

Recorded Service of the Word

Welcome to St. Mary of the Incarnation Anglican church in Metchosin. We gather to worship on the traditional territory of the Coast Salish People – The Scia'new, Beecher Bay people of the Douglas Treaty. We invite you to acknowledge the ancestral traditional lands from where you join us. Whoever you are and wherever you are on your journey of faith, welcome.....

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

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

And also with you.

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.**

Hymn CP381 Praise My Soul

Allison

Collect of the Day

Living God, in Christ you make all things new.
Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace,
and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Children's Time

The Kids, David & Wally

WORD

Dale

The book of Deuteronomy, a name that means “second law”, is concerned with reiterating to the Jewish people the covenant between themselves and God, established through the leadership of the prophet Moses. A feature of this covenant is found in the opening of the Decalogue (the ten commandments) that tells the people, “You shall have no other gods before me”. Surrounded by other

tribes and nations who had their own collection of gods the temptation for some was to break with this restriction. Here, a speech coming from the mouth of Moses tells of God's promise of a true prophet who will follow him when he is gone. But there is a dire warning for false prophets and, presumably, those who would be swayed by them. A reading from Deuteronomy chapter 18:15-20

The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." Then the Lord replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak - that prophet shall die."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church
Thanks be to God

Psalm 111

Rachel

[REFRAIN] The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

*Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation. Great are the deeds of the Lord! they are studied by all who delight in them. **R***

*His work is full of majesty and splendour, and his righteousness endures for ever. He makes his marvellous works to be remembered; the Lord is gracious and full of compassion. **R***

He gives food to those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant. He has shown his people the power of his works in giving them the lands of the nations.

R

*The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice; all his commandments are sure. They stand fast for ever and ever, because they are done in truth and equity. **R***

*He sent redemption to his people; he commanded his covenant for ever; holy and awesome is his name. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; those who act accordingly have a good understanding; his praise endures for ever. **R***

Paul is addressing a situation that has developed in the Corinthian Christ community. As in all his letters he is addressing gentiles, non-Jews. The issue is this: is it permissible for believers in Christ to continue to eat meat that has been offered to idols? Some in the community say “Yes, it’s okay”, whilst others say “Not so”. Listen in this reading from 1st Corinthians chapter 8 to Paul’s wise counsel.

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him. Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol in the world really exists," and that "there is no God but one." Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth - as in fact there are many gods and many lords - yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist. It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge.

Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. "Food will not bring us close to God." We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church
Thanks be to God

Gospel

Wally

The Lord be with you,
and also with you.

The Good News of Jesus Christ According to Mark 1:21-28
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, Jesus entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him.

They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching - with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

The Gospel of Christ.

FOCUSED REFLECTION

Hymn CP455 Dear God, Compassionate and Kind Rachel

Confession and Absolution

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.
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.**

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

Confession of Faith

Wally

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

Ruth

Lord's Prayer

Wally

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us using a version from the New Zealand Prayer Book:

**Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:
The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and for ever.
Amen.**

SENDING

Announcements:

Hymn 559 Blessed Jesus

Shirley

Benediction

Wally

The Lord bless us and keep us,
the Lords face shine on us with grace and with mercy
and the Lord look upon us with favour + and give us peace. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Be at peace, and love and serve the Lord and your neighbours. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God.