

**The Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost  
October 03, 2021**

**GATHERING**      The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

**PRELUDE**

Please consider these lyrics as Mark gifts us with a prelude.

**EvLW # 769 *If You But Trust in God to Guide You***

If you but trust in God to guide you with gentle hand through all your ways,  
you'll find that God is there beside you when crosses come, in trying days.  
Trust then in God's unchanging love; build on the rock that will not move.

What gain is there in anxious weeping, in helpless anger and distress?  
If you are in your Saviour's keeping, in sorrow will he love you less?  
For Christ who took for you a cross will bring you safe through ev'ry loss.

The Lord our restless hearts is holding, in peace and quietness content.  
We rest in God's good will unfolding, what wisdom from on high has sent.  
God, who has chosen us by grace, knows very well the fears we face.

Sing, pray, and keep God's ways unswerving, offer your service faithfully.  
Trust heaven's word; though undeserving, you'll find this promise true to be.  
This is our confidence indeed: God never fails in time of need.

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rejoice in the Lord always. Say it again: Rejoice! Let gentleness be evident to all, for the Lord is near. **Let us not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present our requests to God.**

Rejoice in the Lord always. Say it again: Rejoice! **Let gentleness be evident to all, for the Lord is near.** (*Philippians 4:4-6*)

**GATHERING HYMN**

**EvLW # 532 *Gather Us In***

1. Here in this place the new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away;  
see in this space our fears and our dreamings brought here to you in the light of this day.  
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken, gather us in, the blind and the lame;  
call to us now, and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.
  
2. We are the young, our lives are a myst'ry, we are the old who yearn for your face;  
we have been sung throughout all of hist'ry, called to be light to the whole human race.  
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty, gather us in, the proud and the strong;  
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly, give us the courage to enter the song.

4. Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away--  
but here in this place the new light is shining, now is the kingdom, and now is the day.  
Gather us in and hold us forever, gather us in and make us your own;  
gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

### **GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

**Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.**

### **GOD'S WORD FOR US TODAY**

Let us pray.

**Gracious God, we do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from you. Make us hunger for the Word of life, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

### **PSALM 8**

O Lord our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! **You whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children; you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.**

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars you have set in their courses, **what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them, human beings that you should care for them?**

Yet you have made them little less than divine; with glory and honour you crown them. **You have made them rule over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet: all flocks and cattle, even the wild beasts of the field, the birds of the air, the fish of the sea, and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.**

O Lord our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

### **EPISTLE READING**

#### **Hebrews 4:12-16**

Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Alleluia. I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you. Alleluia. (Hebrews 2:12)**

## **GOSPEL**

**Mark 10:13-27**

The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honour your father and mother.'" He said to him, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth."

Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." They were greatly astounded and said to one another, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

### **HYMN OF THE DAY**

**EvLW # 796 *How Firm a Foundation***

1. How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,  
is laid for your faith in Christ Jesus, the Word!  
What more can he say than to you he has said  
who unto the Saviour for refuge have fled?
2. "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dismayed,  
for I am your God and will still give you aid;  
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand."

3. "When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,  
my grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply.  
The flames shall not hurt you; I only design  
your dross to consume and your gold to refine."
4. "Throughout all their lifetime my people shall prove  
my sov'reign, eternal, unchangeable love;  
and then, when grey hairs shall their temples adorn,  
like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne."

## **CREED**

New Zealand Prayer Book

**You, O God, are supreme and holy. You create our world and give us life. Your purpose overarches everything we do. You have always been with us. You are God.**

**You, O God, are infinitely generous, good beyond all measure. You came to us before we came to you. You have revealed and proved. Your love for us in Jesus Christ, Who lived and died and rose again. You are God.**

**You, O God, are Holy Spirit. You empower us to be your gospel in the world. You reconcile and heal; you overcome death. You are our God. We worship You. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

**Holy One, you have raised up faithful leaders throughout history. Empower those seeking clarity about your call to ministry and all those awaiting Baptism or Confirmation, especially Abigail, Calum, Claire and Olivia that they continue to be formed for the sake of the gospel. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

You have established a diverse and beautiful creation. Revive declining species and preserve endangered lands. Cultivate in us a sense of wonder for the world you created. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

**You desire for us not to be alone and to live in community with one another. Strengthen relationships between nations and peoples, that we celebrate and support one human family. Remind us of your welcome to all. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

You share in our experiences and struggles. Bless all who live with any mental or physical disability. Inspire creative communities, spaces, and environments that are accessible and hospitable. Let your loving and healing arms encircle those we hold dear, especially Beryl, Carol, Daryl, Elethia, Ferolyn, Hans, Jordon, Pat, and those we name quietly in our hearts. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

**You have established and nurtured relationships that extend beyond those gathered here today. Bless members who can no longer travel to worship or are, as yet, uncomfortable with in-person worship with us and remind us of their continued role in this community of faith. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

You promise eternal life to all your children. Thank you for the young people of faith who remind us of your open arms. Strengthen our trust we have in you. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

**Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **PEACE**

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

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**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, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

### **SENDING**

Go out into the world in peace; Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and love your neighbour as yourself.

### **CANTICLE**

**Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell ev'ryone what God has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and bear Christ's holy name. Send us with your promises, O God, and lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving, with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia.**

### **BENEDICTION**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favour and ✠ give you peace. **Amen.**

### **SENDING HYMN**

#### ***EvLW # 705 God of Grace and God of Glory***

1. God of grace and God of glory, on your people pour your pow'r;  
crown your ancient church's story; bring its bud to glorious flow'r.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the facing of this hour,  
for the facing of this hour.
2. Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn the Christ, assail his ways!  
From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the living of these days,  
for the living of these days,

3. Cure your children's warring madness; bend our pride to your control;  
shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss your kingdom's goal,  
let we miss your kingdom's goal.
4. Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;  
let the gift of your salvation be our glory evermore.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving you whom we adore,  
serving you whom we adore.

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE** As we prepare to leave this space, please ponder this hymn.

**EvLW # 633 *We've Come This Far by Faith***

Just remember the good things God has done, things that seemed impossible;  
oh, praise him for the vict'ries he has won. Oh! *Refrain*

*Refrain*

We've come this far by faith, leaning on the Lord;  
trusting in his holy word, he's never failed us yet.  
Oh, can't turn around, we've come this far by faith. We've come this far by faith.

Don't be discouraged with trouble in your life;  
he'll bear your burdens and move all the discord and strife. Oh! *Refrain*

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Mon	Oct 04	Deuteronomy 22:13 - 30	1 Corinthians 7:1-9	Psalm 112
Tue	Oct 05	Deuteronomy 24:1-5	1 Corinthians 7:10-16	Psalm 112
Wed	Oct 06	Jeremiah 3:6-14	Matthew 5:27-36	Psalm 112
Thu	Oct 07	Deuteronomy 5:1-21	Hebrews 3:7-19	Psalm 90:12-17
Fri	Oct 08	Deuteronomy 5:22-33	Hebrews 4:1-11	Psalm 90:12-17
Sat	Oct 09	Amos 3:13 - 4:5	Matthew 15:1-9	Psalm 90:12-17
Sun	Oct 10	Amos 5:6-7, 10-15 Hebrews 4:12-16	Mark 10:17-31	Psalm 90:12-17 (12)

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