

Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Metcalfe
October 27, 2024
23rd Sunday After Pentecost
The Reverend Tom Hubschmid

Invitation to Worship

The Gathering of the Community

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

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: We acknowledge our presence on the ancestral lands of the
Algonquin Anishinaabe nation.

All: **In a spirit of reconciliation, may we always seek to respect the history,
spirituality, and culture of Indigenous Peoples and uphold our continuing
responsibility as treaty people.**

Celebrant: Almighty God,

People: **to you all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hidden.
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Celebrant: Glory to God in the highest

People: **and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly king,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,**

**you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Celebrant: Lord God our redeemer,
who heard the cry of your people
and sent your servant Moses
to lead them out of slavery,
free us from the tyranny of sin and death,
and by the leading of your Spirit
bring us to our promised land;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All: **Amen**

The Proclamation of The Word

Reader: A reading from the Book of Job

Then Job answered the Lord: "I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted. 'Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?' Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know. 'Hear, and I will speak; I will question you, and you declare to me.' I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you; therefore I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes." And the Lord restored the fortunes of Job when he had prayed for his friends; and the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before. Then there came to him all his brothers and sisters and all who had known him before, and they ate bread with him in his house; they showed him sympathy and comforted him for all the evil that the Lord had brought upon him; and each of them gave him a piece of money and a gold ring. The Lord blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginning; and he had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, a thousand yoke of oxen, and a thousand donkeys. He also had seven sons and three daughters. He named the first Jemimah, the second Keziah, and the third Keren happuch. In all the land there were no women so beautiful as Job's daughters; and their father gave them an inheritance along with their brothers. After this Job lived one hundred and forty years, and saw his children, and his children's children, four generations. And Job died, old and full of days.

JOB 42:1-6, 10-17

The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

Reader: Our Psalm is from Psalm 34:1-8 (19-22)

I will bless the Lord at all times;

All: **his praise shall ever be in my mouth.**

Reader: I will glory in the Lord;

All: **let the humble hear and rejoice.**

Reader: Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord;

All: **let us exalt his name together.**

Reader: I sought the Lord, and he answered me

All: **and delivered me out of all my terror.**

Reader: Look upon him and be radiant,

All: **and let not your faces be ashamed.**

Reader: I called in my affliction and the Lord heard me

All: **and saved me from all my troubles.**

Reader: The angel of the Lord encompasses those who fear him,

All: **and he will deliver them.**

Reader: Taste and see that the Lord is good;

All: **happy are they who trust in him!**

Reader: Many are the troubles of the righteous,

All: **but the Lord will deliver him out of them all.**

Reader: He will keep safe all his bones;

All: **not one of them shall be broken.**

Reader: Evil shall slay the wicked,

All: **and those who hate the righteous will be punished.**

Reader: The Lord ransoms the life of his servants,

All: **and none will be punished who trust in him.**

Reader: A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

Furthermore, the former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office; but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. Consequently he is able for all time to save those who approach God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them. For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. Unlike the other high priests, he has no need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for those of the people; this he did once for all when he offered himself. For the law appoints as high priests those who are subject to weakness, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

HEBREWS 7:23-28

The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to MARK

10:46-52

People: **Glory be to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Celebrant: They came to Jericho. As Jesus and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you." So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said to him, "My teacher, let me see again." Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

The Gospel of Christ.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Homily - Son of David, Have Mercy on Me!

God of power and grace, restore to us what has been lost and make us whole. In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Imagine you're walking through Jericho with Jesus. You're in a massive crowd, trudging along. Jericho was always a hot and dusty place. You're probably thirsty and hungry, but you're excited because it's like when you're baby-stepping along with a crowd as you enter a stadium or a concert hall. You're there to see what happens next, and it's gonna be big. Next stop for Jesus is Jerusalem, the capitol, the holy city, the city of Israelite Kings, and you and everyone else believes that when Jesus gets there, he's gonna take the thrown and free your people. It's gonna be great. Everyone's taken time off work, people are away from home, everybody feels the way crowds do when they gather for an exciting thing.

Then there's this guy. He's dirty and smelly and sitting on the roadside, begging, because he's blind and he can't work. And he cries out above the bustle of the crowd, "Jesus! Son of David! Have mercy on me!" And you want to talk with Jesus too; you also want to have a special moment with him; you also have something or someone who needs healing; but you don't cry out and beg Jesus to give you special treatment. Why doesn't this guy get up and ask someone to help him follow along like everyone else? He's probably not the only blind person there. He's being pathetic. And it sounds like he just wants Jesus to pity him. So, folks tell him to be quiet, but he gets even louder. "Son of David! Have mercy on me!"

Now, Mark sets up this story in a particular way. It comes after series of episodes where Jesus' disciples don't understand him. They fail to see who Jesus is. And

this series of episodes starts with Jesus healing a previous blind man. So, Mark creates this series about disciples failing to truly see Jesus, bookended by Jesus healing blind men. So, it's tradition to praise this blind man as ironically having the gift to see Jesus for who he truly is despite the fact that he is literally blind. And I do think he is an example for us to imitate, but I don't think it's because he spiritually sees something that others fail to see. Mark gives him a special place in the story, and Jesus pays him special attention, because this guy doesn't just understand. He does.

Bartimaeus doesn't understand anything about Jesus that everyone in the crowd doesn't already know. He believes Jesus is the Messiah. He calls him "Son of David!" It was believed that the Messiah of Israel would descend from King David and one day restore the throne of King David, and conquer all the enemies of the Jewish people. Well, Peter believes this about Jesus too. Peter is the first to say Jesus is the Messiah. Shortly after that, James and John ask if they can sit on either side of Jesus when he takes David's throne. So, they also believe Jesus to be the Messiah. So this guy Bartimaeus doesn't know something the disciples don't already know. But still, Mark gives him a special place in the story, contrasting his response to Jesus with the failed responses of the disciples.

What's that response? He acts. He does. Even though he doesn't understand much more than the next guy. He is ready to rise to the occasion of what Jesus is doing in his life. Peter, James, and John aren't. Right after Peter declares Jesus Messiah, he rebukes Jesus for saying that instead of killing, conquering, and ruling he would suffer, be killed, and rise. And Jesus wants Peter to follow him in that. James and John have a special request for Jesus. He asks them "What is it you want me to do for you?" They want to sit next to him at David's throne. He tells them, no you'll suffer, be killed, and rise with me. If you want to be great in the Kingdom of God, serve others, give up your throne on earth. And then when they come across blind Bartimaeus in Jericho, Jesus stops and asks him the same question he asked James and John, "What do you want me to do for you?" And Bartimaeus doesn't ask for something all that much holier than Peter, James, and John. He wants his eyesight back. Then he can get a job and stop begging.

But here are the important details that show why we should be more like Bartimaeus. First, Mark writes, "Jesus stood still and said, 'Call him here.'" Jesus stood still. He didn't go over to Bartimaeus where he was wallowing in his self-pity. Bartimaeus had been pretty pathetic up to this point. And how often are we like him? We want Jesus to help us, heal us, do something for us, but we don't want to budge, we don't want to change, we don't want to be any nearer to Jesus, we're just calling out in self-pity asking Jesus to have mercy on us. "Call him here," Jesus says. The bystanders tell him, "Take heart (or cheer up). Get up. He is calling you." And the thing is: Bartimaeus does. It says, "So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus." That's the moment. Enough self-pity. Enough wallowing. He rises to the occasion. Jesus is calling him. He doesn't understand anything better than the next person. But he doesn't resist Jesus' call. He gets up. Peter, James and John all understood more than this guy. But

they didn't want to do what Jesus was calling them to do. Bartimaeus, though, rises to the occasion. He springs up. He goes to Jesus.

Then he asks for what he wants. And Jesus doesn't quite say that he gets it. N.T Wright translates Jesus' response: "Off you go. Your faith has saved you." Here's the second thing to learn from Bartimaeus. Jesus gives him what he didn't even realize he was asking for. It's this thing we Christians rather cryptically call salvation. Bartimaeus asks for eyesight. He gets something more. It's a walk with Jesus, a new life with Jesus and in Jesus, that exceeds the blessing of eyesight. Instead of going back to his spot on the side of the road, and instead of immediately going job hunting, Bartimaeus joins the crowd following Jesus. Marks writes, he followed him on the way, which in early Christian lingo "the way" was a catchphrase for living the Christian life.

So Bartimaeus demonstrates two qualities of true faith. Both qualities amount to doing, regardless of how much he understands. 1) He has readiness. He is ready to get up and be changed. 2) He has willingness. He is willing to follow Jesus without knowing exactly where it will take him. That's faith.

Amen.

Silence for reflection

The Apostles' Creed

Celebrant: Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

People: **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.**

Prayers of the People

Reader: In peace let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, hear and have mercy."
We pray for all who confess the name of Christ: fill us with the power of your Holy Spirit. May the churches bear true witness by word and example to Jesus' person and work. We pray for Shane, our Bishop, Anne, our Metropolitan, and the Acting Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, as well as all the staff at Ascension House, and for all retired clergy of the Diocese of Ottawa.

We pray also for the parishes of St. Alban's, Mattawa, and St. Margaret's, Rutherglen, and for their priest, The Reverend David Shields.

All: **Lord, hear and have mercy.**

Reader: We pray for those whose lives are bound in mutual love, and for those who live in celibacy: be their joy and their strength. Free us to live faithfully in our marriages, families, and friendships.

All: **Lord, hear and have mercy.**

Reader: For all in danger, for those who are far from home, prisoners, exiles, victims of oppression: grant them your salvation, especially those who are wrongfully imprisoned and those suffering military attacks.

All: **Lord, hear and have mercy.**

Reader: For all who are facing trials and difficulties, for those who are sick, and those who are dying, especially those in our prayer list: Kelly, Marjorie, Louise, Liesa, Randy, Beth, Howard, Irene, Richard, Deb, Jeanette, Cheryl, and Zachariah. Show them your kindness and mercy.

All: **Lord, hear and have mercy.**

Reader: We pray for one another: may we always be united in service and love.

All: **Lord, hear and have mercy.**

Reader: We pray to be forgiven our sins and set free from all hardship, distress, want, war, and injustice.

All: **Lord, hear and have mercy.**

Reader: May we discover new and just ways of sharing the goods of the earth, struggling against exploitation, greed, or lack of concern: may we all live by the abundance of your mercies and find joy together.

All: **Lord, hear and have mercy.**

Reader: May we be strengthened by our communion with all Christ's saints.

All: **Lord, hear and have mercy.**

Reader: Almighty God, you have built your Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone. Grant that, by the operation of the Holy Spirit, we your followers may be joined together in unity and peace, and that we may be a holy temple acceptable to you. We pray that as we, and others, plant seeds and bring water, you will bless our efforts and bring forth a bountiful harvest. May your hand be upon every seed that is sown and every drop of water that is poured. We trust in your faithfulness to bring growth and abundance in all areas of our lives and the lives of our parishes. Thank you for providing the inspiration and means for fulfilling your promises. In Jesus' name,

All: **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Celebrant: Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;
he welcomes sinners
and invites them to his table.
Let us confess our sins,
confident in God's forgiveness.

Most merciful God,
All: **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.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
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.**

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
All: **Amen.**

Please Stand

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People: **And also with you.**

Prayer over the Gifts

Celebrant: God of constant love,
you have guided your people
in all times and ages.
May we who offer you our praise today
always be ready to follow where you lead;
we ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
All: **Amen**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: We give you thanks and praise, almighty God,
for the gift of a world full of wonder,
and for our life which comes from you.

By your power you sustain the universe.

People: **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Celebrant: You created us to love you with all our heart,
and to love each other as ourselves,
but we rebel against you by the evil that we do.

In Jesus, your Son,
you bring healing to our world
and gather us into one great family.

Therefore, with all who serve you
on earth and in heaven,
we praise your wonderful name, as we say

All: **Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant: We give you thanks and praise, loving Father,
because in sending Jesus, your Son,
to us you showed us how much you love us.

He cares for the poor and the hungry.

He suffers with the sick and the rejected.

Betrayed and forsaken, he did not strike back
but overcame hatred with love.

On the cross
he defeated the power of sin and death.

By raising him from the dead
you show us the power of your love
to bring new life to all your people.

People: **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Celebrant: On the night before he gave up his life
for us, Jesus, at supper with his friends,
took bread, gave thanks to you,
broke it, and gave it to them,
saying, "Take this, all of you, and eat it:
this is my body which is given for you."

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine,

said the blessing, gave it to his friends,
and said, "Drink this, all of you:
this is the cup of my blood,
the blood of the new and eternal covenant,
which is shed for you and for many,
so that sins may be forgiven.
Do this in memory of me."

People: **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Celebrant: Gracious God,
with this bread and wine
we celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus,
and we offer ourselves to you in him.
Send your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts,
that we may know the presence of Jesus
in the breaking of bread,
and share in the life
of the family of your children.

People: **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Celebrant: Father, you call us to be your servants;
fill us with the courage and love of Jesus,
that all the world may gather in joy
at the table of your kingdom.
We sing your praise, almighty Father,
through Jesus, our Lord,
in the power of the Holy Spirit,
now and for ever.

People: **Glory to you for ever and ever. Amen.**

Celebrant: And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People: **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.**

Celebrant: We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

All: **We, being many, are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.**

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Celebrant: God our guide,
you have fed us with bread from heaven
as you fed the people of Israel.
May we who have been inwardly nourished
be ready to follow you all our days;
we ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen**

Celebrant: 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.**

Celebrant: God be your comfort, your strength.
God be your hope and support.
God be your light and your way.
And the blessing of God
Creator, Redeemer and Giver of Life
be upon you and remain with you
now and forever,
All: **Amen**

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

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