

## **The Gathering of the Community**

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

*John 8.12*

*Leader* Let us remember before God our selfish ways, the things we have done wrong, the sorrows we have caused, the love we have not shown.

*Silence for reflection is kept.*

**All Most merciful Father,  
forgive us our sins against you  
and against each other.**

**Strengthen us to overcome our weaknesses,  
that we may live in love  
as you would have us live,  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.**

*The priest says,*

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.

*People Amen.*

Restore us, O Lord God of hosts;

**Show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

Will you not give us life again,

**That your people may rejoice in you?**

Show us your mercy, O Lord,

**And grant us your salvation.**

Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!

**Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.**

## **The Souls of the Righteous**

*Wisdom 3.1–8*

The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God; \*  
no torment shall ever touch them.

In the eyes of the unwise they seemed to be dead, \*  
their departure was taken for defeat,  
their going from us to be disaster; \*  
but they are in peace.

Though they appeared to be punished \*  
their hope is rich in immortality.

Small their affliction, great their blessing; \*  
God proved and found them worthy of himself.

Like gold in a furnace he tried them, \*  
and accepted them as an oblation.

In the moment of God's coming  
they shall kindle into flame \*  
and run like sparks through the stubble.

They shall govern nations and peoples, \*  
and the Lord shall be their ruler forever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.

Amen.

**Reader: A reading from the book of Exodus**

Exodus 12:1-14

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbour in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that

same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the LORD. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to us now

**People: Thanks be to God**

**Psalm 149**

*1 Hallelujah!*

*Sing to the Lord a new song; \*  
sing his praise in the congregation of the faithful.*

*2 Let Israel rejoice in his maker; \*  
let the children of Zion be joyful in their king.*

*3 Let them praise his name in the dance; \*  
let them sing praise to him with timbrel and harp.*

*4 For the Lord takes pleasure in his people \*  
and adorns the poor with victory.*

*5 Let the faithful rejoice in triumph; \*  
let them be joyful on their beds.*

*6 Let the praises of God be in their throat \*  
and a two-edged sword in their hand;*

*7 To wreak vengeance on the nations \*  
and punishment on the peoples;*

*8 To bind their kings in chains \*  
and their nobles with links of iron;*

*9 To inflict on them the judgement decreed; \*  
this is glory for all his faithful people.*

Hallelujah!

**Reader: A reading from the letter to the Romans**

Romans 13:8-14

owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.

The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbour as yourself."

Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep.

For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers;

the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light;

let us live honourably as in the day, not in revealing and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy.

Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to us now

**People: Thanks be to God**

## **9 A Song from Ezekiel**

*Ezekiel 36.24–28*

I will take you from the nations,  
and gather you from every country,  
and bring you home to your own land.

I will pour clean water upon you,  
purify you from all defilement,  
and cleanse you from all your idols.

A new heart I will give you,  
and put a new spirit within you;

I will take from your body the heart of stone  
and give you a heart of flesh.

I will put my spirit within you,  
make you walk in my ways  
and observe my decrees.

You shall dwell in the land

I gave to your forebears;  
you shall be my people  
and I will be your God.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever.  
Amen.

*Reader*     The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

Matthew 18:15-20

"If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one.

But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses.

If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.

Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven.

For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

*Reader*     The Gospel of Christ.

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

## Homily

### *The Apostles' Creed*

*Celebrant* Let us confess our faith, using the words of the Apostles' Creed

*All*

**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 -September 6, 2020

*Intercessor* Let us pray.

Through the power of God, Peter saw Jesus in spirit and truth. For the power of God to be felt in our own times, let us offer intercessions, saying: Lord, hear us.

For all peoples of the earth and powers of the world who have not yet recognized Jesus as the Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

*People* Lord, hear us.

*Intercessor* For the unity of the churches, and for their common witness to the possibility of faith, let us pray to the Lord.

*People* Lord, hear us.

*Intercessor* For those who struggle to believe in the earthly manifestations of Christ in the church, in the liturgy, and in daily life, let us pray to the Lord.

*People* Lord, hear us.

*Intercessor* For those who suffer at the hands of the church, and for those who are oppressed in the name of God, let us pray to the Lord.

*People* Lord, hear us.

*Intercessor* For ourselves, our families, and our communities, who are daily faced with questions of faith, let us pray to the Lord.

*People* Lord, hear us.

*Intercessor* For the homeless, the hungry, and the sick especially [*name silently or aloud...*] and for those known only to you, that they may find comfort and healing in the one who shelters them with holy presence, guides them to springs of living water, and wipes away every tear from their eyes, let us cry out to the Lord.

*People* Lord, hear us.

*Intercessor* Today in our Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for St. Paul, Beaverton, and its ministry of practical and pastoral support for Latin American migrant field workers and their families; for St. Paul, Bloor St., its ESL Café, its support of the Regent Park community dinner, and Advent Ask campaign in support of PWRDF; and for St. Paul, Brighton, its support of the Brighton Food Bank, Supper's Ready community meal, Maplewood Nursing Home, refugee sponsorship and provision of water filters in developing countries, let us cry out to the Lord.

*People* Lord, hear us.

Living God, you wish to be among us in your Son and in his church. Hear the petitions we place before you. Increase our faith that we may see your works more clearly; purify our actions that we may reveal your love more surely. We ask this in the name of Jesus, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

### The Collect

Stir up, O Lord,  
the wills of your faithful people,  
that richly bearing the fruit of good works,  
we may by you be richly rewarded;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen

### The Lord's Prayer

*Celebrant* And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us,  
we are bold to pray,  
*All* 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.

### Hymn

### COVID Prayer

#### Dismissal

*Officiant* Let us bless the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.



Closing Music