

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST ~ JULY 5, 2020
A LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR BROADCAST & LIVESTREAM

Book of Alternative Services

We acknowledge that we gather at St. John's on the traditional and unceded territory of the Algonquin Nation. Wherever you are worshiping this morning, consider the traditional land you are on and give thanks for the gift of it.

OPENING RITE

All: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

Officiant: Almighty God,

All: 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.

Officiant: Blessed is our Father, Lord of heaven and earth,

All: who has revealed these things to the simple.

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ has taught us that what we do for the least of your children we do also for him. Give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all, who gave up his life and died for us, but lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

Eliezer said, "I am Abraham's servant. The Lord has greatly blessed my master, and he has become wealthy; he has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male and female slaves, camels and donkeys. And Sarah my master's wife bore a son to my master when she was old; and he has given him all that he has. My master made me swear, saying, 'You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live; but you shall go to my father's house, to my kindred, and get a wife for my son.'

I came today to the spring, and said, 'O Lord, the God of my master Abraham, if now you will only make successful the way I am going! I am standing here by the spring of water; let the young woman who comes out to draw, to whom I shall say, "Please give me a little water from your jar to drink," and who will say to me, "Drink, and I will draw for your camels also" let her be the woman whom the Lord has appointed for my master's son.' Before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah coming out with her water jar on her shoulder; and she went down to the spring, and drew. I said to her, 'Please let me drink.' She quickly let down her jar from her shoulder, and

said, 'Drink, and I will also water your camels.' So I drank, and she also watered the camels. Then I asked her, 'Whose daughter are you?' She said, 'The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor's son, whom Milcah bore to him.' So I put the ring on her nose, and the bracelets on her arms. Then I bowed my head and worshipped the Lord, and blessed the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me by the right way to obtain the daughter of my master's kinsman for his son. Now then, if you will deal loyally and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so that I may turn either to the right hand or to the left."

And they called Rebekah, and said to her, "Will you go with this man?" She said, "I will." So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham's servant and his men. And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, "May you, our sister, become thousands of myriads; may your offspring gain possession of the gates of their foes." Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man; thus the servant took Rebekah, and went his way.

Now Isaac had come from Beer-lahai-roi, and was settled in the Negeb. Isaac went out in the evening to walk in the field; and looking up, he saw camels coming. And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel, and said to the servant, "Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?" The servant said, "It is my master." So she took her veil and covered herself. And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 45:11-18 (please join in at home and say in unison)

"Hear, O daughter; consider and listen closely; * forget your people and your father's house.

The king will have pleasure in your beauty; * he is your master; therefore do him honour.

The people of Tyre are here with a gift; * the rich among the people seek your favour."

All glorious is the princess as she enters; * her gown is cloth-of-gold.

In embroidered apparel she is brought to the king; * after her the bridesmaids follow in procession.

With joy and gladness they are brought, * and enter into the palace of the king.

"In place of fathers, O king, you shall have sons; * you shall make them princes over all the earth.

I will make your name to be remembered from one generation to another; * therefore nations will praise you for ever and ever."

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.

Second Reading *Romans 7:15-25a*

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel *Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30*

Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Jesus said, "To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, 'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.' For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon'; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds." At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Gospeller: The Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

Apostles' Creed

All: 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.

Intercessions & Thanksgiving

Let us offer our prayers to the source of all love and all life, saying, "Lord graciously hear us."

We pray to you Lord God for the body of Christ throughout the world: for Shane our bishop, all bishops, clergy and lay leaders; for all who call St. John's their spiritual home and for those who are worshiping with us today from different communities; that we may all be bright beacons of your strong, reconciling love, your endless mercy and your indestructible hope, Lord hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

We pray to you Lord God for the world: for the leaders of the nations; for areas most besieged by the pandemic; for broken places where healthcare and resources are scarce; that your wisdom and compassion will prevail, Lord hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

We pray to your Lord God for our communities: for the elderly, confined to their homes and separated from family and support; for children, removed from school; for those who have lost their source of income; for those who have no home or for whom home is not safe; for those offering extraordinary, everyday kindness; that you will uphold and sustain them, Lord hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

We pray to you Lord God for essential workers: those who are visible to the public and those who are working in areas that are harder to see, all of whom put themselves at risk in service to others; that you will protect them, Lord hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

We pray to you Lord God for those who are sick: for those afflicted with coronavirus; for those with other illnesses and conditions which leave them vulnerable; for those with poor mental health; for all who suffer; (*people are invited to name those for whom they are praying. You can type a name into the comment section of the Facebook livestream First name only please to respect privacy.*) That you would bring them healing and wholeness, Lord hear us. **Lord, graciously**

hear us.

We pray to you Lord God, for all who have died: those who died unexpectedly, those who died alone, those who have no one to remember them. We pray for families and friends who have been left behind; that they may know of your saving help, Lord hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

We pray to you Lord God, for ourselves: for our complicity and our lack of understanding in the face of racism and discrimination; for turning away from you and failing you by what we do, think or say; that you would forgive us, save us and help us, Lord hear us. **Lord graciously hear us.**

Lord God, hear the voice of our supplications and those we cannot say as we, who trust in your word and seek your face may know your peace. This we ask through your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen. **Amen.**

A Prayer of Thanksgiving:

Our Lord God, we thank you for all your blessings, for life and health, for laughter and fun, for all our powers of mind and body, for our homes and the love of dear ones, for everything that is beautiful, good and true. But above all we thank you for giving your Son to be our Saviour and Friend. May we always find our true happiness in pleasing you and helping others to know and love you.

Glory and praise to you, our Father, through Jesus your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Spirit, in the kingdom of light eternal, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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.

THE DISMISSAL

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

All: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Book of Alternative Services copyright © 1985 and Common Praise copyright © 1998 by the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada. All rights reserved. Reproduced under license from ABC Publishing, Anglican Book Centre, a ministry of the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada, from Anglican Liturgical Library. Further copying is prohibited. Readings from New Revised Standard Version Bible: Anglicized Edition, © copyright 1989, 1995, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

