

**Gathering Table
a Faith Community in the Anglican Church of Canada**

Officiant: The Rev'd George Porter, DPhil

8th Sunday after Pentecost
July 26th , 2020 10:00 a.m.

WELCOME TO GATHERING TABLE

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For thousands of years, First Nations people have walked on this land; 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.

Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. *John 6.68*

Let us pray:

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.

The Penitential Rite

Lay Reader:

Dear friends in Christ, as we continue in worship with almighty God, let us confess our sins against God and our neighbour.

Silence is kept.

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: Almighty God have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord renews the face of the earth:

O Come Let us worship.

Canticle 9 – page 80 BAS

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.**

Alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord renews the face of the earth:
O Come Let us worship.

The Proclamation of the Word

The First Readings is from the Book of
Genesis 29: 15 - 28

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.

This is the Word of The Lord
Thanks be to God

Psalm 105: 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.

Second Reading is from the Letter of Paul to the Romans 8: 26 – 39

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.

This is the Word of The Lord
Thanks be to God

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to
Matthew 13: 31 – 33, 44 - 52

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.
The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Sermon: George

The Affirmation of Faith

Let us affirm our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed:

**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.**

Intercessions and Thanksgivings

Collect for the Day

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

Prayers of the People

Litany 7, page 116 BAS

(Let us pray in faith to God our Father, to his Son Jesus Christ, and to the Holy Spirit, saying, “Lord, hear and have mercy.”)

For the Church of the living God throughout the world, let us ask the riches of his grace.

Lord, hear and have mercy.

For all who proclaim the word of truth, let us ask the infinite wisdom of Christ.

Lord, hear and have mercy.

For all who have consecrated their lives to the kingdom of God, and for all struggling to follow the way of Christ, let us ask the gifts of the Spirit.

Lord, hear and have mercy.

For Elizabeth our Queen, for the Prime Minister of this country, and for all who govern the nations, that they may strive for justice and peace, let us ask the strength of God.

Lord, hear and have mercy.

For scholars and research-workers, that their studies may benefit humanity, let us ask the light of the Lord.

Lord, hear and have mercy.

For all who have passed from this life in faith and obedience, let us ask the peace of Christ.

Lord, hear and have mercy.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

A Blessing

Announcements

Dismissal;

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Scripture Readings for 9th Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 32: 22 - 31

Psalms 17: 1 – 7, 16

Romans 9: 1 – 5

Matthew 14: 13 - 21

Anglican Cycle of Prayer

Please Pray for: : The team responsible for preparing the Lambeth Conference, which was due to be taking place now – please pray for them as they consider the

implications of its postponement in light of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Anglican Lutheran Cycle of Prayer :

Please Pray for:

ACC Bishop Jane Alexander, the clergy and people of the Diocese of Edmonton

ELCIC The dean, council, and congregations of the East Central Area of the Synod of Alberta and the Territories

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer :

Please Pray for: Territorial Archdeacons, Regional Deans, and Lay Deanery Officials in support of their ongoing responsibilities within the deaneries and to the Executive Committee of the Diocese.

Parish Cycle of Prayer:

Please pray for our own church members: Samuel Metteer, Carl and Elizabeth Mickelson, Dawn Mills, Adrienne Morris, Tom and Dora Morris, Charles and Marion Morris, Rosalie Hardisty Morris, Mark Myers Dorothy Nesbitt, Len Norris, Garth and Brenda O'Neill, Cindy Papassay, Henry Parise, Marjorie (Midge) Peel, Richard Pepper, Sheila Pepper, Nancy and Bob Polhill, George and Nancy Porter, Dr. Michelle Proudfoot, Chris and Laura Pyhtila, David and Erminie Reid, Matthew and Desiree Reilly, Madison and Owen

Please Pray For: Our young people in Junior High School, High School, College and University who are

struggling academically, social and mentally, as well as with understanding their own identities.



Prayer requests from Arch Bishop Anne:

“Please join the bishops of our province in holding our province and our whole world in prayer during this time of crisis, especially those who are afflicted with this coronavirus. Pray especially for researchers, policymakers, frontline workers, and for all those who are caring for those who are sick, as well as for those who have died and those who mourn.”

“Continue to pray for those who are most deeply affected by COVID-19 - frontline workers, hospital staff, those who are stranded and unable to return to their homes from abroad, those who are isolated further because of the new restrictive measures in place, and those who have been diagnosed with COVID -19 and their families and loved ones.”

New- Gathering Table Prayer Chain

During this time of social isolation and uncertainty, it is more important than ever to pray for one another. If you would like to be a part of the Gathering Table prayer chain or you have any needs or concerns that you would like placed on the prayer chain please contact Sheila Chisholm at chisholmsheila@gmail.com or text /phone 306-240-0771.

A grace note from www.thunderbay-northshoreanglicans.com

When life gives you more than you can stand, kneel.

Reminder about Visitations:

Pastoral care visits will be restricted to emergency situations – please call the office or the Rectory if such a situation arises. Telephone prayer ministry will be ongoing.

Dear Parishioners:

At this time when Sunday worship services have been suspended, we are providing a number of ways that you can continue to financially support our mission and ministries at Gathering Table. Of course, these methods are unnecessary for parishioners currently using the Electronic Offering Program (EOP). But if you wish to begin the EOP or modify your existing EOP, please contact the Diocesan office at:

[https://www.dioceseofalgoma.com/about-the-diocese-of-
algoma/electronic-offering-programme/](https://www.dioceseofalgoma.com/about-the-diocese-of-algoma/electronic-offering-programme/)

Offering Options:

1. Drop it off at the church office at 228 Pearl St. Office hours are Tuesday to Thursday 10 – 2 and Friday 9 – 12 noon. Just buzz the door, identify yourself, and the door will be unlocked. Give it to Roberta or Sharon, who will record the offering.
2. Mail it in to: Gathering Table, 228 Pearl St., Thunder Bay, ON P7B 1E4. Please ensure to not mail cash.

3. Send an e-transfer by setting up a profile with your own financial institution, indicate the recipient is Gathering Table church, and use the church email address of office@gatheringtable.ca

Use the security question “What is the first name of our Pastor?” (answer: George) In the message box, please include your envelope number or mailing address, and the Sunday date you wish the offering to be applied. For example:

| |
|---|
| Envelope no. 999 for
Sunday March 29 |
|---|

With appreciation,
Marg, Marjorie, Sheila, Jim

Sunday Sermons: Since we aren't gathering at the church, the Sunday service can be viewed on the Gathering Table website <http://gatheringtable.ca> and on the Gathering Table Facebook page. The whole service will be live streamed at 10 a.m. Sunday at the link <http://gatheringtable.ca>

BOOKING CHURCH FOR MEETINGS/ACTIVITIES

All bookings are cancelled until further notice.

Email office@gatheringtable.ca

Website <http://gatheringtable.ca>

Office Hours- 10:00 am to 2:00 pm, Tues., to Thursday
Friday 9 a.m. - Noon
Services Sundays start at 10 a.m.

Here are some other things to take note of:

The building will remain closed indefinitely, though phone calls will be answered during office hours. All gatherings, events or meetings must either be postponed or conducted by means of various internet tools.

The Food Cupboard will operate every second and fourth Sunday of the month in its present modified format. No emergency food parcels will be distributed during this time.

Pastoral visitation is drastically restricted. In emergency situations please call the office or the Rectory. We realize that, despite the focus on this crisis and the cutting back on medical and social services, other things still go on – and some things get worse. Isolation is hard for many people for different reasons, not only physically, but relationally, emotionally and spiritually. We want to do what we can to help.

There is a new ‘prayer chain’ to supplement our ongoing prayers. Please call the office with potential requests. Remember to pray especially for leaders and for those who must engage in heroic forms of ‘risky behaviours’: medical personnel, emergency responders, those who deal with the dead and their families, those who keep vital services operating, and those mostly unseen people who enable these others to keep going.

Help Needed for the Church garden

Please call Erminie Reid at 767 - 4566 if you can help with the gardening anytime during the summer.

Thank you from Erminie Reid & Sheila Douglas.



Gathering Table
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Honorary Assistant: The Rev. Gail M. Clifton, M.Div.

Phone: 768-9865

Lay Readers: Frances Bennett-Sutton, Kim Bienvenue,
Rose Jardine, Brenda O'Neill and Jim Sutton

Rector's Warden: Marg Boone

Deputy Rector's Warden: Marjorie Tutkaluk

People's Warden: Jim Sutton

Deputy People's Warden: Sheila Chisholm

Co-Music Directors - at Gathering Table

Pianist Donna Hamill Organist (Vacant)

Archbishop Anne's Motto for 2020

***“In the same way, let your light so shine before others
that they may see your good works
and give glory to your Father in heaven.”***

(Matthew 5.16)