

Gathering Table

a Faith Community in the Anglican Church of Canada



*Funeral Service for, and Celebration
of the Life of
Bernice Richmond*

November 22, 1928 – May 19, 2020

Gathering Table

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September 29, 2021 The Feast of St Michael & All Angels
11:00 am

Officiant and Preacher The Rev'd Canon Ed Swayze

Organist Nancy Wallace

Cantor Brenda O'Neill

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: Be Not Afraid

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.

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.**

Remembrances Ed Slabikowski

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

A Reading from the Book of Wisdom 3:1-9

Reader: *Marion Poutanen*

The Destiny of the Righteous

3 But the souls of the righteous are in the hand of God,
and no torment will ever touch them.

2 In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died,
and their departure was thought to be a disaster,

3 and their going from us to be their destruction;
but they are at peace.

4 For though in the sight of others they were punished,
their hope is full of immortality.

5 Having been disciplined a little, they will receive great good,
because God tested them and found them worthy of himself;

6 like gold in the furnace he tried them,
and like a sacrificial burnt offering he accepted them.

⁷ In the time of their visitation they will shine forth,
and will run like sparks through the stubble.

⁸ They will govern nations and rule over peoples,
and the Lord will reign over them forever.

⁹ Those who trust in him will understand truth,
and the faithful will abide with him in love,
because grace and mercy are upon his holy ones,
and he watches over his elect

A Reading of Psalm 23

Reader: *Lillian Richmond*

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.

A Reading from the Book of 2 Timothy 2: 8 – 12a

Reader: *Linda Koski*

⁸ Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant
of David—that is my gospel,

⁹ for which I suffer hardship, even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained.

¹⁰ Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, so that they may also obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.

¹¹ The saying is sure: If we have died with him, we will also live with him;

¹² if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he will also deny us;

A Gradual Hymn:

You Who Dwell in the Shelter of the Lord

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 5: 24 - 27

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

This is the Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Message: The Rev'd Canon Ed Swayze

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 Bernice 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.

Pastoral Prayers

Lord's Prayer

BAS p 594

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.

Hymn: I the Lord of Sea and Sky

The Commendation

BAS p 596

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 Bernice.**

**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

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude: How Great Thou Art

**Following the service, the family invites you to gather
with them at the Sargent & Son's reception room, 21
Court Street, North**

*At the conclusion of the service, please remain seated until
an usher dismisses you.*



Gathering Table

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Brenda O'Neill, Jim Sutton, **On Leave:** Kim Bienvenue,

Lay Reader in Training: Richard Pepper

Rector's Warden: Marg Boone

Deputy Rector's Warden: Dr. Michelle Proudfoot

People's Warden: Jim Sutton

Deputy People's Warden: Sheila Chisholm

Co-Music Directors - Pianist Donna Hamill

Organist (Vacant)

Archbishop Anne's Motto for 2021

“He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.
And what does the Lord require of you?
To act justly and to love mercy
and to walk humbly with your God.” *Micah 6:8*