness un-di-min-ished  
shall for-ever more re-main,  
al-le-lu-ia, cleans-ing souls from ev-ery stain.

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 Lynne our Bishop, Melissa our Metropolitan, Linda our Primate; For Kathy our Regional Minister, Jay 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

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

Blessed are you, O God,  
ruler of heaven and earth.  
Day by day you shower us with blessings.  
As you have raised us to new life in Christ,  
give us glad and generous hearts,  
ready to praise you and to respond to those in need,  
through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.  
AMEN

## 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

## Prayer of St. John Chrysostom

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time  
and with one accord  
to make our common supplications to you,  
and you have promised through you well-beloved Son  
that when two or three are gathered together  
you will hear their requests.  
Fulfill now our desires and petitions  
as may be best for us,  
granting us in this world knowledge of your truth,  
and in the age to come eternal life;  
for you, Father, are good and loving,  
and we glorify you through your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord, in the Holy Spirit,  
now and for ever. AMEN

## 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.

## Extinguishing the Paschal Candle

As we prepare to continue with our day  
we extinguish our candles, knowing  
we will be together again, soon.

## Sending Song – 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.

## Upcoming This Week:

Monday – Administration

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

Wednesday – PMRC Regional Zoom (UCC) @2:00 pm  
Pre-marriage prep with B&E by Zoom @5:30 pm

Thursday – Diocese of Kootenay Zoom (UCC) @Noon

Friday/Saturday – Andrea+'s Sabbath

## Our next worship:

Sunday 31 May @10:00 am MDT  
Pentecost – Joint Worship 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.