

Recorded Service of the Word
The Anglican Parish of St. Mary of the Incarnation
Serving the Community of Metchosin BC since 1862
The Rev. Aneeta Saroop

Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 24, 2020

Ringing of the church bell this week:

The Dolff/Nicholl Family

Welcome and acknowledgement of territories

Let us hold this moment open to the Spirit as we gather our hearts and minds from our homes and join as one as we prepare for worship.....

GATHERING

Hymn

Hail the Day CP 247

Shirley Roodbol

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

People: Christ is Risen indeed. Alleluia!

Celebrant May God's grace and peace be with you

People **May God fill our hearts with joy!**

Almighty God
to you all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hidden.
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant

Almighty God, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven. Mercifully give us faith to know that, as he promised, he abides with us on earth to the end of time; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen.

WORD

Acts 1:6-14

Ed Watson

In the pre-scientific world in which Jesus and the disciples lived heaven was above, the earth beneath and the land of the dead below. This belief is reflected in the story that the author of

Acts tells as he describes Jesus departure from his followers, from his disciples. Following his exit those who have been Jesus close companions during his life need to decide what to do next now that their friend, their inspiration, their guide is no longer as available to them. They are told that they can't simply stay as they are, "looking up towards heaven", but what must they do, just where should they go? For an answer to their dilemma we listen to a reading from Acts, chapter 1, verses 6-14 (Philip Wadham)

So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'

Matthias Chosen to Replace Judas

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Ed: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 68:1-10,32-35

Rachel Mitten

Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered; * let those who hate him flee before him.

Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives it away; * as the wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.

But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; * let them also be merry and joyful.

Sing to God, sing praises to his name; exalt him who rides upon the heavens; * Yahweh is his name, rejoice before him!

Father of orphans, defender of widows, * God in his holy habitation!

God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners into freedom; *but the rebels shall live in dry places.

O God, when you went forth before your people, * when you marched through the wilderness,

The earth shook, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, *at the presence of God, the God of Israel.

You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance; * you refreshed the land when it was weary.

Your people found their home in it; *in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.

Let tribute be brought out of Egypt; *let Ethiopia stretch out her hands to God.

Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; * sing praises to the Lord.

He rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens; * he sends forth his voice, his mighty voice.

Ascribe power to God; * his majesty is over Israel;his strength is in the skies.

Blessed are you, Lord God of truth and justice; you open our hearts and our mouths to pray and to praise. Guide now our feet in your holy way, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

1 Peter 4:12-14;5:6-11

Dale Morrison

At a time when a number of believers in Christ-communities were experiencing persecution, this circular letter, written at the end of the first century, encourages perseverance in what must have been very difficult circumstances. Clearly, for many believers their suffering was almost unendurable and the writer of this letter counsels them, despite this, to 'hang in there'. They are assured that the suffering they are presently undergoing will end and whatever hurt they are having through this painful time Jesus experienced it too. Just don't give that prowling lion, the devil, an opportunity to break you. Have courage and keep the faith. (Philip Wadham)

A reading from first Peter, chapter 4

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice in so far as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his

glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters throughout the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

Russ: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church

People: Thanks be to God

Gospel Alleluia!

Shirley Roodbol

The Lord be with you

Pastor Aneeta

And also with you

The Holy Gospel + According to John 17:1-11

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

'I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

The Gospel of Our Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Reflection

The Rev. Deacon Wally Eamer

THANKSGIVING

Confession and Absolution

Celebrant: Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy
God welcomes sinners and invites them to God's table.
Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.
pause
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 neighbour as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
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.**

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in eternal life:
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Confession of Faith

Hear, O Israel,

The Lord our God, the Lord is one.

Love the Lord your God

with all your heart,

with all your soul,

with all your mind,

This is the first and the greatest commandment.

The second is like it”
Love your neighbour as yourself.
There is no commandment greater than these.

Prayers of the People

Helen and Freya McArthur

Let us pray for the church and for the world.

Lord, in these challenging and uncertain times we pray for churches across the world who are seeking ways to stay connected and support each other. We pray for everyone who is sick or suffering from isolation.

Lord in your Mercy, hear our Prayer.

In Canada we pray for the leaders showing strength and resilience. We pray for continued collaboration across provinces. We thank you Lord for your creative guidance that gives us focus and purpose to stay strong.

Lord in your Mercy, hear our Prayer.

In British Columbia we pray for the frontline workers, we pray for business owners who are adapting to keep themselves and others safe whilst earning a living. We pray for the teachers who continue to demonstrate joy, kindness and enthusiasm to bring some normality to the young people of our province. Lord your spirit shines through in all the acts of good we witness.

Lord in your Mercy, hear our Prayer.

We pray for the congregation of St Mary’s and the community of Metchosin. Lord, we are blessed to have the magnificent surroundings you have created for us. We treasure each moment when we are able to reflect and absorb its beauty. We feel your presence and we are grateful. Lord in your Mercy, hear our Prayer.

We pray for Bishop John Chapman, Assistant Bishop Michael Bird, the people and clergy of the Diocese of Ottawa.

The staff of the Saskatchewan Synod.

The Anglican Diocese of Jerusalem, The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land, and for peace in the Middle East.

Logan, our Bishop, and Ansley, the diocesan administrator. St Paul, Nanaimo - Clara Plamondon. Diocese of Yukon - Bishop Lesley Wheeler-Dame.

We pray too for Judith, Kelsi, Andy, Thomas and Frank; for Willi and Gordon, Caleb, Jan, Eugene, Hariett, Janette, Bob and Rich; and for Russ, Katrina.

We give thanks for the Cue family, who leave soon to live in Nova Scotia.

For Naheed, Rahanna and their daughter.

For the neighbours, friends and family of Audrey Jenkins as they grieve her passing.

Lord in your Mercy, hear our Prayer

Lord, you are our blessing and our joy. We thank you for all the blessings of this life and for those who love us.

Thank you, God, for the world so sweet,

Thank you, God, for the food we eat,

Thank you, God, for the birds that sing,

Thank you, God, for everything. Amen

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.**

Hymn

Rejoice the Lord is King CP 379

Allison Marshall

SENDING

Announcements: Thank you for joining us in worship today. Join us every Sunday in this way for worship until we can gather in person again. We have Zoom Kids Sunday School at 10:00 am where I'll lead the children in a bible story. Join us on Wednesdays at 1pm for a social and prayer time...it's a great chance to connect and if you're new to the community, or from the Metchosin area and you're looking to connect with folks, you are welcome! Check out the website for contacts for our Zoom meetings.

Blessing for the Cue Family

On Wednesday a few of us gathered for a Farewell and Godspeed send off for the Cue Family that have been a part of our St. Marys' family for many years and who have served among us so faithfully. I would like to repeat a blessing that we send them with:

I ask you to bring to mind Kathie, Jim and Terry at this time:

Gracious God, we thank you for the work and witness of your servants Kathie, Jim and Terry who have enriched this congregation of St. Mary of the Incarnation Anglican Church and shared their gifts with their colleagues, friends, family and siblings in Christ. Now bless and preserve them at this time of transition. Day by day, guide them and give them what is needed, friends to cheer the way, and a clear vision of that to which you are now calling them. By your Holy Spirit be present in their pilgrimage, that they may travel with the one who is the way, the truth and the life, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen...

We will miss you, God with God and our love and blessing.

People of God's gracious care.....

Benediction The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord's face shine on you with grace and with mercy and the Lord + look upon you with favour and give you peace, **Amen.**

Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia!
People Thanks be to God.

**Join us next week for Sunday online worship. A link to the recording will be sent out via email along with a liturgy to follow along every week. Join us for Zoom “Children’s Chat” at 10:00 am if you’d like to join and haven’t been in contact with Scott please email him at scott.dolff@gmail.com This Wednesday join us for online Zoom drop in prayer at 1:00 pm. If you haven’t been receiving pastor Aneeta’s emails with instructions, please email (asaroop@bc.anglican.ca) or call (250-812-5965)

Next week for Pentecost Sunday – At 11am we will begin our Zoom coffee time. A virtual room to log in after worship and spend some social time together. If you haven’t tried Zoom yet, don’t be frightened! It’s the second-best thing to meeting in person. Wally or I can help you get set up.

***Thank you to Allison Marshall, Rachel Mitten, Shirley Roodbol, Dale Morrison, Philip Wadham, Helen and Freya McArthur, Wally Eamer and Ed Watson for lending their gifts in worship today. Thank you to the Dolff family for ringing the bells at St. Mary the Virgin on Wednesday to say thank you to all medical staff, first responders and front line workers serving the community during Covid -19 .*