

Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Metcalfe
SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
JULY 20, 2025
Reverend Dr. 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: Almighty God,
your Son has opened for us
a new and living way into your presence.
Give us pure hearts and constant wills
to worship you in spirit and in truth;
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 Amos

This is what the Lord God showed me - a basket of summer fruit. He said, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A basket of summer fruit." Then the Lord said to me, "The end has come upon my people Israel; I will never again pass them by. The songs of the temple shall become wailings in that day," says the Lord God; "the dead bodies shall be many, cast out in every place. Be silent!" Hear this, you that trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, saying, "When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain; and the sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale?

We will make the ephah small and the shekel great, and practise deceit with false balances, buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, and selling the sweepings of the wheat." The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds. Shall not the land tremble on this account, and everyone mourn who lives in it, and all of it rise like the Nile, and be tossed about and sink again, like the Nile of Egypt? On that day, says the Lord God, I will make the sun go down at noon, and darken the earth in broad daylight. I will turn your feasts into mourning, and all your songs into lamentation; I will bring sackcloth on all loins, and baldness on every head; I will make it like the mourning for an only son, and the end of it like a bitter day. The time is surely coming, says the Lord God, when I will send a famine on the land; not a famine of bread, or a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord. They shall wander from sea to sea, and from north to east; they shall run to and fro, seeking the word of the Lord, but they shall not find it. AMOS 8:1-12

The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

Reader: Our Psalm today is Psalm 52

You tyrant, why do you boast of wickedness

All: **against the godly all day long?**

Reader: You plot ruin; your tongue is like a sharpened razor,

All: **O worker of deception.**

Reader: You love evil more than good

All: **and lying more than speaking the truth.**

Reader: You love all words that hurt,

All: **O you deceitful tongue.**

Reader: Oh, that God would demolish you utterly,

All: **topple you, and snatch you from your dwelling, and root you out of the land of the living!**

Reader: The righteous shall see and tremble,

All: **and they shall laugh at him, saying,**

Reader: "This is the one who did not take God for a refuge,

All: **but trusted in great wealth and relied upon wickedness."**

Reader: But I am like a green olive tree in the house of God;

All: **I trust in the mercy of God for ever and ever.**

Reader: I will give you thanks for what you have done

All: **and declare the goodness of your Name in the presence of the godly.**

Reader: A Reading From The Letter Of Paul To The Colossians He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel. I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. I became its servant according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. To them God chose to

make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ. COLOSSIANS 1:15-28

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 Luke (10:38-42)

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

Celebrant: Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

The Gospel of Christ.

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

Homily - Peace through the Blood of his Cross
(Colossians 1:15-27; Amos 8:1-12)

Almighty God, let the words of my mouth and the meditations of all our hearts be acceptable in your sight, our Rock and our Redeemer. Amen.

Don't think your heartbreak or illness or grief or struggle is a barrier between you and God or a lack of God's love. Don't even think that guilt is a barrier between you and God. Because if you think there is a barrier between you and God, you'll overlook the way Jesus has already reconciled you to God. You'll overlook the good thing between you and God that is already there. Always there. Jesus has made a kind of peace between us and God, even before we try to earn or achieve or even seek that peace.

But learning to rest in that peace can take some practice—for lack of a better word. It's a little like trying to balance. If you try to make the "tree" pose in yoga while thinking "I might wobble...I'm wobbling!" that's exactly what happens. But if you take the pose with confidence, with self-assurance, with belief, almost like magic your body and mind together allow you to balance.

Our peace with God is the same way. If you think, will God meet me in my mess or crisis?—Is God here yet?—I think I'm alone! then that's what you experience. Or another example: does God still love me?—I've failed so much—God hates me! that's what you experience. No! Remember the gospel. Know the gospel. Remember this story of Jesus. There's peace between God and I. God has made peace between God and I, even when I doubt and wobble. Even in this illness, God is with me. Even in this heartbreak, God is with me. Even in this grief, God is with me. Even in this depression, God is with me. Even in this guilt, God is with me. Much of the time, you can feel it. Sometimes you just need to believe it and wait for the feeling to come. Often the feeling comes when we've got our act together a little more and started to look after ourselves, started to focus on what matters, and started to be more mindful of God, and started to follow God's promptings as we journey.

The problem between us and God—the reason we feel far off or lost sometimes— isn't a problem with God; it's a problem with us. And the good news is that God in Jesus has already solved the problem for us and on our behalf if we are open hearted enough to accept and trust in Jesus. The problem is that word we have an allergic reaction to: sin. (Dang it, if we want to talk about Jesus we inevitably need to talk about sin). What is it? Sin isn't just the unethical. It's more than that; it's personal. Sin is a betrayal of the One who made us to love us.

This is the horrible crisis that humanity often doesn't even realize it's in. We all know that there are evil doers. We all know that we personally make mistakes. We also all know it's possible to live meaninglessly or foolishly. But do we think, we're all sinners, and my sin is a personal betrayal of God? A loving and powerful relationship with God is what we were made for, you'll recognise the face of sin when you can tell something in your life forfeits what you were made for.

But thank God for God! God has made peace between us and God. The God who made us to love us, doesn't want us to go on forever living as betrayers of God. So, Jesus Christ happens. "Through him," the scriptures say, "God was please to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven." Look hard at this! God does not reconcile himself to us. It's not God who needed to reconcile himself to us. God is free. God is God. If God wanted, God could simply turn a blind eye to sin and evil. But would that be good? Could we ever look God in the eye, so to speak, knowing God is turning a blind eye to all the genocides, the rape, the murder, the betrayal, the war and bombing, not to mention the smaller offenses of letting down our friends, failing to look after ourselves, addiction, failing our children, insulting one another, using each other. Should God let it all go and be sentimental about how clever and pretty and likeable we are despite everything? God turning a blind eye just wouldn't be fitting for the reality of life.

So, Jesus Christ—and especially Jesus on the cross—is a spiritual shock-wave that changes the relationship status between we sinners and God. “God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace through the blood of his cross.” Listen, I need to talk about the cross in the old-fashioned way today. It’s not the only meaning of the cross, but it’s one of the meanings of the cross for sure. When Amos spoke to his people of Ancient Israel, he spoke as if heads should roll for the crimes committed by the powerful. “The end has come upon my people Israel; I will never again pass them by...says the Lord. The dead bodies shall be many.” Later, “Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.” But in Christ Jesus, God himself took the place of the dead bodies, God himself went to the place of total God-forsakenness, where God supposedly would never again pass by. God choose indeed to never forget any of the evil deeds of humanity but choose also to create peace between us and God by taking the sins of the whole world upon himself in the horror and disgust of Jesus’ crucifixion. This never means that God won’t put us through our own crosses of heartbreak and consequences and pain. But it does mean forever that our personal betrayals of God have been put right. The betrayal has been replaced with peace, because at the cross Jesus took upon himself God’s lawsuit against the horrors of human history. God has reconciled us to God. If the cross strikes you as a bit of an over-reaction, remember that Jesus didn’t go to the cross just because you tell white lies; he also goes to the cross out of love for the monsters who do what we consider unforgivable crimes.

Where the breakage of sin is, Jesus’ broken body stands. Where our betrayal of God is, Jesus’ forsaken body stands. Where our pain and sorrow is, the agonized Jesus is. The taste of that reconciliation is open to all. Those who believe get a special taste. Learning to taste it is like learning to balance. Tell yourself the truth. There is peace between you and God.

Act like it. Have faith. Take quiet time each day to pause, reflect, open the Bible, say thanks and praise, confess any failure, ask for what you need or desire. If you notice constant thoughts of anger, worry, or resentment, maybe wonder if your own patterns are the problem. Reach out to your friends. Be generous. Find a hobby or volunteer role the gets you away from screens. Get into nature. Move your body, as much as you can. God didn’t create you to hate you. God created you and is rescuing you from sin, so that you can enjoy God and God’s world and your own life as God intended, even when things are hard.

Thanks be to God. 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: As we stand in God's presence, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy." For the whole People of God, especially the people of our parish, our priest Tom, for Shane, our Primate and Bishop of Ottawa; Anne, our Metropolitan; as well as The Anglican Council of Indigenous Peoples, the Most Rev. Christopher Harper, National Indigenous Anglican Archbishop, Sacred Circle Events, and the ministry of reconciliation, as well as the parish of St. James, Perth, Deacon Liana Gallant, and all who minister there. That each one may be a true and faithful servant of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

All: **Lord, have mercy.**

Reader: For those drawing near to the light of faith, especially all with a desire for God but doubts of God's goodness and truth, as well as the authenticity of the church, that the Lord will bring them to true knowledge of himself, let us pray to the Lord.

All: **Lord, have mercy.**

Reader: For our families and friends, that the Lord will give them joy and satisfaction in all that they do, especially as we struggle with excess heat and poor air quality, and economic strain, let us pray to the Lord.

All: **Lord, have mercy.**

Reader: For those who are lonely, sick, hungry, persecuted, or ignored, that the Lord will comfort and sustain them, especially those for whom we have been asked to pray: Willy, Liesa, Shirley, Richard, Deb, Kelly, Randy,

Howard, Irene, Louise, Marjorie, Beth, Jeanette, Cheryl, Zachariah. Let us pray to the Lord.

All: **Lord, have mercy.**

Reader: For our country, that the Lord will help us to contribute to its true growth and well-being, and that those in control would contribute to our true growth and well-being, let us pray to the Lord.

All: **Lord, have mercy.**

Reader: For the whole human family, including our enemies and wrong-doers, that we may live together in justice and peace, and for the whole community of creation, including forests, waters, and the soil, that our Creator and Redeemer may deliver us from the causes of climate change, let us pray to the Lord.

All: **Lord, have mercy. For all these things and those known to God alone, we pray through Christ our Lord, in the unity, love, and power of the Holy Spirit. 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.

Silence is kept.

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.**

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Prayer over the Gifts

Celebrant: O God,
accept our praise and thanksgiving.

Help us in all we do
to offer ourselves as a true and living sacrifice;
through Jesus Christ the Lord.

All: **Amen**

Eucharistic Prayer 2

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,
through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ,
our Saviour and Redeemer.

He is your living Word,
through whom you have created all things.

By the power of the Holy Spirit
he took flesh of the Virgin Mary
and shared our human nature.

He lived and died as one of us,
to reconcile us to you,
the God and Father of all.

In fulfilment of your will
he stretched out his hands in suffering,
to bring release to those who place their hope in you;
and so he won for you a holy people.

He chose to bear our griefs and sorrows,
and to give up his life on the cross,
that he might shatter the chains of evil and death,
and banish the darkness of sin and despair.

By his resurrection
he brings us into the light of your presence.

Now with all creation we raise our voices to proclaim the glory of your
name.

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Celebrant: Holy and gracious God,
accept our praise,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ;
who on the night he was handed over
to suffering and death,
took bread and gave you thanks,
saying, "Take, and eat:
this is my body which is broken for you."
In the same way he took the cup,
saying, "This is my blood which is shed for you.
When you do this, you do it in memory of me."

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection,
we offer you this bread and this cup,
giving thanks that you have made us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.
We ask you to send your Holy Spirit
upon the offering of your holy Church.
Gather into one
all who share in these sacred mysteries,
filling them with the Holy Spirit
and confirming their faith in the truth,
that together we may praise you
and give you glory
through your Servant, Jesus Christ.
All glory and honour are yours,
Father and Son,
with the Holy Spirit
in the holy Church,
now and for ever.
All: 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: "I am the bread of life," says the Lord
"Whoever comes to me will never be hungry;
whoever believes in me will never thirst."
All: **Taste and see that the Lord is good;
happy are they who trust in him!**

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God.
All: **Thanks be to God.**

Prayer After Communion

Celebrant: O God,
as we are strengthened in these holy mysteries,
may our lives be a continual offering,
holy and acceptable in your sight;
through 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: May the grace of God uphold you,
the peace of God surround you,
the love of God flow from you
and the strength of God protect
and bring you safely through this day.
and the blessing of God almighty,
The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit
Be among you and remain with you always.
All: **Amen.**

Celebrant: Go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit!

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Worship follows the Holy Eucharist in the Book of Alternative Services
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