

# *A Service of the Word*

The 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, July 26, 2020

Virtual worship from St. Paul's Anglican Cathedral, Kamloops BC

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*Pat Rustand is at the piano today. Ron Ste Marie leads the singing. Bishop Gordon Light preaches.*

*Territorial acknowledgement and welcome*

Melissa Green

Officiant     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.**

Officiant     Let us pray.

**We thank you, O God, that you have again connected us 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 Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Officiant     Dear friends in Christ,  
                  as we turn our hearts and minds  
                  to worship almighty God,  
                  let us confess our sins.

People        **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.**  
                  **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.**

Officiant Merciful God,  
grant to your faithful people pardon and peace,  
that we may be cleansed 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. **Amen.**

Hymn CP 412

1. O God, beyond all face and form,  
you willed it that creation's night  
should blaze, and chaos still its storm,  
and birth a universe of light.

*All things below, all things above  
are formed of your eternal love.*

2. The glory of the galaxies,  
the beauty of a baby's hand,  
the thundering of the restless seas,  
the glory of a forest's stand. *Refrain*

3. You gave our race both form and name  
and love for us was your intent;  
then to a woman's womb love came,  
and on a cross was wholly spent. *Refrain*

4. Of this great love all loves are born,  
of self, of neighbour, and of earth.  
By love shall night be turned to morn,  
and death shall never conquer birth. *Refrain*  
Text: Herbert O'Driscoll (1928-); used with permission

Collect

O God, the protector of all who trust in you,  
without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy,  
increase and multiply upon us your mercy,  
that with you as our ruler and guide,  
we may so pass through things temporal,  
that we lose not the things eternal;

Ron Ste Marie

through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

#### A READING FROM THE BOOK OF GENESIS

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 another seven years." Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife. GENESIS 29:15-28

Hear what the Spirit says to all people      **Thanks be to God**

PSALM 15:1-11, 45C

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name;  
    **make known his deeds among the peoples.**  
Sing to him, sing praises to him,  
    **and speak of all his marvellous works.**  
Glory in his holy name;  
    **let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.**

Search for the Lord and his strength;  
    **continually seek his face.**

Remember the marvels he has done, his wonders and the judgements of his mouth,  
    **O offspring of Abraham his servant, O children of Jacob his chosen.**

He is the Lord our God;  
    **his judgements prevail in all the world.**

He has always been mindful of his covenant,  
    **the promise he made for a thousand generations:**  
The covenant he made with Abraham, the oath that he swore to Isaac,

**Which he established as a statute for Jacob, an everlasting covenant for Israel,  
Saying, "To you will I give the land of Canaan to be your allotted inheritance."  
Hallelujah!**

**A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE ROMANS**

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. 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. ROMANS 8:26-39

Hear what the Spirit says to all people      **Thanks be to God**

Hymn      CP 612

*Healer of our every ill,  
light of each tomorrow,  
give us peace beyond our fear,  
and hope beyond our sorrow.*

1 You who know our fears and sadness,  
grace us with your peace and gladness;  
Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts.    Refrain

2 In the pain and joy beholding  
how your grace is still unfolding,  
give us all your vision, God of love.    Refrain

3 Give us strength to love each other,  
every sister, every brother;  
Spirit of all kindness, be our guide. Refrain

4 You who know each thought and feeling,  
teach us all your way of healing;  
Spirit of compassion, fill each heart. Refrain

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#### THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

**Glory to You Lord Jesus Christ**

Bishop Gordon Light

Jesus 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."

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.

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.

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." MATTHEW 13:31-33, 44-52

The Gospel of Christ      **Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ**

Sermon

Bishop Gordon Light

**Hear, O Israel,  
the Lord our God, the Lord is one.  
Love the Lord your God  
with all your heart,  
with all your soul,  
with all your mind,  
and with all your strength.**

**This is the first and the great commandment.  
The second is like it:  
Love your neighbour as yourself.**

**There is no commandment greater than these.**

### **Intercessions and Thanksgivings**

In peace we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;  
**For our families, friends, and neighbours,  
and for all those who are alone.**

For this community, our country, and the world;  
**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the just and proper use of your creation;  
**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;  
**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and needy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;  
**For all who proclaim the gospel, and all who seek the truth.**

For Lincoln, our bishop-elect, and for all other ministers;  
**For all who serve God in the Church.**

For our own needs and those of others.

*Silence. The people may add their own petitions.*

Hear us, Lord.

**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*Silence. The people may add their own thanksgivings.*

We will exalt you, O God our king;

**And praise your name for ever and ever.**

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.*

Lord, let your loving kindness be upon them;

**Who put their trust in you.**

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. **Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Ron Ste Marie

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

All                **Our Father in heaven,  
                  hallowed be your name,  
                  your kingdom come,  
                  your will be done,**

**on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

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## Doxology

Bishop Gordon Light

Officiant      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.**

Officiant      May the God of hope  
                    fill us with all joy and peace in believing  
                    through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## Announcements, if any

Hymn              (Songs for a Gospel People)

To show by touch and word  
devotion to the earth,  
to hold in high regard  
all life that comes to birth,  
we need, O God, the will to find  
the good you had of old in mind.

Inspire our hearts to choose  
the things that matter most,  
to speak and do the truth,  
creating peace and trust.  
For every challenge that we face

we need your guidance and your grace.  
Let love from day to day  
be touchstone, guide and norm,  
and let our lives portray  
your Word in human form.

Now come with us that we may have  
your wits about us where we live.

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*A postlude is played*