



ANGLICAN
DIOCESE of
OTTAWA

We acknowledge that our Diocese is on traditional Algonquin and Mohawk territory.

Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Metcalfe
Second Sunday after Pentecost. June 6, 2021

Archdeacon Gerry Peddle

Morning Prayer

(Adapted from the Book of Alternative Services.)

Officiant: O Lord, open Thou our lips,

People: ***And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.***

Officiant: O God, make speed to save us.

People: ***O Lord, make haste to help us.***

All: **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.**

God rules over all the earth: *O come, let us worship.*

Venite Psalm 95.1–7

Come, let us sing to the Lord; * *let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.*

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving * *and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.*

For the Lord is a great God, * *and a great king above all gods.*

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, * *and the heights of the hills are his also.*

The sea is his and he made it, * *and his hands have moulded the dry land.*

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, * *and kneel before the Lord our maker.*

For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. * *Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!*

The Proclamation of the Word A READING FROM THE FIRST BOOK OF SAMUEL

Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah, and said to him, "You are old and your sons do not follow in your ways; appoint for us, then, a king to govern us, like other nations." But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, "Give us a king to govern us." Samuel prayed to the Lord, and the Lord said to Samuel, "Listen to the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them. Just as they have done to me, from the day I brought them up out of Egypt to this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so also they are doing to you. Now then, listen to

their voice; only you shall solemnly warn them, and show them the ways of the king who shall reign over them." So, Samuel reported all the words of the Lord to the people who were asking him for a king. He said, "These will be the ways of the king who will reign over you: he will take your sons and appoint them to his chariots and to be his horsemen, and to run before his chariots. And he will appoint for himself commanders of thousands and commanders of fifties, and some to plow his ground and to reap his harvest, and to make his implements of war and the equipment of his chariots. He will take your daughters to be perfumers and cooks and bakers. He will take the best of your fields and vineyards and olive orchards and give them to his courtiers. He will take one-tenth of your grain and of your vineyards and give it to his officers and his courtiers. He will take your male and female slaves, and the best of your cattle and donkeys, and put them to his work. He will take one-tenth of your flocks, and you shall be his slaves. And in that day you will cry out because of your king, whom you have chosen for yourselves; but the Lord will not answer you in that day." But the people refused to listen to the voice of Samuel; they said, "No! but we are determined to have a king over us, so that we also may be like other nations, and that our king may govern us and go out before us and fight our battles." Samuel said to the people, "Come, let us go to Gilgal and there renew the kingship." So, all the people went to Gilgal, and there they made Saul king before the Lord in Gilgal. There they sacrificed offerings of well-being before the Lord, and there Saul and all the Israelites rejoiced greatly. There they sacrificed offerings of well-being before the LORD, and there Saul and all the Israelites rejoiced greatly. 1 SAMUEL 8:4-11 (12-15), 16-20 (11:14-15)

The psalm is: # 138

I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise;

I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness; for you have exalted your name and your word above everything.

On the day I called, you answered me, you increased my strength of soul.

All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O LORD, for they have heard the words of your mouth.

They shall sing of the ways of the LORD, for great is the glory of the LORD.

For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly; but the haughty he perceives from far away.

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies; you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me.

The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.

A READING FROM THE SECOND LETTER OF PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS

But just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—"I believed, and so I spoke"—we also believe, and so we speak, because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God. So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal. For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. 2 CORINTHIANS 4:13-5:1

Affirmation of Faith. The Apostles' Creed

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 Holy Spirit and born 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.

Gospel:

The Lord be with you

And also with you

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO MARK

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

The crowd came together again, so that they could not even eat. When his family heard it, they went out to restrain Jesus, for people were saying, "He has gone out of his mind." And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, "He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons." And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, "How can Satan cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered. Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness but is guilty of an eternal sin" - for they had said, "He has an unclean spirit." Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, "Your mother and your brothers and sisters are

outside, asking for you." And he replied, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" And looking at those who sat around him, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother." MARK 3:20-35

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you Lord, Jesus Christ

Sermon:

Today, in addition to being the second Sunday after Pentecost, it is also the 77th anniversary of DDay – the Allied invasion of Europe in 1944. Unquestionably the largest military invasion of all time, it demonstrated beyond any doubt that when people work together, they are able to accomplish very great feats. Even enduring pain and tragedy, if we stay focused on the things which are important, we will attain victory. Since the dawn of human history one of the chief lessons learned is that when we are united, we survive, but when we are divided, we fall. The earliest homo Sapien tribes that wandered the earth always found safety in numbers, when everyone worked together.

The lesson taken from today's Old Testament reading is a reminder of this. We read that Samuel, who has been Israel's leader for many years, has now become an old man. In accordance with tradition, he has handed over power to his two sons. Unfortunately, not only had they become alienated, and squabbled among themselves, they had also become corrupt. Now the people wanted a King like other nations, and Samuel warned them against it. He feared that if they had a King, they would forget Yahweh, their God, and the King would take advantage of them. They would not listen and thus Saul was appointed their King.

An important point here is that Samuel had originally thought that the people were rejecting him as leader, but Yahweh spoke to him and said "*NO. They are not rejecting you – they are rejecting me as their King.*" Later on, Paul would say "render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's, but render unto God, the things are His." There is an expectation here that mature people of faith will always know the difference.

Then, in the New Testament reading we see a continuation of this theme with Paul. He tells the people of Corinth to "stay the course." Despite the challenges of life and the immorality which surrounds us, he encourages people to abide by their faith and count the blessings which have been provided by the Father. He enjoins everyone to concentrate on things eternal and not to heed the temporary challenges which arrive today and are gone tomorrow.

The Gospel for today brings it all together. It is a reiteration of his earlier command to love one another because everyone who does the will of God is my brethren. It matters not what unbelievers think of us, just don't cease from being faithful.

As Christians today, we stand squarely in the faith traditions of great men like Samuel and Paul. Their injunction to the people of the newly acquired Promised land and to Corinth carries as much validity today as it did then. "Keep your eyes on the things above, for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal."

Today, Covid 19 has also made a massive invasion into our world and we have already learned that in order to defeat it we have to work together and stay focused. The easiest way out is to lose both hope and our faith in our God, and in one another. Our failure to prayerfully ask our God to help us is breaking faith with those of our ancestors who always sought God's favour when calamity came their way. In the spirit of Samuel and Paul, let each one of us pause a little, every now and then, to utter a prayer, each in our own way and ask God to assist us in His Mercy. Pray that His light may shine brighter in our dark world to guide us into a victory over our present challenges. Let's not forget to utter a little prayer for ourselves too. Just like those brave soldiers who fought, and died, on the beaches of Normandy let us pray that he will keep us brave and strengthen us for whatever befalls us. Remember that more things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of.

Intercessions and Thanksgivings:

(Let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy.")

Let us ask the Lord for a day of fulfilment and peace.

Lord, have mercy.

Let us ask the Lord to teach us to love others as he has loved us.

Lord, have mercy.

Let us ask the Lord for peace and justice in the world.

Lord, have mercy.

Let us ask the Lord to strengthen and relieve those who are in need.

Lord, have mercy.

Let us ask the Lord to renew the Church through the power of his life-giving Spirit. **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: Let us now observe 215 seconds of respectful silence as we honour the Indigenous Children whose bodies were found in Kamloops, and whose lives matter very much:

Silence (215 seconds)

Leader: Holy One, Creator of all that is, seen and unseen, of story and of song, of heartbeat and of tears, of bodies, souls, voices and all relations: you are the God of all truth and the way of all reconciliation. Breathe in us the grace to trust in your loving forgiveness, that we may face our histories with courage. Guide us with holy wisdom to enter through the gates of remorse that our feet may walk gently and firmly on the way of justice and healing. Amen.

May the bracing and challenging love of God be with us all as more stories of Indigenous Children who perished in residential schools come to light.

In the worldwide Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray today for the Church of the Province of Myanmar (Burma).

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for St. Columba, Ottawa, and their Priests, The Reverend Karen Coxon, Interim Priest-in-Charge; for St. Barnabas, Deep River, and their Priest, The Reverend Patrick Stephens; and St. Barnabas, Ottawa, and their Priest, The Reverend Canon Stewart Murray.

We ask you to watch over all our parish family, remembering especially Zachariah, Marjorie, Cheryl, Jeanette, Roy, Emerson, Irene, and their families.

The Collect of the Day:

O God, you have assured the human family of eternal life. Through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Deliver us from the death of sin and raise us to a new life in Him, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. AMEN

The Lord's Prayer:

Officiant: Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us,

All: *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*

Dismissal