

ST Catherines
CHURCH



Artist: Johan Swanepoel

Ninth Sunday After Pentecost
July 25, 2021
10 am Service



President: Rev Sharon Smith

**Music: Rob Gloor
Melanie Hackett
Alison Watt**

Reader 1: Sharon Fedorak

Reader 2: John Luccock

Intercessor: Hugh Crosthwait

Altar Guild: Nancy Sunderland

Livestream: Armin & Gordon Lee

*As you enter the church, we invite you to light a votive candle to remember a person or situation that you carry on your heart.
Candles are also available during communion.*

Prelude

Welcome & Safety: Rev Sharon

Smith Gathering of the Community

(Adapted from Prayers Liturgy Outside (2018))

Presider: We gather today on the ancestral lands of the Coast Salish peoples, represented by the Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations who have been custodians of these lands since time immemorial.

Presider: Come with your questions,
come with your awe!

People: For the God who broods over the chaos meets us in this place.

Presider: Come with your energy,
come with your weariness!

People: For the God who breathes new life into the dust meets us in this place.

Presider: Come with your sadness, come with your joy!

People: For the God who dared to become human meets us in this place.

Gathering Hymn: For the Fruit of All Creation

For the fruit of all creation,
thanks be to God;
for the gifts of every nation,
thanks be to God;
for the ploughing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safe-keeping,
thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labour, God's
will is done;
in the help we give our neighbour,
God's will is done;
in our world-wide task of caring for
the hungry and despairing, in the
harvests we are sharing,

God's will is done.
For the harvests of the
Spirit, thanks be to God;
for the good we all
inherit, thanks be to
God;
for the wonders that astound
us, for the truths that still
confound us, most of all that
love has found us, thanks be to
God.

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

People: And also with you.

Gloria:

Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, Gloria, Alleluia, Alleluia.
Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, Gloria, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Prayer of the Day:

(Adapted from Steve Garnaas-Holmes)

Presider: Immeasurable God,

**All: Beyond our laws of
 mathematics,
 The power of your gifts
 is multiplied
 by a mystery.
 Accept these unmeasurable,
 always too small offerings of
 our lives,
 May they be more than adequate,
 with enough left over for
 everyone.
 Amen**

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading: 2 Kings 4:42-44

Today's reading is part of a larger section of 2 Kings that describes the miracles of Elisha, the successor to Elijah. Though there is not enough food to go around, Elisha trusts God, who provides enough to satisfy the need.

A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing food from the first fruits to [Elisha,] the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, "Give it to the people and let them eat." But his servant said, "How can I set this before a hundred people?" So he repeated, "Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the LORD, 'They shall eat and have some left.'" He set it before them, they ate, and had some left, according to the word of the LORD.

Reader: Let us hear what the Spirit is saying.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: 145:10-18 (*The People led
by John Luccock*)

Presider: All your works shall praise you, O LORD,
and your faithful ones shall bless you.

**People: They shall tell of the glory of your
kingdom and speak of your power,**

Presider: that all people may know of your power
and the glorious splendor of your
kingdom.

**People: Your kingdom is an everlasting
kingdom; your dominion endures
throughout all ages. You, LORD, are
faithful in all your words, and loving in
all your works.**

Presider: The Lord upholds all those who fall
and lifts up those who are bowed
down.

**People: The eyes of all wait upon you, O LORD,
and you give them their food in due
season.**

Presider: You open wide your hand and
satisfy the desire of every living
thing.

**People: You are righteous in all your
ways
and loving in all your works.**

Presider: You are near to all who call upon
you, to all who call up-on you
faithfully. Amen.



Artist: Mats Rehnman

Second Reading: Reflection on the Wheat Field



Artist: Vincent Van Goh

The Wheat Field is a series of oil paintings executed by Vincent van Gogh in Saint-Rémy-de-Provence. All of them depict the view Van Gogh had from the window of his bedroom on the top floor of the asylum: a field enclosed by stone walls just beneath his window and excluded from normal life by the rear wall of the asylum grounds; beyond this enclosure farm land, accompanied by olive groves and vineyards, ran up to the hills at the foot of the mountain range called Les Alpilles.

From May 1889 to May 1890, Van Gogh recorded this view in changing settings: after a storm, with a reaper in the field, with fresh wheat raising in autumn and with flowers in the spring.

How do you feel looking at the image?
If you had to describe the image in a sentence
or two
silently to yourself, what would you say?

If you were in the image, where would you
place yourself?

Do you get a glimpse of the sacred from this
image? Is God
speaking to you in this image?

Does a name for God arise for you from this
image?
In silence, sit with what you have received.

Reader: Let us hear what the Spirit is saying.
All: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Hymn: Here I Am, Lord

Refrain: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you need me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my
people cry.

All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will
save.

I, who made the stars of night, I will make their
darkness bright.

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I
send? *Refrain*

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my
people's pain.

I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them
hearts for love alone.

I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I
send? *Refrain*

Gospel Reading: John 6:1-21

In John's gospel, the miracles of Jesus are called "signs," because they reveal the true character of God. As such, they remain within the mystery of God and cannot be brought under human control.

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

People: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



Artist: Winslow Homer

Gospel Hymn *(continued)*

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the
poor and lame.

I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be
satisfied.

I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain

Homily – Rev Sharon Smith

Reflective silence follows

Affirmation of Faith

Presider: Moses said,

**All: Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God,
 the Lord is one.**

Presider: And Jesus affirmed:

**All: Love the Lord your God
with all your heart,
with all your soul, with all
your mind,
And with all your strength.
This is the first and the
great
commandment, the second is like it:
Love your neighbor as yourself.
There is no commandment greater
than these.**

All: Spirit of God, search our hearts.

Prayers of the People

Confession

(Adapted from the Book of Alternative Service)

Presider: Let us in silence remember our own
faults
and failings.

Reflective silence follows.

Presider: In the community of Christ's Church
and in the presence of all God's
people:

**All: We confess to God that we have
sinned in thought, word and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.**

**All: We have not loved God, cared for
God's world, or respected God's
people as we should. We own our
responsibility and pray for God's
pardon.**

Presider: May God forgive us, Christ befriend
us, and the Spirit renew and change
our lives. Amen

The Passing of the Peace

*(Iona Community Worship Book,
2017)*

Presider: Friends not an easy peace,
not a conditional peace,
not a half-hearted peace,
But the peace of the Risen
Christ be always with you.

People: And also with you

*The community, standing at our
seats, greet one another saying or
gesturing: 'Peace be with you'.*

**The Preparation of the Table:
God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending**

God, whose giving knows no ending,
from your rich and endless store
nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom,
costly cross, grave's shattered door –
gifted by you, we turn to you,
offering up ourselves in praise;
thankful song shall rise forever,
gracious Donor of our days.

Skills and time are ours for pressing,
towards the goals of Christ, your Son:
all at peace in health and freedom,
races joined, the church made one.

Now direct our daily labour,
lest we strive for self alone.
Born with talents, make us servants
fit to answer at your throne.

Treasure, too, you have entrusted,
gain through powers your grace conferred,
ours to use for home and kindred,
and to spread the gospel word.
Open wide our hands in sharing,
as we heed Christ's ageless call,
healing, teaching and reclaiming
serving you by loving all.

Invocation before communion

(By Tim Graves, Liturgy Bits)

Presider: Come to the Table.

People: We come to the Table.

Presider: Share yourselves.

People: We come to share our whole selves.

Presider: Share your gifts.

**People: We come to the Table to share our gifts,
our hurts, & our
uncertainty.**

Presider: Come. Christ calls you.

All: Amen

The Eucharistic Prayer:

(Iona Abbey Worship Book)

Presider: May God be with you

People: And also with you

Presider: Lift up your hearts

People: We lift them up

Presider: Let us give thanks to God our Creator

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise

Presider: Blessed are you O God

**All: For you have brought forth bread
from the earth.**

Presider: Blessed are you O God

**All: For you have created the fruit of
the vine.**

Presider: And so, with all our siblings,
before us and beside us,

**All: We praise you from our hearts for
your unending greatness.**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the One who comes in the name of
the Lord. Hosana in the highest.**

Presider: Among friends, gathered round a table, Jesus took bread and having blessed it, he broke the bread and gave it to his disciples, saying:
“This is my body which is given for you.’

In the same way he took wine, and having given thanks for it, he poured it out and gave it to his disciples, saying: “This cup is the new relationship with God, sealed with my blood. Take this and share it. I shall drink wine with you next in the coming Kingdom of God.”

Presider: So now, following Jesus' example.
We take this bread and this wine;
The ordinary things of the world,
through which God will bless us.
And as Jesus offered thanks for
the gifts
of the earth, let us also celebrate
God's goodness. Lord Jesus
Christ,

**All: Present with us now,
as we do in this place what you
did in an upstairs room,
breathe your Spirit upon us and
upon this bread and this wine.
That they may be heaven's food
and drink for us,
renewing, sustaining and making
us whole,
and that we may be your body
on earth, loving and caring in the
world. Amen.**

Presider: And now as our Saviour taught
us, let us pray in the language of
our hearts:



**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.**

Fraction (Breaking of Bread):

Presider: Here, in this bread and wine, may we encounter Christ who calls us to care for the poor, the earth, and all who are in need.

People: **All who long for Christ are welcome at this table.**

Invitation to the Table:

Presider: Friends, these are the gifts of
God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Communion:

*All people are welcome to receive
Communion of one kind (Wafers). Gluten
free wafer are available upon request.*

*Please wear your mask and sanitize your
hands before receiving. We ask that you
wait until you have returned to your seat
before removing your mask and
consuming
the wafer.*

*While the communion is being
administered, we respectfully ask that
you keep the silence.*

Communion Music: I Come with Joy

I come with Joy, a child of God,
forgiven, loved, and free,
the life of Jesus to recall,
In love laid down for me.

I come with Christians far and near
to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love
In Christ's communion bread.

As Christ breaks bread and bids us share,
each proud division ends.
The love that made us makes us one,
And strangers now are friends.

The Spirit of the risen Christ,
unseen but ever near,
Is in such friendship better known,
alive among us here.
Together met, together bound,
by all that God has done,
we'll go with joy, to give the world
the love that makes us one.

Prayer after Communion

Presider: God of steadfast Love,

**All: Create in us a new heart and a new vision, that the gifts of your Spirit may work in us and renew the face of the earth.
We ask this in the name of Jesus the Christ, Amen.**

Blessing:

(Adapted from Steve Garnaas-Holmes)

Presider: By the beauty of God's love,
your inner being is continually strengthened in love.

All: The body of God's love in this world is alive.

Presider: We are being rooted and grounded in love.

**All: Trust that God is at work and will accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine.
Amen**

Closing Hymn: Go to the World

Go to the world! Go into all the earth.
Go preach the cross where Christ renews
life's worth,
baptizing as the sign of our rebirth. Alleluia !

Go to the world! Go into every place.
Go live the word of God's redeeming grace.
Go see God's presence in each time and
space, Alleluia!
Go to the world! Go struggle, bless, and
pray;
The nights of tears give way to joyous day.
As servant church, you follow Christ's own
way. Alleluia!

Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,
For I am with you till the age shall end,
When all the hosts of glory cry, "Amen!"
Alleluia!

Dismissal:

Presider: In the name of the Light that
came into the world go in peace.

People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude



Artist: Jaquelyn Gleisner