

St. Matthew Anglican Church St. Thomas Anglican Church

Home Prayers A Form of Prayer for Groups or Families



A candle or candles placed on the table or in the worship area may be lit. A cross and flowers by the candle on the table is appropriate.

God's love has been poured into our hearts. **WE DWELL IN HIM AND HE IN US.**
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name; **MAKE KNOWN HIS DEEDS AMONG THE PEOPLES.**
Sing to him, sing praises to him, **AND SPEAK OF ALL HIS MARVELLOUS WORKS.**
Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God almighty; **WHO WAS AND IS AND IS TO COME!**

Opening: Let's Sing Unto the Lord **CP 417**

Let's sing unto the Lord a hymn of glad rejoicing.
Let's sing a hymn of love, joining hearts and happy voices.
God made the sky above, the stars, the sun, the oceans;
Their goodness does proclaim the glory of God's name.

Alleluia! Alleluia!
Let's sing unto the Lord. Alleluia!

Let's sing unto the Lord a hymn of adoration,
Express unto the Lord our songs of faith and hope.
Creation's broad display proclaims the work of grandeur.
The boundless love of one who blesses us with beauty.

Alleluia! Alleluia!
Let's sing unto the Lord. Alleluia!
Let's sing unto the Lord. Alleluia!

The Collect

God of eternal wisdom, **YOU ALONE IMPART THE GIFT OF DISCERNMENT: GRANT US UNDERSTANDING HEARTS, SO THAT WE MAY CHOOSE WISELY BETWEEN THE TREASURES OF YOUR PROMISED REIGN AND THIS WORLD'S COUNTERFEITS; THROUGH JESUS CHRIST, THE PEARL OF TRUE VALUE. AMEN.**

Song of Praise: Glory to God CP 702

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father, we worship you,
we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.
Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading: Jan Guretzki

Ecclesiastes 7:1-12

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes,

A good name is better than precious ointment, and the day of death, than the day of birth. It is better to go to the house of mourning than to go to the house of feasting; for this is the end of everyone, and the living will lay it to heart.

Sorrow is better than laughter, for by sadness of countenance the heart is made glad. The heart of the wise is in the house of mourning; but the heart of fools is in the house of mirth. It is better to hear the rebuke of the wise than to hear the song of fools. For like the crackling of thorns under a pot, so is the laughter of fools; this also is vanity.

Surely oppression makes the wise foolish, and a bribe corrupts the heart. Better is the end of a thing than its beginning; the patient in spirit are better than the proud in spirit. Do not be quick to anger, for anger lodges in the bosom of fools. Do not say, 'Why were the former days better than these?' For it is not from wisdom that you ask this.

Wisdom is as good as an inheritance, an advantage to those who see the sun. For the protection of wisdom is like the protection of money, and the advantage of knowledge is that wisdom gives life to the one who possesses it.

Hear what the Spirit of the Lord is saying to us today: **THANKS BE TO GOD!**

Psalm 119:129-136 Jan Guretzki

129 Your decrees are wonderful; therefore my soul keeps them.

130 THE UNFOLDING OF YOUR WORDS GIVES LIGHT; IT IMPARTS UNDERSTANDING TO THE SIMPLE.

131 With open mouth I pant, because I long for your commandments.

132 TURN TO ME AND BE GRACIOUS TO ME, AS IS YOUR CUSTOM TOWARDS THOSE WHO LOVE YOUR NAME.

133 Keep my steps steady according to your promise, and never let iniquity have dominion over me.

134 REDEEM ME FROM HUMAN OPPRESSION, THAT I MAY KEEP YOUR PRECEPTS.

135 Make your face shine upon your servant, and teach me your statutes.

136 MY EYES SHED STREAMS OF TEARS BECAUSE YOUR LAW IS NOT KEPT.

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER AND TO THE SON AND TO THE HOLY SPIRIT, AS IT WAS IN THE BEGINNING IS NOW AND EVER SHALL BE, WORLD WITHOUT END. AMEN.

Children's Talk

Fr. Allen Doerksen

Gradual: Alleluia CP 715

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!

The word of the Lord lasts forever.
What is the Word that is living?
It is brought to us through his Son Jesus Christ.

God brings the world to himself,
Now through his Christ reconciling;
He has trusted us with the news of redeeming love.

Gospel: Rev. Jennifer Burgoyne

Matthew 5:3-12

The Lord be with you: **AND ALSO WITH YOU.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew: **GLORY TO YOU, LORD JESUS CHRIST.**

'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

'Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

'Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

'Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

The Gospel of Christ. **PRAISE TO YOU, LORD JESUS CHRIST.**

Gradual: Alleluia CP 715

The Word of the Lord is alive,
The Word of God is active -
It can judge our thoughts, bring us closer to the Father.

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!

Devotional

(pause for reflections)

Fr. Allen Doerksen

Affirmation of Faith - Common Worship England

Let us declare our faith in God.

**WE BELIEVE IN GOD THE CREATOR, FROM WHOM EVERY FAMILY IN HEAVEN
AND ON EARTH HAS ITS BEING.**

**WE BELIEVE IN GOD THE WORD INCARNATE, WHO LIVES IN OUR HEARTS THROUGH FAITH,
AND FILLS US WITH HIS LOVE.**

**WE BELIEVE IN GOD THE SPIRIT OF COUNSEL AND WISDOM, WHO STRENGTHENS US
WITH POWER FROM ON HIGH.**

**WE BELIEVE IN ONE GOD, THE FATHER, THE SON AND THE HOLY SPIRIT,
NOW AND UNTIL THE AGES OF AGES. AMEN.**

Prayers of the People

Rev. Jennifer Burgoyne

Let us pray to God, the giver of all good gifts around us, by saying, "Let Your loving kindness be upon us, O Lord."

Loving God, whose foolishness is greater than human wisdom, transform your Church to proclaim the faith of Christ crucified in our generation. Have mercy on our world and those in authority who misuse their knowledge, power and wealth. Grant your people grace and confidence as they endure life in countries of conflict and unrest. **"LET YOUR LOVING KINDNESS BE UPON US, O LORD."**

Loving God, we are called to your service. May we and the whole Church be faithful in all that we do. We pray for our diocese of New Westminster, and for our parishes of St. Thomas and St. Matthew, to all clergy and ministers, that the wisdom and knowledge you have given them be used for the good of others. **"LET YOUR LOVING KINDNESS BE UPON US, O LORD."**

Loving God, as your creation provides food and drink for the needs of all life, have mercy on the hungry of the world. Where there are families in need, bring comfort. Where there is joy, give blessing. Where there is despair, give us eager hearts and ready hands to help. **"LET YOUR LOVING KINDNESS BE UPON US, O LORD."**

Loving God, in your earthly ministry you healed sickness and disease by the power of the Holy Spirit.

May your healing power come now to the sick and injured, especially to Lily, Monica, Laura, Denise, Shelly, Newland and J.D., and any others who are on our hearts and minds. Strengthen and enable all those who work to heal the sick. **“LET YOUR LOVING KINDNESS BE UPON US, O LORD.”**

Loving God, we commend to your love those who have died. May they rejoice now in the fullness of your divine love in the kingdom of heaven. **“LET YOUR LOVING KINDNESS BE UPON US, O LORD.”**

May the Lord Jesus, who by his Holy Spirit answers our every need, hear us as we call upon him in our prayers. **AMEN.**

Confession

Let us remember before God our selfish ways, the things we have done wrong, the sorrows we have caused, the love we have not shown. *Silence for reflection is kept.*

**MOST MERCIFUL FATHER, FORGIVE US OUR SINS AGAINST YOU AND AGAINST EACH OTHER.
STRENGTHEN US TO OVERCOME OUR WEAKNESSES, THAT WE MAY LIVE IN LOVE
AS YOU WOULD HAVE US LIVE, FOR THE SAKE OF JESUS CHRIST OUR SAVIOUR. AMEN.**

Fill our hearts, O God, with your Holy Spirit that we may go forth this day in peace and joy, serving you eagerly in all we do, for Jesus' sake. **AMEN.**

Offering Our Gifts to God

GRANT US, GOD, THE GRACE OF GIVING WITH A SPIRIT LARGE AND FREE. THAT OUR SELVES AND ALL OUR LIVING, WE MAY OFFER FAITHFULLY.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,
**OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN, HALLOWED BE YOUR NAME, YOUR KINGDOM COME,
YOUR WILL BE DONE, ON EARTH AS IN HEAVEN. GIVE US TODAY OUR DAILY BREAD. FORGIVE US OUR SINS AS
WE FORGIVE THOSE WHO SIN AGAINST US.
SAVE US FROM THE TIME OF TRIAL, AND DELIVER US FROM EVIL.
FOR THE KINGDOM, THE POWER, AND THE GLORY ARE YOURS, NOW AND FOREVER. AMEN.**

The Blessing

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ : and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be amongst you and remain with you always. **AMEN.**

Sending: There's a Wideness in God's Mercy CP 606

There's a wideness in God's mercy,
Like the wideness of the sea;
There's a kindness in God's justice
Which is more than liberty.

There is no place where earth's sorrows
Are more felt than up in heaven:
There is no place where earth's failings
Have such kindly judgement given.

There is plentiful redemption
In the blood that has been shed;
There is joy for all the members
In the sorrows of the Head.

Foolish hearts, why will you scatter
Like a crowd of frightened sheep?
Fainting souls, why will you wander
From a love so true and deep?

For the love of God is broader
Than the measure of our mind;
And the heart of the Eternal
Is most wonderfully kind.

The Dismissal

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD! ALLELUIA!!

"Please don't forget to check your email and/or the website for the Midweek Update put out by Fr. Allen and others on Wednesday of each week.
Please feel free to connect with him at any time during the week."

Praying with an Icon of Elijah

Rev. Denise invites you to bless an icon of Elijah with your prayerful presence. Perhaps you feel like the prophet Elijah, stuck in a desolate place, alone, separated from others and from God, hungry and aimless, looking, no longing for God to be near and provide you with what you long for during these unusual days of a global pandemic. If so, please consider the ancient spiritual practice of praying with an icon.

The icon of Elijah is set up near the baptismal font at St. Matthews. You will find a candle for you to light and place in a clay pot of sand as you begin your prayer session. You will need to sign up for a half hour session by using this link:

<https://doodle.com/poll/e7erkik53dqiyt2>

These sessions are on Mondays between 10am-1pm for now and may change based upon interest. Rev. Denise will be present at the church (St. Matthew) to ensure the safety of those who come and go to pray. Only one person (or a parent and a child) will be in the sanctuary at a time.



As you prepare for this I invite you to read the article found through this link;
<http://www.stpetersrcchurchedinburgh.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/More-praying-with-icons.pdf>

A copy of this will be made available near the icon as well. You may also like to look up all the passages you can find about Elijah! Rev. Denise will mark a bible with these passages and place it by the icon for you to briefly look at during your prayer time as well.

If you having any questions or suggestions please contact Rev. Denise at
dldoerksen.revd@gmail.com

Tuesday Evenings: Virtual Bible Study/Discussion

Join us for a weekly communal bible study/discussion group, together with St. Matthew's Anglican Church in Abbotsford. Paul Thiessen will help us to reflect on the next Sunday's lectionary texts.

The recommendation is that all participants read the assigned texts before the group meets, and ask yourself three questions:

- 1.) Is there something in any or all of these texts that troubles me?
- 2.) Is there something in these texts that encourages me?
- 3.) Is there something in these texts that confuses me or that I don't understand?

Then reflect on how the texts may or may not apply to our lives today.

We will begin each session with a short prayer. Then we will actually read the assigned texts, and after Paul gives a brief introduction to the texts, he will invite people to begin to reflect on the texts, beginning with the proposed three questions.

Next Week's Readings - August 2, 2020:

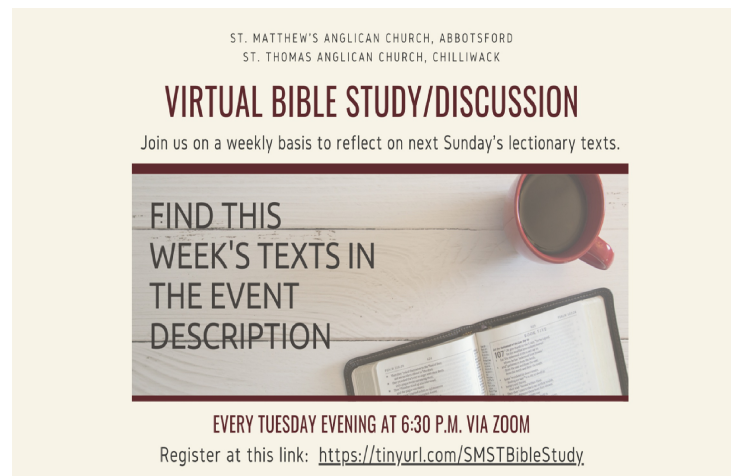
Pentecost 9A (Proper 18): Eccl 8:1-17; Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Matthew 10:16-23

Click here to register: <https://tinyurl.com/SMSTBibleStudy>

(NOTE: You only need to register once to attend all of the services.)

You can also participate in the discussion by phone:

1. Call +1-778-907-2071
2. When asked for the Meeting ID, enter 970 3194 5289
3. When asked for the password, enter 240191



Wednesday Evenings: Virtual Coffee & Compline

Join us at 8:30pm with a cup of tea or coffee to visit, and end the evening with the ancient office of Compline. Compline is a quiet, meditative service of prayers and music, meant as preparation for sleep and a peaceful night. We are exploring Compline services from various times and places around the world: This week, our service comes from the Church of Ireland, and features contemporary Christian music from the New Irish Hymnwriters. We are excited to be working together with St. Matthew's Anglican Church in Abbotsford to host this service.



Click here to register: <https://tinyurl.com/wedcompline>

(NOTE: You only need to register once to attend all of the services.)

You can also listen to the Compline service by phone:

1. Call +1-778-907-2071
2. When asked for the Meeting ID, enter 970 2480 4141
3. When asked for the password, enter 672334

Education for Ministry

Education for Ministry will be starting again in September.

It is a distance learning programme of theological education for lay people. There are four years, but participants commit for one year at a time, meeting in small groups for study and practice to aid them in discovering and nurturing their call to Christian service.

EfM helps the faithful encounter the breadth and depth of the Christian tradition and bring it into conversation with their experiences of the world as they study, worship, and engage in theological reflection together. Participants take what they learn about scripture, church history, theology, inter-faith studies and ethics into their own lives and hearts, in order to support them in living out a vibrant baptismal ministry in the church and in the world.



If you are at all interested in this course, please call Rev. Jennifer or email: deaconjen@gmail.com



Diocese of New Westminster
ANGELICAN CHURCH OF CANADA



St. Thomas
ANGELICAN CHURCH
Since 1873