

# *Gathering Table*

*a Faith Community in the Anglican Church of Canada*



*Funeral Service for, and Celebration  
of the Life of.*

*Dolores Wawia*

*Muk-Kee-Queh (Frog Lady)*

**April 22, 1944 – May 30, 2020**

# Gathering Table

*a Faith Community in the Anglican Church of Canada*

Saturday, June 13, 2020

11:00 am

**Officiant and Preacher**

**The Rev. George Porter, D.Phil.**

***For thousands of years, First Nations people have walked on this land; their relationship with the land is at the centre of life and spirituality. We are gathered as treaty people on the traditional territory of the Anishnaabeg of the Fort William First Nation and acknowledge this people's stewardship of this land through the ages.***

**Prelude: Anishinaabe song** (Mawla Shawana)

## **Introductory readings**

I am Resurrection and I am Life, says the Lord.  
Whoever has faith in me shall have life,  
even though he die.

And everyone who has life,  
and is committed to me in faith,  
shall not die for ever. *John 11.25–26*

Let not your hearts be troubled;  
believe in God, believe also in me.  
In my Father's house are many rooms;  
if it were not so, would I have told you  
that I go to prepare a place for you?  
And when I go and prepare a place for you,

I will come again and will take you to myself,  
that where I am you may be also. *John 14.1–3*

I am sure that neither death, nor life,  
nor angels, nor principalities,  
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 8.38–39*

## **Gathering of the Community & Opening Prayer**

In the name of God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Creator, we give you thanks for all you are and all you  
bring to us for our time within your creation. In Jesus, you  
place the Gospel in the centre of the sacred circle through  
which all of creation is related. You show us the way to live  
a generous and compassionate life. Give us your strength  
to live together with respect and commitment as we grow  
in your Spirit, for you are God, now and forever.

Song of Praise: '**Wayfaring Stranger**' (Donna & Ted Hamill)

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

Let us pray.

God of all consolation, in your unending love and mercy

you turn the darkness of death into the dawn of new life. Show compassion to your people in their sorrow. Be our refuge and our strength to lift us from the darkness of grief to the peace and light of your presence. Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, by dying for us, conquered death and by rising again, restored life. May we then go forward eagerly to meet him, and after our life on earth be reunited with our brothers and sisters where every tear will be wiped away. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the Lord. **Amen.**

## **THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

### **Old Testament – from Isaiah 40**

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem and cry to her that her warfare<sup>1</sup> is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." A voice says, "Cry!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All flesh is grass, and all its beauty<sup>4</sup> is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the LORD blows on it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever. Go on up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!" Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him and his recompense before him. He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young. Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand and marked off the heavens with a span, enclosed the dust of the earth in a measure and weighed the mountains in scales and the hills in a balance? Who has measured<sup>7</sup> the Spirit of the LORD, or what man shows him his counsel? Whom did he consult, and who made him understand? Who taught him the path of justice, and taught him knowledge, and showed him the way of understanding? .... Do you not know? Do you not hear? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to dwell in .... To whom then will you compare me that I should be like him? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name; by the greatness of his might and because he is strong in power, not one is missing. Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who

has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

## Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
He makes me lie down in green pastures.  
He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul.  
He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil,  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

## Remembrances

**Praise: On Wings of an Eagle** (Richard Pepper, song by Steve Bell)

## **The Holy Gospel according to John 14:1-12**

**Message:** The Rev'd George Porter, D. Phil

**Praise: I Want Jesus to Walk with Me** (Donna & Ted Hamill)

## **The Apostles' Creed BAS p 592**

**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                    BAS pp 593-594**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have knit your chosen people together in one communion, in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Give to your whole Church in heaven and on earth your light and your peace.

**Hear us, Lord.**

May all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection die to sin and rise to newness of life, and may we with her pass through the grave and gate of death to our joyful resurrection.

**Hear us, Lord.**

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that your Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days.

**Hear us, Lord.**

Grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with a quiet mind.

**Hear us, Lord.**

Grant to all who mourn a sure confidence in your loving care, that casting all their sorrow on you, they may know the consolation of your love.

**Hear us, Lord.**

Give courage and faith to those who are bereaved, that they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the comfort of a holy and certain hope, and in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love.

**Hear us, Lord.**

Creator, grant us grace to entrust Dolores to your never-failing love which sustained her in this life. Receive her into the arms of your mercy, and remember her according to the favour you bear for your people.

**Hear us, Lord.**

**Lord's Prayer BAS p 584**

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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.**

## **The Commendation**

**BAS p 586**

**Give rest, O Christ, to your servants with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

**“You only are immortal, the creator and maker of all; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and to earth shall we return.**

**For so did you ordain when you created me, saying, You are dust, and to dust you shall return.”**

**All of us go down to the dust;  
yet even at the grave we make our song:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Give rest, O Christ, to your servants with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

Into your hands, O merciful Saviour,  
we commend your servant Dolores.

Acknowledge, we pray, a sheep of your own fold,  
a lamb of your own flock,  
a sinner of your own redeeming.

Receive her into the arms of your mercy,  
into the blessed rest of everlasting peace,  
and into the glorious company of the saints in light. **Amen.**

## **The Blessing**

Closing Praise: **Amazing Grace** (Anishinaabemowin version)

**Blessing and Dismissal:**

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**