

in the Anglican Church of Canada



Season of Creation 5 St. Francis of Assisi Sunday
19th Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome back to Sunday School

The Blessing of the Animals is a tradition inspired by St. Francis of Assisi, known for his deep love of all God's creatures. Celebrated around his feast day on October 4th, the event honors his teachings on kindness and respect for animals. People bring their pets to participating parishes to be blessed, acknowledging the bond between humans and animals, and recognizing them as gifts from God. This ceremony reflects St. Francis' belief in the harmony of all living beings and their connection to the divine.

Greetings In The Name Of The Risen Lord !

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Gathering Table
a Faith Community in the Anglican Church of Canada

Preacher: Lay Reader Frances Bennett-Sutton

Lay Reader: Jim Sutton

Lectors: Sheila Chisholm, Erminie Reid

Music: Donna & Ted Hamill, GT Singers & Percussion

Greeters: Alex Kostecki, Adam Difelice

Altar Guild: Rose Jardine

Season of Creation 5 & St. Francis of Assisi
19th Sunday after Pentecost
Service of the Word

October 4th, 2026

10 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.

Welcome 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.

For St. Francis of Assisi

May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord
Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me,
and I to the world. *Galatians 6.14*

I chose you and appointed you, says the Lord, that you
should go and bear fruit, fruit that will last. *John 15.16*

Opening Music: **In Christ Alone**

A Service of the Word 1 (SW1)

Please stand as you are able.

Officiant: 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.

Officiant: 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.**

Officiant: 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.

Officiant: 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.

Offertory: **Jesus, All For Jesus**

Collect for St. Francis of Assisi Day

Officiant: Grant us, Almighty God, after the example of your holy servant Francis, to do what you would have us do, and always to desire what is pleasing in your sight, that cleansed by your love, enlightened by your truth, and kindled with the fire of your Holy Spirit, we may follow in the footsteps of your beloved Son and make our way to you, O God most High; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***All: Amen.***

Collect for The 19th Sunday of Pentecost

Officiant: Almighty God, you have built your Church on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone. Join us together in unity of spirit by their teaching, that we may become a holy temple, acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***All: Amen***

Collect for The Blessing of the Pets

Lord: May we realize that as our pets trust us to take care of them, so we should trust You to take care of us, and in taking care of them we share in Your love for all Your creatures. Enlighten our minds to preserve all endangered species so that we may continue to appreciate all of Your creations. Grant this through Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

Children's Time:

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading is from The Book of Exodus

Exodus 20: 1 – 4, 7 - 9

Then God spoke all these words: I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you

shall labour and do all your work. Honour your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour. You shall not covet your neighbour's house; you shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to neighbour. When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die." Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin."

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

Psalm 19

Refrain: The statutes of the Lord rejoice the heart.

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament shows his handiwork.

One day tells its tale to another, and one night imparts knowledge to another.

Although they have no words or language, and their voices

are not heard,
Their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message
to the ends of the world.

Refrain: The statutes of the Lord rejoice the heart.

In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; it comes forth
like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a
champion to run its course.

It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and
runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from
its burning heat.

Refrain: The statutes of the Lord rejoice the heart.

The law of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul; the
testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the
innocent.

The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart; the
commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the
eyes.

Refrain: The statutes of the Lord rejoice the heart.

The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever; the
judgements of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

More to be desired are they than gold, more than much
fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

Refrain: The statutes of the Lord rejoice the heart.

By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.

Who can tell how often he offends? cleanse me from my secret faults.

Refrain: The statutes of the Lord rejoice the heart.

Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offence.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

Refrain: The statutes of the Lord rejoice the heart.

Psalm Prayer: *BAS page 726*
Gracious creator of heaven and earth, your Word has come among us as the true Sun of righteousness, and the good news of his birth has gone out to the ends of the world. Open our eyes to the light of your law, that we may be purified from sin and serve you without reproach for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Light and our Life. All Amen

Second Reading is from The Letter of Paul to The Philippians

Philippians 3: 4b - 14

If anyone has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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

Gradual: **Give Me Jesus**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to
Matthew

ALL: Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Matthew 21: 33 – 46

Jesus said, "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'? Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom

it falls." When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

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

Homily: **Frances Bennett-Sutton** *Lay Reader*

A time for silent reflection

The Apostles' Creed

Officiant: Let us confess our faith as we say,

All: 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.

ALL: Amen.

Intercessions and Thanksgivings

Prayers of the People *Lay Reader*

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbours, and for all those who are alone.

For this community, our country, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the gospel, and all who seek the truth.

For Anne our bishop, and for all bishops and other ministers, especially our incumbent Ann;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For our own needs and those of others.

Silence. The people may add their own petitions.

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.
Silence. The people may add their own thanksgivings.

We will exalt you, O God our king;
And praise your name for ever and ever.

We pray for all those who have died in the peace of Christ,
and for those whose faith is known to you alone,
that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.
Silence. The people may add their own petitions.

Lord, let your loving kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

Gracious God,
you have heard the prayers of your faithful people;
you know our needs before we ask,
and our ignorance in asking.
Grant our requests as may be best for us.
This we ask in the name of your Son
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Officiant: 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:

Officiant: 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.

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

A Blessing:

Closing Music:

Christ, Whose Glory Fills The Skies

Announcements:

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

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

Readings for The 20th Sunday after Pentecost
National Thanksgiving

Exodus 32: 1 – 1.....

Psalm 106: 1 – 6, 19 – 23

Philippian 4: `1 - 9 .

Matthew 22: 1 - 14

Anglican Cycle of Prayer Please Pray for: Season of Creation, Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil

Anglican Lutheran Cycle of Prayer :

Please Pray for:

ACC The Rt. Rev. Anna Greenwood-Lee, Bishop, and the clergy and people of the Diocese of Islands and Inlets

ELCIC The dean, council, and congregations of the Lower Mainland Region of the British Columbia Synod

TOGETHER Remember missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA people and their families, and pray for an end to gender-based violence

Parish Cycle of Prayer

Please pray for our own church members: Melanie Gottfred, Shannon and Marie MacLeod, Ted and Donna Hamill, Glen and Sally Hamilton, Wayne Hargrave, Diane Hartley, Irene Humby, Isaiah and Rosalie Jacob, and Raymond Greg, Rose Jardine, Derek Jetten, Denise Jetten, Daniel and Amelia Joseph, Amanda Kase, John Kirchen, Alex Kostecki, Bob and Carol Lee Kostyniuk, Walter and Barbara Kutcher

A grace note from www.thunderbay-northshoreanglicans.com

Will you bear fruit for God?

Alongside Hope's Wild Ride Deanery 2026
Our deanery team name is “Thunder Bay-North Shore Deanery Suncatchers” and our goal is 5,000 dollars. We are about half way towards our goal.

Donations can be made the following ways: Go **online to [alongside hope.org/wild-ride/](https://alongsidehope.org/wild-ride/)** Then scroll down to **Join a team.** Then select the **team name.** **Cheques can also be made to Alongside Hope with the team name in the memo line** and place in the treasure chest at the back of the church. Please consider making a donation to this worthwhile cause. Donations are accepted until Oct.18th.

Linda Rintamaki (rep)

Upcoming Dates for your calendar

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| Oct. 4 th | Coffee Hour |
| Oct. 9 th | Food Prep |
| Oct. 11 th | Coffee Hour and Food Cupboard |
| Oct. 14 th | Sleepy G Farm Member Shares 2 – 6 p.m. |
| Oct. 17 th | Deanery Council Mtg. St. Paul's 9:30 a.m. |
| Oct. 18 th | Seafarers' Centre Open House 1:30 p.m. |
| Oct. 18 th | Coffee Hour |
| Oct. 20 th | Camp G Mtg. – Gathering Table 7 p.m. |
| Oct. 23 rd | Food Prep |
| Oct. 25 th | Coffee Hour and Food Cupboard |
| Oct. 27 th | Parish Advisory Board |
| Oct. 28 th | Sleepy G Farm Member Shares 2 – 6 p.m. |
| Nov. 21 st | Camp Gitchigomee Camp Day See Poster in Hall – Everyone Welcome |
| Nov. 22 nd | Last Day to donate to MTS Christmas Bags |
| Dec. 11 th | Deanery Council Dinner |
| Dec. 12 th | Deanery Day |

Coffee Hour Requests

A big thank you to the many members of Gathering Table who have been involved in the important ministry of hospitality. Especially thanks go out to those who make us coffee, tea, and snacks on Sunday mornings! We are looking for more members to help out during this time. Are you available to help with setting up? Maybe you're free after church to help with clean up? Or, would you be willing to join a team that does it all once a month? Please reach out to Roberta in person on a Sunday or email her at office@gatheringtable.ca. Any and all assistance is appreciated. You can also help by providing cookies, crackers, cheese, or other goodies to share. Any donation would be most useful.

Christmas Gift Bags

Christmas is just around the corner, which means Christmas Gift Bags for seafarers. The Mission to Seafarers: Port of Thunder Bay is looking for donations for **Christmas Gift Bags** to be given to seafarers starting on December 1. Our objective is to prepare for 14 ships with 19 bags/ship or 266 bags. Donations need to be at the Seafarers' Centre by November 23; use the drop-off box outside the Seafarers' Centre or call the Seafarers' Centre 807-344-8241 to make an appointment. Suggested donations include mittens, gloves, toques, neck warmers, Chap Stick, tooth paste, disposable razors, and chocolate. For further information visit www.missiontoseafarersthunderbay.ca and click on Christmas Gift Bags under the Delivering Ministry tab or call the Seafarers' Centre. ***See Marg Boone***



Gathering Table

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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

Lay Readers

Frances Bennett-Sutton, Rose Jardine,
Brenda O'Neill, Jim Sutton, Kim Bienvenue,

Lay Reader in Training: Lisa Long

Rector's Warden: David Reid

Deputy Rector's Warden: Audrey Love

People's Warden: Brenda O'Neill

Deputy People's Warden: Murray Butler

Music Director: Donna Hamill

Wifi Guest Password at Gathering Table > GTGuest

Archbishop Anne's Motto for 2026

Ephesians 3: 17

“That Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith
as you are being rooted and grounded in love.”