



Order of Service for July 26, 2020  
The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost  
9:30 am  
A Service of the Word  
Officiating: The Rev'd Dr. Norman Knowles



**If God is for us, who can be against us?**

**Romans 8:31**



# A Service of the Word

## The Gathering of the Community

**Welcome and Opening Prayer**

**Opening Hymn:** Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee (screen)

**Greeting** (screen)

**Collect of the Day** (screen)

## The Proclamation of the Word

### The First Reading

The Spirit of God not only maintains this hope within us, but helps us in our present limitations. For example, we do not know how to pray worthily as children of God, but his Spirit within us is actually praying for us in those agonising longings which never find words. And God who knows the heart's secrets understands, of course, the Spirit's intention as he prays for those who love God. Moreover we know that to those who love God, who are called according to his plan, everything that happens fits into a pattern for good. God, in his foreknowledge, chose them to bear the family likeness of his Son, that he might be the eldest of a family of many brothers and sisters. He chose them long ago; when the time came he called them, he made them righteous in his sight, and then lifted them to the splendour of life as his own children. In face of all this, what is there left to say? If God is for us, who can be against us? He that did not hesitate to spare his own Son but gave him up for us all—can we not trust such a God to give us, with him, everything else that we can need? Who would dare to accuse us, whom God has chosen? The judge himself has declared us free from sin. Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us! Can anything separate us from the love of Christ? Can trouble, pain or persecution? Can lack of clothes and food, danger to life and limb, the threat of force of arms? Indeed some of us know the truth of the ancient text: 'For your sake we are killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter'. No, in all these things we win an overwhelming victory through him who has proved his love for us. I have become absolutely convinced that neither death nor life, neither messenger of Heaven nor monarch of earth, neither what happens today nor what may happen tomorrow, neither a power from on high nor a power from below, nor anything else in God's whole world has any power to separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord!

ROMANS 8:26-39

J.B. Phillips New Testament (PHILLIPS)

**Reader:** The word of the Lord.

**People:** *Thanks be to God.*

**Psalms 105: 1-11, 45c** (screen)

### The Holy Gospel

**People:** *Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

Then he put another parable before them: "the kingdom of Heaven is like a tiny grain of mustard-seed which a man took and sowed in his field. As a seed it is the smallest of them all, but it grows to be the biggest of all plants. It becomes a tree, big enough for birds to come and nest in its branches." This is another of the parables he told them: "The kingdom of Heaven is like yeast, taken by a woman and put into three measures of flour until the whole lot had risen." "Again, the kingdom of Heaven is like some treasure which has been buried in a field. A man finds it and buries it again, and goes off overjoyed to sell all his possessions to buy himself that field. "Or again, the kingdom of Heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he has found a single pearl of great value, he goes and sells all his possessions and buys it. "Or the kingdom of Heaven is like a big net thrown into the sea collecting all kinds of fish. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore and sit down and pick out the good ones for the barrels, but they throw away the bad. That is how it will be at the end of this world. The angels will go out and pick out the wicked from among the good and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be tears and bitter regret. "Have you grasped all this?" "Yes," they replied. "You can see, then," returned Jesus, "how every one who knows the Law and becomes a disciple of the kingdom of Heaven is like a householder who can produce from his store both the new and the old."

MATTHEW 13:31-33, 44-52

J.B. Phillips New Testament (PHILLIPS)

**Leader:** The Gospel of Christ.

**People:** *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

### Homily

**Affirmation of Faith** (screen)

**Confession and Absolution** (screen)

**The Peace** (screen)

**Offertory** (screen)

**Prayer over the Gifts** (screen)

## The Prayers of the People

**A Bidding Intercession** (screen)

**Prayer in Response to COVID-19** (screen)

**The Lord's Prayer** (screen)

**Closing Hymn:** Amazing Grace (screen)

**The Blessing**

**Dismissal** (screen)

**Virtual Coffee Time** (Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82286802792?pwd=Y2diczJpYWhXTjE0UzIzbHNXejAxUT09>)



# Prayers for This Week

*(bold italics indicate new or special emphasis this week)*

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray *for the team responsible for preparing the Lambeth Conference, which was due to be taking place now – please pray for them as they consider the implications of its postponement in light of the Covid-19 pandemic*

In the Anglican-Lutheran Prayer Cycle: In the Anglican Church we pray for **Bishop Jane Alexander, the clergy and people of the Diocese of Edmonton** and in the Lutheran Church we pray for **the dean, council, and congregations of the East Central Area of the Synod of Alberta and the Territories.**

In our Diocesan Cycle, we pray for the parish of **St. Luke, Blairmore (Grace Anglican United Church)**; for their incumbent **Nicky Keyworth; and for the Property Committee.**

**We lift to you our friends**, in our Companion Diocese, the Windward Islands.

In our Parish Cycle, we **pray for the safety and well-being of all members of our Parish, and pledge to stay connected with one another and face the challenges of COVID-19 together; we remember our clergy, Fergus Tyson, Cyril Haynes, Norman Knowles, Bob Mummery, and their families; and we especially uphold all who are infirm, immune-compromised, or on the front lines in this battle.**

**We pray for our foster child** Desta Keweti.

**Heavenly Father**, giver of life and health, comfort and strengthen those of our parish who are sick, injured or distressed, and those approaching or recovering from surgery, especially we lift up to you **the family of Joy (Abby's sister), the family of Barrin, Antony, Judy, Raymond (uncle of Paul), the family of John, Crystal (niece of Rosemarie), Bill & Pat, Steve, for the family of Bob, the family of Carmen, John, the family of Bonnie, Gerald, Gerald and Louise (Shannon's father and mother), Molly (mother of Sian), the family of Simon, the family of Elaine (mother of Chris), Stephen, Dwight (Dorothy-Ann's cousin), Jo, the family of Brenda (relative of the Collers), the family of Joan (mother of Richard), Tracy, Roxie and the family of Andy, Harry (friend of Ian and Kathleen), Julia, the Herritt family in their bereavement, Gael, Verna and her family, Michael, Barb, Jen, Patrick, Jordan, the family of Helen, Eleanor, Jackie K. (sister of Pauline), Lena, Dorothy, the family of Mauricia (mother of Ella), Max & Rebecca, Anne, Dozy's & Obie's family, Kathy, Kevin, Richard (friend of Anne), Terry, Jerrod, Lynne (sister of Sheila), Melissa and her family (friends of Jenn), Dennis, Mike, Val, Martin, Sheila, Melissa and her family, Adrianna, Peggy, Bob and Joanne, Laura (sister of Kim), the family of Douglas, Michelle, Ian, the family of Nina, Pat, Christine, Rick (brother of Sheila), Gwen, Jacqueline, Ellen, Pauline, Monika (mother of Dennis), Kathy (daughter of Bob & Joanne), Trudy (cousin of Iona), Len, Andrea's and Andrew's family, Margaret, Marlene and the family of James (father of Allison).**

**We pray for containment of the COVID-19 coronavirus worldwide; protection for nurses and all those on the front lines or especially vulnerable to its effects; and full restoration of health for all those who are ill.**

**We pray for** all struggling economically, and all those affected by fires, floods, storms or other natural disasters. We pray for us all to stand together in hard times.

**We pray for** peace and justice in our own country and for an end to violence throughout the world—in particular, **the violence of racism. We stand in solidarity with all whose lives have been torn apart by violence. We pray for justice for all;** safe haven for those who have fled their homes; repentance for the perpetrators of evil; and for protection and guidance for all in law enforcement or our military in danger at home or overseas. May your Holy Spirit guide world leaders to seek just resolutions to all conflicts, that all people may come to know your peace that passes all understanding and war be no more.

**We thank you** for your healing touch, which sustains us every day; **the improving health of Gerald, Barb, Gwen, and Louise;** all the many healings that have taken place in our parish; and your unending mercy as you hear our prayers.



*The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God by John McIntyre and Rhonda Trundle in thanksgiving for Mothers Marie Trundle, Dorothy McIntyre and Mary McIntyre.*