

ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND ANGLICAN CHURCH

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4th Pentecost Sunday, June 20th, 2021

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4th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 20, 2021

11:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

OPENING HYMN

We would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of Haudenosaunee, Anishnaabeg Peoples. This territory is covered by the Upper Canada Treaties.

Celebrant: Lord, open our lips,

People: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Celebrant: O God, make speed to save us.

People: O Lord, make haste to help us.

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.

The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork. Psalm 19:1

THE PSALMS

PSALM 107:1-3, 23-32

O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever.

Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, those he redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

Some went down to the sea in ships, doing business on the mighty waters; they saw the deeds of the LORD, his wondrous works in the deep.

For he commanded and raised the stormy wind, which lifted up the waves of the sea.

They mounted up to heaven, they went down to the depths; their courage melted away in their calamity; they reeled and staggered like drunkards and were at their wits' end.

Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he brought them out from their distress; he made the storm be still, and the waves of the sea were hushed.

Then they were glad because they had quiet, and he brought them to their desired haven.

Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to humankind.

Let them extol him in the congregation of the people and praise him in the assembly of the elders.

People: 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.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

THE READINGS

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF JOB 38:1-11

Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind: "Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up your loins like a man, I will question you, and you shall declare to me. "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements--surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it?

On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone 7 when the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy? "Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb?--when I made the clouds its garment, and thick darkness its swaddling band, and prescribed bounds for it, and set bars and doors, and said, 'Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stopped'?
The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

A READING FROM SECOND BOOK OF CORINTHIANS 6:1-13

As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you." See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation!

We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute.

We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see--we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything. We have spoken frankly to you Corinthians; our heart is wide open to you. There is no restriction in our affections, but only in yours. In return--I speak as to children--open wide your hearts also.

The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO MARK 4:35-41

People: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, "Let us go across to the other side." And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are

perishing?" He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

The Gospel of Christ.

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SERMON

God of creation – fear and frailty, faith and compassion

The character Linus in the Charlie Brown comics is a theologian-philosopher who lives in constant fear and in need of constant assurance. But, at the same time, he is a key critic of Charlie Brown – the friend he looks up to. There are a number of times that Linus quotes from the book of Job, but repeatedly they revolve around points in the comics where Charlie Brown questions the nature of suffering. On one of those occasions Linus borrows from Job 38, "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements--surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it?" This rebuke by Linus is meant to put Charlie Brown in his place and to help him get perspective – Charlie Brown you are not the measure of all things.

Sometimes life smacks us up the back of the head and reminds us of our human frailty and, when we want to respond in defense of ourselves and to show that we are in control, we are brought short and reminded of our human frailty, failings, and incapacity.

The story of the disciples in the boat with Jesus is one such moment. Jesus and the disciples have been working their way through the crowds on the shores of the Lake of Galilee and Jesus suggests to them that they get in a boat to cross the lake to escape the crowd. As they are crossing the lake a windstorm comes up and batters the boat. The bit the disciples, some of whom are highly skilled boatsmen, is that Jesus is fast asleep in the back of the boat. This clearly is not all hands-on deck! They wake him up and say, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?"

This is an all too familiar response when we are in the midst of some crisis that we feel threatens our wellbeing, "Doesn't God care?" Has Jesus fallen asleep at the wheel? Has God deserted or abandoned us in our moment of greatest need? After Jesus calms the storm he asks them, ""Why are you afraid?" and then qualifies it with a further question, "Have you still no faith?"

Repeatedly in the Psalms the image of drowning is used to describe our human plight. Repeatedly the Psalmists, when feeling overwhelmed by life's circumstances or human frailty, talk of water coming over us and overwhelming us. These are people who for generations had been shepherds and who were terrified of water. And, even when they took to fishing on the shores of Lake Galilee, were terrified of the prospect of drowning. Such an experience drilled to their very core of fear and despair and brought all their human frailty and failing to the fore.

But it is in response to that experience that the Psalmists repeatedly acknowledge God's steadfast and unfailing love – *hassid* – "O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever" and remind us that God is a God of universal salvation – "Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, those he redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south." In our moments of human frailty and vulnerability the question is not one of God's faithfulness or love, but rather one of fear and lack of faith. That as human beings when we are brought up short and brought to a point where

we face our own frailty and failing we are never served well by playing that we are “masters of our own destiny” or fully in control of life’s circumstances. What we are better off doing is acknowledging our fear and, in faith, diving back into the affirming and loving embrace of God. And in doing so, acknowledging our frailty and failing and entrusting the circumstances of our life into God’s care.

People: Amen

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

THE APOSTLES’ CREED

Celebrant: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

People: 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

Intercessions and Thanksgivings

Celebrant: On this National Indigenous Day of Prayer we pray:

Celebrant: Holy Creator, in whom all things in heaven and earth have their being,
People: Have mercy on us.

Celebrant: Risen Christ, through whom the whole creation is reconciled to God,
People: Have mercy on us.

Celebrant: Life-giving Spirit, whose love and truth fills the world and searches the depths of our lives,
People: Have mercy on us.

Celebrant: Blessed Trinity, source of both unity and diversity,
People: Have mercy on us.

Celebrant: From our failure to recognize and respect the revelation of your truth and love in the First Peoples of this land, Saviour,
People: Forgive and heal us.

Celebrant: From our role in the Indian Residential Schools designed to eliminate the unique society, wisdom and beauty of the indigenous peoples of this land, Saviour,
People: Forgive and heal us.

Celebrant: From our complicit tolerance of the decimation of Indigenous family structures leaving children vulnerable to abuses of every kind, Saviour,
People: Forgive and heal us.

- Celebrant: From our continued acceptance of unjust legal, educational, health and social structures that continue to oppress and destroy the lives of many indigenous people, Saviour,
People: Forgive and heal us.
- Celebrant: O God, we pray for the gifts of your grace and your love which never gives up on us and is forever faithful. Inspire our minds with a vision of the reconciliation of your kingdom in this time and place.
People: Hear us, O Christ.
- Celebrant: Touch our eyes, that we may see the sacredness in all creation.
People: Hear us, O Christ.
- Celebrant: Touch our ears, that we may hear from every mouth of every peoples the hunger for hope and stories of refreshment.
People: Hear us, O Christ.
- Celebrant: Touch our lips, that we may speak of the beauty of every tongue and dialect proclaiming the wonderful works of God.
People: Hear us, O Christ.
- Celebrant: Touch our hearts, that we may discern your mission in which you call us to be immersed, particularly in partnership with the First Peoples of this land.
People: Hear us, O Christ.
- Celebrant: Touch our minds that we may witness to your Good News in our neighbourhoods, communities, and all parts of the world.
People: Hear us, O Christ.
- Celebrant: Touch our hands, that we may forever shun violence and embrace the work you give us to do.
People: Hear us, O Christ.
- Celebrant: Draw your Church together, O Lord, into one great company of disciples, together following our Lord Jesus Christ into every walk of life, together serving you in your mission in the world, and together witnessing to your love on every continent and island of your creation. We ask this in the name of the Risen Christ in whom we are one.
People: Amen.
- Celebrant: In partnership with other churches in Barrie we prayer for those who are homeless:
Hear our prayer today for all women and men, boys and girls who are homeless this day.
People: Spirit of love, we pray for all your people.
- Celebrant: For those sleeping under bridges, on park benches, in doorways or bus stations.
People: Spirit of mercy, hear our prayer.
- Celebrant: For those who can only find shelter for the night but must wander in the daytime.
People: Spirit of love, be their guide.
- Celebrant: For families broken because they could not afford to pay the rent.
People: Spirit of love, hear our prayer.

Celebrant: For those who have no relatives or friends who can take them in.

People: Spirit of compassion, hear our prayer.

Celebrant: For those who have no place to keep possessions that remind them who they are.

People: Spirit of love, hear our prayer.

Celebrant: For those who have been betrayed by the social safety net.

People: Spirit of love, hear our prayer.

Celebrant: For all those people, we pray that you will provide shelter, security and hope.

People: Spirit of love, hear our prayer.

Celebrant: We pray for those of us who have warm houses and comfortable beds that we not be lulled into complacency and forgetfulness.

People: Spirit of love, open our hearts that we may respond by sharing unselfishly. Help us to see your face in the eyes of every homeless person we meet so that we may be empowered, through word and deed, and through the political means, to bring justice and peace to those who are homeless. Amen.

THE COLLECT

Creator God, from you every family in heaven and earth takes its name. You have rooted and grounded us in your covenant love and empowered us by your Spirit to speak the truth in love and to walk in your way towards justice and wholeness. Mercifully grant that your people, journeying together in partnership, may be strengthened and guided to help one another to grow into the full stature of Christ, who is our light and our life.

People: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

People: 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.

DISMISSAL

Celebrant: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

NOTICES: YIMBY Sunday

Opening up for in-church worship – 4th of July, Reservations required.

BLESSING:

Celebrant: The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make his face shine on us and be gracious to us. The Lord look upon us with favour and grant us peace. **Amen.**

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

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A Litany for the Healing and Restoration of our Church From the Anglican Diocese of Rupert's Land, 2017

HOMELESS SABBATH UNIVERSAL PRAYERS <https://monarchhousing.org/wp-content/uploads/Sabbath/UCHomelessSabbathPrayers.pdf>

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Assisting Rev. Simon today:

Celebrant/Preacher: The Rev. Simon Bell
Video: Simon Bell/David Paradis

This morning in our worship we remember in our prayers those of our family and friends who have immediate needs and concerns:

Susan, Roelie, Katie & Alex Cronje, Lindsay, Scott & Sandra Reynolds; Tomkins Family; Livia & Neil Purcell; Jane & Ron Lewis; Adesh; Lee & Jeannie Martin; Cecilia Mowat; Tanya Bowskill; Sheri Scott; Audrey Moody; Wally Raymond; Christine; Kim; AJ; Dorothy & Chuck; Carl; Mark & Erin; Wendy; Adara; Jean Glionna; Brenda Jessem; Shirley; Lynda Raye; Kilravey; Rhonda; Sherrie O.; Jane Tutty; Tanya North; Brenda & Brian; Derek; Theresa & Pete; Jaxon Croft; Sean; Sophia L; Amanda Stewart; Kathryn

The names below are people in need of ongoing prayers for various reasons so we ask you to please continue to pray for them and their continuing need of God's healing touch and grace:

Bill and Ann Canning; Kevin Hamann; Michelle & Ian Sinclair; Laura Johnston; Marilyn Foley; Kadeem Broomes; Diane M.; Bill Snow; Deborah Hall; Owen; Jen Galicinski; Arlene; Joan Gough; Lorraine W; Stephanie; Fr. Murray; Marg Abbott; Jordan; Margie Mills; Eunice Merrett; Jean Wallace; Nancy Dodds; Bill & Cathy Gray; Wendy Goodyer; Donna Wilson; Garn Mennell; Gordon Kennedy; Paul & Rose McIntyre; Jim Tomkins; Do Saunders; Jefferson Jr.; June Osolin; Martin & Stephen Bertelsen; Tanya Wade-Vargas.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for:

The Diocese of Colorado (USA)

In the Toronto Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for:

The AURA – Anglican-United Refugee Alliance