

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



# TO HOPE AND ACT WITH CREATION

SEASON OF CREATION 2024

*The firstfruits of hope*  
(Rom 8:19-25)

## **Season of Creation 1 - The Feast of Creation**

“To hope and act with Creation” and the symbol is “The first fruits of hope”, inspired by Romans 8:19-25.

### **Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF THE RISEN LORD

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**Been – Sa – gen, Jem na do waky gan ning**

Gathering Table  
a Faith Community  
in the Anglican Church of Canada

**Preacher and Presider:** Kim Bienvenue  
**Lectors:** David and Erminie Reid  
**Greeter:** *Volunteer Please*  
**Altar Guild:** Rose Jardine

**Season of Creation 1 – The Feast of Creation  
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Service of the Word - Morning Prayer**

September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024

10:00 a.m.

**WELCOME TO GATHERING TABLE**

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*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.*

*Land Acknowledgement- Doug Semple*

**Welcome To Gathering Table  
and Opening Remarks**

Welcome to all our visitors and newcomers we're glad you're here! We invite you to sign our Visitor's Book at the back of the church, and please join after the service for coffee hour.

The Father brought us forth by the word of truth that we should be a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

*James 1.18*

### **Season of Creation Prayer for 2024**

Triune God, Creator of all, we praise you for your goodness, visible in all the diversity that you have created, making us a cosmic family living in a common home. Through the Earth you created, we experience love and nourishment, home and protection.

We confess that we do not relate to the Earth as a Mothering gift from you, our Creator. Our selfishness, greed, neglect, and abuse have caused the climate crisis, loss of biodiversity, human suffering as well as the suffering of all our fellow creatures.

We confess that we have failed to listen to the groans of the Earth, the groans of all creatures, and the groans of the Spirit of hope and justice that lives within us.

May your Creator Spirit help us in our weakness, so that we may know the redeeming power of Christ and the hope found in him. May the groans of the Spirit birth in us a willingness to serve you faithfully, so that we may hear and heal Creation, to hope and act together with her, so that

the First fruits of hope may blossom.

Loving and Creator God, we pray that you will make us sensitive to these groans and enable us to have the same compassion as that of Jesus, the redeeming Lord. Grant us a fresh vision of our relationship with Earth, and with one another, as creatures that are made in your image. In the name of the one who came to proclaim the good news to all Creation, Jesus Christ. Amen

### **A Service of the Word 1 (SW1)**

*Please stand if able.*

Presider: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all

**All: And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

We thank you, O God, that you have again brought us together on the Lord's Day to praise you for your goodness and to ask your blessing. Give us grace to see your hand in the week that is past, and your purpose in the week to come; through Christ our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

Presider: Dear friends in Christ, as we turn our hearts and minds to worship almighty God, let us confess our sins.

**People: 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.**

**Presider:** Merciful God, grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**People:** Amen.

The Peace is exchanged in the name of Christ.

**Collect for the Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
Season of Creation 1**

**All:** God of unchangeable power, when you fashioned the world the morning stars sang together and the host of heaven shouted for joy; open our eyes to the wonder of creation and teach us to see all things for good, to the honour of your glorious name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**The Proclamation of the Word**

**First Reading is from The Song of Solomon  
Song of Solomon 2: 8 - 13**

The voice of my beloved! Look, he comes, leaping upon the mountains, bounding over the hills. My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag. Look, there he stands behind our wall, gazing in at the windows, looking through the lattice. My beloved speaks and says to me: "Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away; for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land. The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom; they give forth fragrance. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away."

This is the Word of The Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 45: 1 – 2, 7 - 10**

***Refrain: God has blessed you for ever.***

My heart is stirring with a noble song; let me recite what I have fashioned for the king; my tongue shall be the pen of a skilled writer.

You are the fairest of men; grace flows from your lips, because God has blessed you for ever.

***Refrain: God has blessed you for ever.***

Your throne, O God, endures for ever and ever, a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of your kingdom; you love righteousness and hate iniquity.

Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness above your fellows.

***Refrain: God has blessed you for ever.***

All your garments are fragrant with myrrh, aloes, and cassia, and the music of strings from ivory palaces makes you glad.

Kings' daughters stand among the ladies of the court; on your right hand is the queen, adorned with the gold of Ophir.

***Refrain: God has blessed you for ever.R***

**Psalm Prayer:**

*BAS page 763*

**Gracious God, your love unites heaven and earth in a new festival of gladness. Lift our spirits to learn the way of joy that leads us to your banquet hall, where all is golden with praise. We ask this through Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen**

**Second Reading is from The Letter of James**

**James 1: 17 - 27**

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfilment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness.

Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth

of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act - they will be blessed in their doing. If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

This is the Word of The Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

*The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to  
**Mark***

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

**Mark 7: 1 – 8, 14 – 15, 21 - 23**

*Reader: Kim Bienvenue*

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it;





**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.**

***ALL: Amen.***

### **Intercessions and Thanksgivings**

**“To hope and act with Creation”**

God of the land, the sea, the sky:

Creator of all that is seen and unseen.

Open our hearts to the rhythm of Creation in the swells of the ocean, the movements

of air and wind, the breath of all living things.

Open our eyes to the fragile beauty of the biodiversity of which we are a part.

Open our ears to the sounds of life around us.

Open our minds to the awareness of our deep relationship with all your Creation.

Creator God:

***May we hope and act with Creation.***

God of Light, Life and Love:

Help us to seek and find your presence in all Creation.

Help us to understand the roots of the ecological crisis and

give us the wisdom to  
live resiliently in harmony with your Creation.  
Keep us firm in the faith that the gift of life in all its  
fullness is for all Creation.  
Help us to maintain hope that your reign of love is  
manifested in our common love  
for you, for ourselves, and for our neighbour - both human  
and non-human.  
Creator God:

***May we hope and act with Creation.***

God of truth and justice:  
Fill us with your spirit of compassion so we may live and  
act with and in solidarity with Creation.  
Guide us in paths of righteousness that help us to tread  
softly on the land and sail gently on the sea.  
Give us wisdom and courage to recognise our role in the  
evil of systemic exploitation and extraction and to speak  
truth to power.  
Give us strength of heart and arm to be agents of the  
ecological conversion the world so desperately needs.  
Creator God:

***May we hope and act with Creation. Amen.***  
*(Rev. James Bagwan, Pacific Conference of Churches)*

Presider:      **Prayer of St. John Chrysostom**  
Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with  
one accord to make our common supplications to you, and  
you have promised through your well-beloved Son that  
when two or three are gathered together you will hear their  
requests. Fulfill now our desires and petitions, as may be

best for us, granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come eternal life; for you, Father, are good and loving, and we glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, in the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

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

**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.**

**Doxology:**

Presider: Glory to God

**All: whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Presider: May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

**Benediction:**

May God who can set Creation free, show us his glory.

***Glory to God.***

May God who knows our groaning and crying, bring about new life.

***Now and always.***

May God who helps us in our weakness, give us the first fruits of hope.

***The Lord is our hope.***

And may the Triune God sprinkle into our hearts the dew of his grace and bless us all. **Amen**

**Announcements:**

**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 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**Season of Creation 2**

**Accession Day of HM King Charles 111**

Pr 22: 1 – 2, 8 – 9, 22 – 23

Psalm 125

James 2: 1 – 17.....

Mark 7: 24 – 37

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer Please Pray for:** The Diocese of Pittsburgh, Bishop Alex Cameron and his wife, Tamara.

## **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

### **TOGETHER**

For the Season of Creation which continues in the month ahead and a renewed commitment to a healthy relationship with the Earth

**Diocese Of Ontario Cycle of Prayer: Please pray for:** Christian Education Leaders, Teachers, and Students in the Theological Colleges: Thorneloe University and St. Mark's Chapel Assistant Chaplain, The Rev. Jason Tripp

### **Parish Cycle of Prayer**

**Please pray for our own church members:** Isaiah and Rosalie Jacob, and Raymond Greg, Rose Jardine, Derek and Denise Jetten, Daniel and Amelia Joseph, Amanda Kase, John Kirchen, Alex and Sylvia Kostecki, Bob and Carol Lee Kostyniuk, Richard and Adrienne Lambert, and Kaylee, Doris Loon, Neil and Audrey Love, Paul Love. Julia MacDougall, Monica MacKay, Jessica and Murray MacRae, Gabriel, Ellie, Gavin and Isobel, David Marler Jean McAlpine-Marler,

**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](http://www.thunderbay-northshoreanglicans.com)

Prioritize obedience to God over Tradition.

**Our Daily Bread** is available at the back of the church  
Pick up a copy today for **Sept., Oct., Nov., 2024**

Scents, kitchen, allergies



**For the well-being of us all, a few reminders:**  
*Please do not wear scents (perfume, cologne, hairspray etc.) After using the kitchen, please ensure that all surfaces are cleaned and sanitized and the floor is swept of any mouse-attracting crumbs. Some of us have life-threatening allergies to nuts, so please do not bring food containing nuts into the building. Sealed items for the Food Cupboard are exempt.*

### **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](mailto:prayerchain@gatheringtable.ca). If you do not have access to email, please call the office or Sheila Chisholm at (807) 697-0465 and we will get it sent to you.

### **Reminder about - Visitations Communion:**

Let Rev. Ann know if someone you know would like a visit.

call 807-285-9446 or email at: [rector@gatheringtable.ca](mailto:rector@gatheringtable.ca)



**2024 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 2023 you will find a personalized box of 2024 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](mailto: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.

**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



## **EVENTS AT GATHERING TABLE**

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](mailto:office@gatheringtable.ca)  
Or call 807-345-6898

### **Calendar of Events**

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Sept. 6 <sup>th</sup>    | Food Cupboard Prep  |
| Sept. 8 <sup>th</sup>    | Food Cupboard and Coffee Hour   |
| Sept. 10 <sup>th</sup>   | Altar Guild Meeting 3 p.m. Parish Hall  |
| Sept. 17 <sup>th</sup> , | Camp Gitchigomee Meeting 7 p.m. Gathering<br>Table – Everyone Welcome               |
| Sept. 20 <sup>th</sup>   | Food Cupboard Prep  |
| Sept. 21 <sup>st</sup>   | Decorate Church for Harvest Thanksgiving<br>At 10 a.m.                              |
| Sept. 22 <sup>nd</sup>   | Food Cupboard, Coffee Hour - Harvest  |
| Sept. 24 <sup>th</sup>   | Parish Advisory Council (PAC) 7 p.m. Zoom   |
| Sept. 28 <sup>th</sup>   | Deanery Men’s Breakfast Coffee 9:30 a.m.<br>and Breakfast 9:45 a.m. Tickets \$15.00 |
| Sept. 29 <sup>th</sup>   | Reconciliation Sunday, Coffee Hour  |
| Sept. 29 <sup>th</sup>   | Police & EMS Service at St. Paul’s Church<br>2 p.m. Everyone Welcome to attend.     |
| Oct. 5 <sup>th</sup>     | Deanery Council Meeting – St. Michael’s<br>9:30 a.m.                                |
| Oct. 6 <sup>th</sup>     | Open House – Mission to Seafarers 1:30 p.m<br>- 3 p.m.                              |
| Oct. 11 <sup>th</sup>    | Food Prep   |
| Oct. 13 <sup>th</sup>    | Food Cupboard, Coffee Hour  |
| Oct. 15 <sup>th</sup>    | Camp Gitchigomee Meeting 7 p.m. St.<br>Thomas Church – Everyone Welcome             |

- Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> Deanery Afternoon at St. Thomas Church  
From 1 – 4 p.m.
- Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup> Parish Advisory Council (PAC) 7 p.m. Zoom
- Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> Food Prep
- Oct. 26<sup>th</sup> Wedding
- Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> Food Cupboard, Coffee Hour

**Camp Gitchigomee** (*on going fundraiser*)

**Help Kick Start our Generator Fundraiser**

Grab a white sock from one of our Camp Reps and start saving your change. Every nickel, dime, quarter, loonie or twonie (*cash and cheques*) will make us that much closer to replacing our old one.

**Wild Ride for Refugees**

It is the third annual Wild Ride for Refugees campaign with a goal of raising \$65,000 to celebrate PWRDF's 65 years of supporting displaced families globally. The deanery will support this campaign on Saturday, Sept. 21, 2024 from 10 am to noon. It will have a cycling and walking component with refreshments at St. Paul's Anglican Church at 11 am. There will be a brief bike safety talk at St. Paul's garden at 10 am before the cyclers go to Vickers Park to join up with the walkers. The walkers initially meet at Vickers Park at 10:30 am. Archdeacon Deborah Kraft will give a blessing at the park. Then the walkers and cyclists proceed to meet at 11 am at St. Paul's Church. Last year the deanery raised \$5,035 in support of refugees and internally displaced persons. Save the date and participate! To make donations to this worthwhile

cause please write a cheque to PWRDF with Wild Ride for Refugees in the memo line and place in the Treasure Chest at the back of the church.

*Linda Rintamaki rep (linjrin@tbaytel.net)*

**Thank You to all who made the  
Confirmation Service so special to**

***From Gathering Table***

Brooke-Lynn Anderson  
Anna Byce    Grace Byce  
Lilly Panacheese  
Lisa Long    Julia MacDougall  
Sandro Ponzanetti    James Stewart

***From St. Paul's***

Andrew Benoit    Gregory Ezack  
Esher Gunasekara    Dayton Lipinski  
Eric Nygard  
Caitlin Lee (*Received into Anglican Communion*)

**From St. Michael's**

Talon Wright

**From St. Mark's**

Edison Reszitaryk

**From St. James**

Lillian Livingston    William Livingston



**Gathering Table**

228 Pearl Street, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 1E4

Email: [office@gatheringtable.ca](mailto:office@gatheringtable.ca)

Web: <http://gatheringtable.ca>

Office: 345-6898

Hall: 345-6088

**Office Hours:**

Tuesday, Wednesday, 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](mailto:rector@gatheringtable.ca)

**Lay Readers:**

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

Jim Sutton, Kim Bienvenue,

Rector's Warden: David Reid

People's Warden: Brenda O'Neill

Deputy People's Warden: Sheila Chisholm

Music Director: Pianist Donna Hamill

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**Archbishop Anne's Motto for 2024**

“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.”

2 Corinthians 9:7-8