

Gathering Table
a Faith Community in the Anglican Church of Canada

Officiant: Rose Jardine
Preacher: Frances Bennett-Sutton
Honorary Assistant: Rev. Gail Clifton
~~**Lay Reader:** Richard Pepper~~
Music: Donna and Ted Hamill and GT Singers & Djembe
Lectors: Al Chisholm, Richard Pepper
Greeter: Marilyn and Al Chisholm
Altar Guild: Rose Jardine

Season of Creation 1
14th Sunday of Pentecost

September 3rd, 2023

10:00 a.m.

WELCOME TO GATHERING TABLE

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Welcome to all our visitors and newcomers. We're glad you're here! We invite you to sign our Visitors Book at the back of the church.

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.

Welcome and Opening Remarks

We gather in the name of God, Creator, Redeemer, and sustainer of the Earth and all creatures! ***Amen***

Opening Prayer

A Four Direction Prayer

Note: please remain FACING the front, to view the screens as we pray together:

**Let us turn our hearts to the West
From there the Thunders bring us cleansing rain
Creator God, heal us and our relatives**

**Let us turn our hearts to the North
Winter comes to us from there and calls us to rest
Creator God, restore our strength**

**Let us turn our hearts to the East
The morning Sun begins each day there
Creator God awaken us and help us to walk with a
renewed life**

**Let us turn our hearts to the South
Where the warm winds come from
to give us comfort and joy
Creator God soothe our aching souls**

**Let us turn our hearts to the Sky
From there our Creator sees all around us
Creator God help us to trust you to lead us
Let us turn our hearts to the Earth
From there quiet wisdom comes to teach us
Creator God hear us as we pray**

(Adapted from Diocese of Western North Carolina - Anglican Indigenous Ministries)

Opening Music: **CP 450** *(Omit verse 4)*
You Call Us, Lord, to Be

Gathering of the Community *BAS page 47*

Please stand, as you are able, for the Gathering of the community.

Presider: Lord, open our lips,

All: **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Presider: O God, make speed to save us.

All: **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

All: **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

(Please sit or kneel as you are able)

We pray to you for the forgiveness of our sins: Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;

In your compassion, forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, t the honour and glory of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Season of Creation Prayer

OFFICIANT: Creator of All,
From your communion of love life sprung forth like a mighty river and the whole cosmos came into being.

On this Earth of overflowing love, the Word was made flesh and went forth with the life-giving waters proclaiming peace and justice for all creation.

ALL: You called human beings to till and keep your garden. You placed us into right relationship with each creature, but we failed to listen to the cries of the Earth and the cries of the most vulnerable. We broke with the flowing communion of love and sinned against you by not safeguarding the conditions for life.

We lament the loss of our fellow species and their habitats, we grieve the loss of human cultures, along with the lives and livelihoods that have been displaced or perished, and we ache

at the sight of an economy of death, war and violence that we have inflicted on ourselves and on the Earth.

OFFICIANT: Open our ears to your creative, reconciling and sustaining Word that calls to us through the book of Scripture and the book of creation. Bless us once again with your life-giving waters so that the Creator Spirit may let justice and peace flow in our hearts and overflow into all creation.

Open our hearts to receive the living waters of God's justice and peace, and to share it with our suffering brothers and sisters, all creatures around us, and all creation.

ALL: Bless us to walk together with all people of good will so that the many streams of the living waters of God's justice and peace may become a mighty river all over the Earth. In the name of the One who came to proclaim good news to all creation, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

The Proclamation of the Word

Amos 5: 21 – 24

(from the Season of Creation)

Let us hear the words of prophet Amos:

"I can't stand your religious meetings.

I'm fed up with your conferences and conventions.

I want nothing to do with your religion projects,
your pretentious slogans and goals.

I'm sick of your fund-raising schemes,
your public relations and image making.
I've had all I can take of your noisy ego-music.
When was the last time you sang to me?
Do you know what I want?
I want justice—oceans of it.
I want fairness—rivers of it.
That's what I want. That's all I want."

Thanks be to God

Psalm 85

(from Season of Creation)

LECTOR: We are presently more aware than ever of the link
between fossil fuels, and violence and war.

Let us pray and proclaim with the Psalmist:

ALL: Lord, you poured out blessings on your land!

LECTOR: You restored the fortunes of Israel.

You forgave the guilt of your people—
yes, you covered all their sins.

ALL: May love and truth meet together

LECTOR: Let justice and mercy kiss

You held back your fury.

You kept back your blazing anger.

ALL: Now restore us again, O God of our salvation.

LECTOR: Put aside your anger against us once more.

Will you be angry with us always?
Will you prolong your wrath to all generations?
Won't you revive us again,
so your people can rejoice in you?

**ALL: May love and truth meet together
Let justice and mercy kiss
Show us your unfailing love, O Lord,
and grant us your salvation.**

LECTOR: I listen carefully to what God the Lord is saying,
for he speaks peace to his faithful people.
But let them not return to their foolish ways.
Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him,
so our land will be filled with his glory.

**ALL: Unfailing love and truth have met together.
Justice and peace have kissed!
May love and truth meet together
Let justice and peace kiss**

LECTOR: Truth springs up from the Earth,
and righteousness smiles down from heaven.
Yes, the Lord pours down his blessings.
Our land will yield its bountiful harvest.
Righteousness goes as a herald before him,
preparing the way for his steps.

ALL: May love and truth meet together

Let justice and peace kiss

(Adapted from the New Living Translation)

Second Reading is from The Letter of Paul to the Romans

Romans 12: 9 – 21

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gradual: **Jesus, All For Jesus**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

ALL: Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Matthew 16: 21 – 28

From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

This is The Gospel of Christ

Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ

Sermon: **Lay Reader:**

Time of Silent Reflection

Affirmation of Faith

BAS page 53

Hear, O Israel
Hear, O Israel,
the Lord our God, the Lord is one.
Love the Lord your God
with all your heart,
with all your soul,
with all your mind,
and with all your strength.
This is the first and the great commandment.
The second is like it:
Love your neighbour as yourself.

There is no commandment greater than these.

OFFERATORY: **Ancient Words**

Intercessions and Thanksgivings

Prayers of the People

Lay Reader

Intercessory Prayers – from Season of Creation

LAY READER: Creator and Redeemer, as we approach you in prayer, make us walk in beauty and balance. Make us open our hearts and minds. Make us speak the truth. We pray for your community, the Church, the Body of Christ. We pray for all our relatives in the circle of life throughout all Creation, for those chosen to be our leaders and teachers.

ALL: In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Earth is our planet home, with its beautiful depths, soaring heights and deep waters, its vitality and abundance of life, and we ask:

That it may teach us and show us the way.

We observe mountains and deserts, the high green valleys and meadows filled with wild flowers, the snows, the summits of intense silence, and we ask:

That they may teach us and show us the way.

We see the land which grows our food, the nurturing soil, the fertile fields, the abundant gardens and orchards, and we ask:

That they may teach us and show us the way.

The forests, the great trees reach strongly to the sky with earth in their roots and the heavens in their branches, the fir and the pine and the cedar, and we ask:

That they may teach us and show us the way.

Help us to respect the creatures of the fields and forests and the seas, our brothers and sisters the wolves and deer, the eagle and dove, the great whales and the dolphin. We ask:

That they may teach us and show us the way.

With the 'great cloud of witnesses', all those who have lived on this earth, our ancestors and our friends, who dreamed the

best for future generations, and upon whose lives our lives are built, and with thanksgiving, we ask you Lord,

That their lives may teach us and show us the way.

We call upon the nations of the world to hear the cry of those who have suffered loss of homes, lives and hope because of climate change. May they hear the cry of those whose schools, churches, hospitals, roads and infrastructure have been damaged. We pray for justice and for peace, and Lord,

That their cries may teach us and show the way.

We pray for all victims of war and violence. We pray for countries where the greed for oil and gas are leading to war. We hold in our hearts those areas where fossil fuel projects have destabilised communities and human rights abuses have occurred. We pray for areas where climate change has led to drought and conflict over water and resources is taking place. May we respond to the cry of the Earth and those living in poverty, as peacemakers who challenge the violence that threatens us all. We ask:

That they may teach us and show us the way.

Creator, you made the world and declared it to be good: the beauty of the trees, the softness of the air, the fragrance of the grass speaks to us; the summit of the mountains, the thunder of the sky, the rhythm of the lakes speak to us; the faintness of the stars, the freshness of the morning, the dewdrops on the flower speak to us. But above all, our heart soars, for you speak

to us in Jesus the Christ, in whose name we offer these prayers.
Amen.

The Collect of The Day: *please pray together*

ALL: Author and Giver of all good things, graft in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us in all goodness, and of your great mercy keep us in the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

BAS page 54

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:

Closing Music: **O Love That Will Not Let Me Go**

Dismissal: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia ! Alleluia ! Alleluia !

Please note that there is a 'treasure chest' at the back of the church where offerings can be left when leaving the church.

Readings for the Fifteenth Sunday of Pentecost

Season of Creation 2

Exodus 12: 1 – 14

Psalm 149

Romans 13: 8 – 14.....

Matthew 18: 15 - 28

Anglican Cycle of Prayer Please Pray for:

13th Sunday after Trinity - Season of Creation 1

The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean

Anglican Lutheran Cycle of Prayer :

Please Pray for:

ACC: The theological colleges and training programs within the Ecclesiastical Province of Rupert's Land: Arthur Turner Training School, the Centre for Christian Studies, the College of Emmanuel and St. Chad, Henry Budd College for Ministry, Saint

John's College, Dr. William Winter School for Ministry, James Settee College for Ministry

ELCIC/ACC The Season of Creation and a renewed
commitment to a healthy relationship
with the Earth

**Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Please pray for:
Christian Education Leaders, Teachers, and Students in the
Theological Colleges: Thorneloe University and St. Mark's
Chapel, The Rev. Canon Dr. John Gibaut,
President and Provost (Thorneloe)/Chaplain of St. Mark's**

Our Parish Cycle of Prayer

Please pray for our own church members

Jim Sutton and Frances Bennett-Sutton, Ellen Teahan, Violet Thomson, Bob and Marjorie Tutkaluk, Duncan Twance, Terry Wade, Dan and Val Walter, Jim Whalley, Carl and Roberta Wolfe, Michael Wolfe and Heidi Dreher-Wolfe, Makayla and Riley, Anne Zale

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.

A grace note from www.thunderbay-northshoreanglicans.com
Many people are making good time;
but they're going the wrong way.

We Welcome Your Prayer Requests:

If you have any needs or concerns that you would like placed on the Gathering Table prayer chain, please email the request to prayerchain@gatheringtable.ca. If you do not have access to email, please call the office or Sheila Chisholm at 787-0253 and we will get it sent out for you.

Reminder about Visitations:

Rev. Ann is continuing her Pastoral care visits. If you would like a visit, please call 807-285-9446 or email her at:

rector@gatheringtable.ca



2023 Envelopes are now available at the back

A note about offerings: all information is on the shelves at the back of the Church. If you used the numbered offering envelopes in 2022 you will find a personalized box of 2023 envelopes for your use. If you wish to use weekly offering envelopes you may take an unassigned box and add your name to the list beside the box number. If you would like to contribute using the Electronic Offering Program*, which we recommend, these forms are also available at the back of the Church fill in the information and turn it into the office. If you are already using EOP you may amend your offerings using the same form. E-transfers can also be made to Gathering Table by using: office@gatheringtable.ca and use "church" as your security answer. If you require any assistance, please consult a Warden.

The EOP is administered by the Diocese and is a pre-authorized payment plan offering a steady flow of funds to

Gathering Table. It takes the worry about “catching up” if you are away or cannot attend for any reason.

EVENTS AT GATHERING TABLE

Groups or individuals wishing to use the Parish Hall, or Kitchen, may do so by filling out the Gathering Table Booking Request Form that is available by calling the office at 345-6898 or by emailing the office at (office@gatheringtable.ca).

Calendar of Events

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|------------------------|--|
| Sept. 10 th | Food Cupboard |
| Sept. 19 th | Altar Guild Meeting 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. |
| Sept. 19 th | Camp Gitchigomee Meeting 7 p.m. |
| Sept. 23 rd | Come help decorate the church at 10 a.m.
for the Harvest Thanks giving Sunday
Sunday service |
| Sept. 24 th | Harvest Thanksgiving Service 10 a.m. |
| Sept. 24 th | Food Cupboard |
| Oct. 8 th | Food Cupboard |
| Oct. 22 nd | Food Cupboard |

Gathering Table Booking Form

Each September groups wishing to book the use of the hall, kitchen has to fill in the “Booking Request Form” each year for your groups’ activities. Please contact the office to request the form. office@gatheringtable.ca

Sunday Sermons: 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>
Please Note You may be visible on the online stream

How is your “Grow A Row” Doing??

Thunder Bay North Shore Deanery Challenge



September 23rd they will be looking for produce to share for Food Cupboard.

Our Daily Bread is available at the back of the church

Pick up a copy today of the Sept. Oct. Nov. Issue

2023 Parishioner Parking Passes are available at the office
Tues. – Thurs. 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.: Friday 8 a.m. – 12 noon or
on Sun. before church.

PWRDF launches In-Canada Emergency Response Grant

In this year of unprecedented wildfires from coast to coast, including those currently forcing evacuations in the Northwest Territories and British Columbia, PWRDF is establishing a fund specifically for in-Canada emergency response. This new fund will allow them to respond quickly

to disasters such as hurricanes, floods and wildfires when a diocese asks them for support, rather than wait to raise funds for individual disasters. Dioceses can access the new In-Canada Emergency Fund by requesting short-, medium- and longer-term support.

How you can help

Donate directly to the ***In-Canada Emergency fund*** at any time online at pwrdf.org. You can also *mail a cheque* to PWRDF at 80 Hayden Street, 3rd floor, Toronto, ON, M4Y 3G2. Please indicate In-Canada Emergency in the memo field. You may also donate during business hours by calling 416-822-9083 (or leave a message toll-free at 1-866-308-7973) and they will return your call.

Linda Rintamaki (rep)



Gathering Table

228 Pearl Street, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 1E4

Email: office@gatheringtable.ca

Web: <http://gatheringtable.ca>

Office: 345-6898

Hall: 345-6088

Office Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Office Administrator: Roberta Wolfe

Treasurer: Sharon Corston: Friday from 8 a.m. to noon –

Pastor: Rev. Ann Camber, M.Div.
Phone: 807-251-7503 Email: rector@gatheringtable.ca

Honorary Assistant: The Rev. Gail M. Clifton, M.Div.
Phone: 768-9865 Email: gailx2@shaw.ca

Lay Readers:

Frances Bennett-Sutton, Rose Jardine, Brenda O'Neill,

Richard Pepper, Jim Sutton, Kim Bienvenue,

Rector's Warden: David Reid

People's Warden: Jim Sutton

Deputy People's Warden: Sheila Chisholm

Wifi Guest Password at Gathering Table > GTGuest1

Archbishop Anne's Motto for 2023

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.” Luke 4: 18 - 19