

## TIME AFTER PENTECOST

June 26, 2022

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Future Working Group met again this week and agreed to continue exploring possibilities for future ministry and faithful stewardship of the building. After a time of “brain storming” and wondering together, through the summer and into the fall, options will be shared with the Church Council and the Congregation for consideration.

The Congregation of St James is invited to explore other worship services on Sundays in July and August. In early September we will share what we have learned (sheets for notes available at the back).

### CALL TO WORSHIP

O God, who called all life into being, **the earth, sea and sky are yours.**

Your presence is all around us, your Spirit enlivens all who walk the earth, **with you we yearn for justice to be done.**

For creation to be freed from bondage, **for the hungry to be fed,**

For captives to be released, **for your kingdom of peace to come on earth.**

### A PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O God, gladly we live and move and have our being in you. Yet always in the midst of this creation-glory, we see sin’s shadow and feel death’s darkness: around us in the earth, sea and sky, the abuse of matter; beside us in the broken, the hungry and the poor, the betrayal of one another; and often, deep within us, a striving against your Spirit.**

**O Trinity of love, forgive us that we may forgive one another, heal us that we may be people of healing, and renew us that we also may be makers of peace.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

### GATHERING HYMN

EvLW # 705 God of Grace and God of Glory

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Sovereign God, ruler of all hearts, you call us to obey you, and you favour us with true freedom. Keep us faithful to the ways of your Son, that, leaving behind all that hinders us, we may steadfastly follow your paths, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.**

## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

In the midst of hunger and war **we celebrate the promise of plenty and peace.**

In the midst of oppression and tyranny **we celebrate the promise of service and freedom.**

In the midst of doubt and despair **we celebrate the promise of faith and hope.**

In the midst of fear and betrayal **we celebrate the promise of joy and loyalty.**

In the midst of hatred and death **we celebrate the promise of love and life.**

In the midst of sin and decay **we celebrate the promise of salvation and renewal.**

In the midst of death on every side **we celebrate the promise of the living Christ. Amen.**

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

### **Micah 6:3-8**

“O my people, what have I done to you? What have I done to make you tired of me? Answer me! For I brought you out of Egypt and redeemed you from slavery. I sent Moses, Aaron, and Miriam to help you. Don't you remember, my people, how King Balak of Moab tried to have you cursed and how Balaam son of Beor blessed you instead? And remember your journey from Acacia Grove to Gilgal, when I, the Lord, did everything I could to teach you about my faithfulness.”

What can we bring to the Lord? Should we bring him burnt offerings? Should we bow before God Most High with offerings of yearling calves? Should we offer him thousands of rams and ten thousand rivers of olive oil? Should we sacrifice our firstborn children to pay for our sins?

No, O people, the Lord has told you what is good, and this is what he requires of you: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.

### **Galatians 3: 23-29**

Before the way of faith in Christ was available to us, we were placed under guard by the law. We were kept in protective custody, so to speak, until the way of faith was revealed.

Let me put it another way. The law was our guardian until Christ came; it protected us until we could be made right with God through faith. And now that the way of faith has come, we no longer need the law as our guardian.

For you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus. And all who have been united with Christ in baptism have put on Christ, like putting on new clothes. There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male and female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus. And now that you belong to Christ, you are the true children of Abraham. You are his heirs, and God's promise to Abraham belongs to you.

### **Matthew 5:3-10 (NLT)**

“God blesses those who are poor and realize their need for him, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.”

God blesses those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

God blesses those who are humble, for they will inherit the whole earth.

God blesses those who hunger and thirst for justice, for they will be satisfied.

God blesses those who are merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

God blesses those whose hearts are pure, for they will see God.

God blesses those who work for peace, for they will be called the children of God.

God blesses those who are persecuted for doing right, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.

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

## MESSAGE

To strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

## RESPONSE TO GOD'S COVENANT IN BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

**We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.**

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

**We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.**

**To you be given honour and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.**

## HYMN OF THE DAY

EvLW # 710 Let Streams of Living Justice

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

United in Christ and guided by the Spirit, we pray for the church, the creation, and all in need.

**God of faithfulness, set the face of your church firmly on you. Rooted in your self-giving love, may the church find freedom in loving our neighbours. God of grace, hear our prayer.**

God of gentleness, strengthen the earth's ability to heal. Where there are dangerous storms, bring calm. Where there are destructive fires, bring rain. Protect homes, habitats, and livelihoods threatened by climate disasters. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

**God of peace, guide all who govern, that they place the good of their citizens above self-promotion. Anoint leaders of nations with your Spirit of neighbourly love. Protect refugees and all who live under tyranny or conflict especially those seeking safety from the tyranny of war or injustice. God of grace, hear our prayer.**

God of kindness, reveal your healing presence to all who are sick or dying especially Deb, Lloyd, Jordon, Ferolyn, Elethia, Daryl and Carol. Uphold those who grieve. Support the needs of any who are unemployed, hungry, or have nowhere to lay their heads. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

**God of love, attend to those struggling with addiction, depression, or uncontrolled anger. Provide support systems and loving companions as they work toward health, that they may rest in hope and know the fullness of joy in your presence. God of grace, hear our prayer.**

God of joy, we give thanks for all who have died and now celebrate the inheritance of life in you. Keep their examples of faithfulness always before us, that we trust your promises in life and in death. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

**God of every time and place, in Jesus' name and filled with your Holy Spirit, we entrust these spoken prayers and those in our hearts into your holy keeping. Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

## **BLESSING**

**SENDING HYMN                      EvLW # 720 We Are Called**

## **DISMISSAL**

God, lead us, that we may stand firm in faith for justice. **Teach us love. Teach us compassion. Above all, out of love and compassion, teach us to act. Amen.**

**HYMN                                      EvLW # 536 God Be with You Till We Meet Again**

## **POSTLUDE**

### **READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Mon	Jun 27	Genesis 24:34-41, 50-67	1 John 2:7-11	Psalm 140
Tue	Jun 28	Jeremiah 3:15-18	Ephesians 5:6-20	Psalm 140
Wed	Jun 29	Jeremiah 23:16-22	Matthew 10:16-25	Psalm 140
Thu	Jun 30	2 Kings 21:1-15	Romans 7:14-25	Psalm 66:1-9
Fri	Jul 01	Jeremiah 51:47-58	2 Corinthians 8:1-7	Psalm 66:1-9
Sat	Jul 02	Zechariah 14:10-21	Luke 9:1-6	Psalm 66:1-9
Sun	Jul 03	Isaiah 66:10-14	Galatians 6:1-16	Psalm 66:1-9 (4)
			Luke 10: 1-11, 16-20	

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