

# St. John the Divine Anglican Church



Sunday September 20th, 2020

16<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost

Service of the Word

We gather on the unceded territory of Squamish Nation

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Diocese of New Westminster  
ANGELICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

*Take a deep breath.  
And again.*

***The Gathering of the Community***

Leader        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.**

Leader        Let us pray.

**All            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. Amen**

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

**All            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.**

Leader        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 forever. **Amen**

Leader        May the Peace of God be with you.

**All            And also with you.**

All things bright and beautiful,  
All creatures great and small,  
All things wise and wonderful,  
The Lord God made them all.

Each radiant flower that opens,  
Each vibrant bird that sings,  
God made their glowing colours,  
God made their lively wings.

All things bright and beautiful,  
All creatures great and small,  
All things wise and wonderful,  
The Lord God made them all.

The cold wind in the winter,  
The pleasant summer sun,  
The ripe fruits in the garden,  
God made them every one;

All things bright and beautiful,  
All creatures great and small,  
All things wise and wonderful,  
The Lord God made them all.

The rocky mountain splendour,  
The loon's wild haunting call,  
The great lakes and the prairies  
The forest in the fall.

All things bright and beautiful,  
All creatures great and small,  
All things wise and wonderful,  
The Lord God made them all.

God gave us eyes to see them,  
And lips that we might tell  
How great is the Creator,  
Who has made all things well.

All things bright and beautiful,  
All creatures great and small,

All things wise and wonderful,  
The Lord God made them all.

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### **The Collect of the Day**

Revised Common Lectionary Prayers (2002)

O God, from your providing hand even the dissatisfied and grumbling receive what they need for their lives. Teach us your ways of justice and lead us to practice your generosity, so that we may live a life worthy of the gospel made known through your Son Jesus Christ, our Saviour. Amen

### **The Proclamation of the Word**

**First Reading:** Exodus 16:2-15

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger." Then the Lord said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days." So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?" And Moses said, "When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him - what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord." Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.'" And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke to Moses and said, "I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the

Lord your God." In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat."

**Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45**

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.**

Glory in his holy name;  
**let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.**

Search for the Lord and his strength;  
**continually seek his face.**

Remember the marvels he has done,  
**his wonders and the judgements of his mouth,**

O offspring of Abraham his servant,  
**O children of Jacob his chosen.**

He led out his people with silver and gold;  
**in all their tribes there was not one that stumbled.**

Egypt was glad of their going,  
**because they were afraid of them.**

He spread out a cloud for a covering  
**and a fire to give light in the night season.**

They asked, and quails appeared,  
**and he satisfied them with bread from heaven.**

He opened the rock, and water flowed,  
**so the river ran in the dry places.**

For God remembered his holy word  
**and Abraham his servant.**

So he led forth his people with gladness,  
**his chosen with shouts of joy.**

He gave his people the lands of the nations,  
**and they took the fruit of others' toil,**

That they might keep his statutes  
**and observe his laws. Hallelujah!**

### **Second Reading** Philippians 1:21-30

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the Gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well - since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

**Acclamation:** Alleluia

*sung through 4 times*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the Gospel Acclamation. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 3/8 time signature. The melody consists of quarter notes for 'Al - le - lu - ia!' followed by eighth notes for 'Al - le - lu - ia!'. The second staff follows the same pattern, ending with a double bar line.

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### Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

Jesus said, "For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

### Sermon

## **The Apostle's Creed**

Leader            Let us confess our faith as we say,

**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. Amen**

## **The Prayers of the People**

Holy One, as we gather in prayer we place ourselves in your gentle care trusting that your presence will soothe our tired bodies and renew our wilting spirits. Confident that the love that you offer each one of us is extravagant and knows no bounds. In you we find peace for this day and hope for tomorrow.

Loving One, you have provided us with a richly abundant world that holds enough for all. Guide us we pray as we work to re-establish the balance that you



created so that all people, all nations and all of creation may have all that they need.

You call us to work in your vineyard - to reach out to others in your name, to bring your healing word, your gentle touch, and your embracing love to all people. Help us to be good workers - ones that seek the lost in the market places and village squares - ones who are unafraid to see in a stranger the image of Christ. Empower us as individuals and as a church to live your gospel message boldly, so that in meeting us - people meet you.

We pray for all who are fighting the wildfires across the globe, for all who have been evacuated, displaced, injured or died.

We pray for all who mourn the death of Ruth Bader Ginsburg, may her memory be a blessing.

We bring before you those who have asked for our prayers, remembering Jessica, Muriel, Susan, Eleanor, Lori, The Howe Sound Women's Centre, the residents of Hilltop House, the residents of Shannon Falls, the patients of Squamish General Hospital and the Elders of Squamish Nation.

We pray for the repose of the soul of Joan Millar.

We pray for Stacey Spencer as she prepares for her baptism, as well as anyone else preparing for baptism or confirmation.

In the diocese of New Westminster we pray for all who have let their name stand for the election of the new bishop.

We pray for the Mission to Seafarers – The Reverend Peter Smyth  
St. Jude Anglican Home – The Reverend Clare Morgan

Vancouver General Hospital – The Reverend Bryan Rivers ;  
The College and University Campus Ministries – The Reverend Alain-Michel  
Rocheleau ;  
The Chaplains to the Retired Clergy – The Reverend Karin Fulcher, The Reverend  
Neil Gray

Here are home we pray St. John the Divine, Squamish- The Reverend Cameron  
Gutjahr and the safe re-opening of our sanctuary.

In our community we pray for all who have been affected by the vandalism of the  
gondola.

In this time of COVID-19, we pray for all who are sick, for all who are grieving, for  
health care professionals, researchers and emergency personnel.

Compassionate One, we pray for the day when all voices and bodies will be safe and  
free and for the day when the miracle of plenty can be shared by all. In response to  
your love may we all walk gently upon the earth, in peace and in compassion while  
giving you thanks. In the name of Jesus, our teach and our friend we pray. Amen.

**Offertory Hymn:** Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

CP #565

# 501 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this bar - ren land;  
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, whence the heal - ing stream doth flow;  
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious fears sub - side;

I am weak, but thou art might - y—hold me with thy power - ful hand:  
 let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me all my jour - ney through:  
 bear me through the swell - ing cur - rent, land me safe on Ca - naan's side:

Bread of heav - en, Bread of heav - en, feed me till I want no  
 Strong De - liv - erer, strong De - liv - erer, be thou still my strength and  
 Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es I will ev - er give to

more, (want no more,) feed me till I want no more.  
 shield, (strength and shield,) be thou still my strength and shield.  
 thee, (give to thee,) I will ev - er give to thee.

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Leader            Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us,  
**All**                    **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**

Leader            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, forever and ever. Amen**

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

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**St. John the Divine Prayers for September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**The Church**

Mission to Seafarers – The Reverend Peter Smyth

St. Jude Anglican Home – The Reverend Clare Morgan

Vancouver General Hospital – The Reverend Bryan Rivers

College and University Campus Ministries – The Reverend Alain-Michel Rocheleau

Chaplains to the Retired Clergy – The Reverend Karin Fulcher, The Reverend Neil Gray

St. John the Divine, Squamish- The Reverend Cameron Gutjahr

**Immediate Prayer Requests**

Jessica, Muriel, Susan, Eleanor, Lori, The Howe Sound Women’s Centre, the residents of Hilltop House, the residents of Shannon Falls and the patients of Squamish General Hospital.

We pray for the repose of the soul of Joan Millar.

We pray for Stacey Spencer as she prepares for her baptism, as well as anyone else preparing for baptism or confirmation.

In this time of COVID-19, we pray for all who are sick, for all who are grieving, for health care professionals, researchers and emergency personnel.

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## Rector's Reflection

There is an Episcopal election coming up – on October 3, the members of synod (representatives from every congregation in the diocese of New Westminster) will, with God's help, choose a new bishop.

With this in mind, I thought it might be an appropriate time to review what the heck a bishop is anyway.

The Anglican Church, along with several other churches, recognizes 3 types of ordained ministry (this does not include the laity – the ministry of the baptized – in which we all share): deacons, priests and bishops.

Bishops are a very ancient role in the church, older perhaps even than priests. And in many traditions, including the Anglican Church, they are seen as having a special Apostolic connection and ministry – the successors of the role of the Apostles in the early Church.

Bishops hold a special ministry of oversight and unity in the Church, represented sacramentally by being the ones who perform ordinations, confirmations and the blessing of oils for baptism and healing. They lead (usually) regional groups of churches called dioceses. Many other Christian traditions have individuals or groups performing a similar ministry of unity and oversight, however, the role of bishop in Anglicanism has some unique features.

The Anglican Church is episcopally organized, which means that rather than an individual congregation, the basic unit of the Anglican Church is a bishop and diocese. The bishop is sometimes called the chief pastor, and so, I, as a priest joyfully serving with you in this place, am here representing the bishop. Whoever the bishop is, is ultimately the person I am accountable to – my “boss.” As you can probably imagine, bishops in the Anglican Church have more authority than in some other denominations.

The role and ministry of bishops is one of the things that connects us to the universal church, that stretches around the world and through the ages. Having a bishop reminds us that it is not just St. John's by ourselves – we don't have to do it alone.

Are there downsides to having bishops; to being episcopally organized? Absolutely. Are there also upsides? Of course.

In the coming weeks, please pray for the candidates who have allowed their names to be put forward for this election. Pray also for all the members of synod, that they may be open to the Spirit's leading. There's a new bishop brewing, and I'm excited!

Thanks be to God!

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