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**whoever you are,  
wherever you find yourself  
on a journey of faith,  
you are welcome here.**

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11 AM SUNDAY SERVICE BULLETIN  
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
05 SEPTEMBER 2021

SEASON OF CREATION



We acknowledge the ancestral, traditional, and unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples, including the X̱məθkʷəy̍əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), and Seííwítulh (Tseilil-Waututh) Nations where we live, work, and worship.

*We welcome all and especially newcomers and visitors, whoever you are and wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith. Whenever you see this sign, + before a word or text, you are invited to make the sign of the cross.*

## **GATHERING THE COMMUNITY**

*The Celebrant will enter and kneel to pray - at this point, please move to your seats and conclude conversations quietly.*

*The Celebrant then welcomes the gathering informally and makes a territorial acknowledgment.*

### **THE GREETING**

*Celebrant* The heavens declare the glory of God.

**All** **The firmament proclaims God's handiwork.**

*Celebrant* The plants and trees show God's presence.

**All** **Let us join with creation in praising God.**

*Celebrant* God of all creation, who moves and inspires us through every time and season,

**All** **we bless you and praise you for the gift of life in your good, created world.**

*Celebrant* Grant to us grace and humility to so order our lives that we may honour you among all peoples and nations,

**All** **create wholesome and right companionship with our fellow living creatures, and work for the healing of this world that you created.**

*Celebrant* Teach us to see and hear your power in the winds and waves, mountains and valleys so that we may glorify your goodness to us and live rightly in your creation.

**All** **We pray to you through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Spirit, Three in One, One in Three, now and forever. Amen.**

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

**All** **And also with you.**

### **COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Celebrant* God our sustainer, you called forth the oceans and the islands,  
the mountains and the streams.  
Help us to remember that the fruits of the earth are enough  
to be shared amongst all peoples and creatures.  
Empowered by the Spirit,  
may we become agents of your healing love for all who share our common home.  
Through Jesus Christ our Liberator, who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever

**All** **Amen.**

### **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

*Celebrant* Let us prepare ourselves for the Word of God  
as it comes to us in the reading of Holy Scriptures.

**All** **Our hearts and minds are open.**

#### **FIRST READING**

Alejandro Huerta-Rodas

*Reader* A READING FROM THE BOOK OF PROVERBS

A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favour is better than silver or gold. The rich and the poor have this in common: the Lord is the maker of them all. Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity, and the rod of anger will fail. Those who are generous are blessed, for they share their bread with the poor. Do not rob the poor because they are poor, or crush the afflicted at the gate; for the Lord pleads their cause and despoils of life those who despoil them. PROVERBS 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**All** **Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING

Alejandro Huerta-Rodas

*Reader*     A READING FROM THE LETTER OF JAMES

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favouritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts?

Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters.

Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonoured the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you? You do well if you really fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

For the one who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. For judgement will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgement.

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead. JAMES 2:1-17

*Reader*     Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**All**         **Thanks be to God.**

## THE GOSPEL

Alejandro Huerta-Rodas

*Reader* The Lord be with you.

**All** **And also with you.**

*Reader* +The Holy Gospel of Jesus the Christ according to Mark.

**All** **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet.

Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go the demon has left your daughter."

So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone. Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly.

Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak." MARK 7:24-37

*Reader* The Gospel of Christ.

**All** **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

## SERMON

## **AFFIRMING OUR FAITH** (*The Apostles' Creed*)

*Celebrant* Let us give voice to our convictions and substance to our hopes.

**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.

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Drina Read

### **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

*Deacon* We confess our sin, and the sins of our society,  
in the misuse of God's creation.  
God our Father, we are sorry  
for the times when we have used your gifts carelessly, and acted ungratefully.  
Hear our prayer, and in your mercy:

**All** Forgive us and help us.

*Deacon* We enjoy the fruits of the harvest,  
but sometimes forget that you have given them to us.  
Father, in your mercy:

**All** Forgive us and help us.

*Deacon* We belong to a people who are full and satisfied,  
but ignore the cry of the hungry.

Father, in your mercy:

**All Forgive us and help us.**

*Deacon* We are thoughtless,  
and do not care enough for the world you have made.

Father, in your mercy:

**All Forgive us and help us.**

*Deacon* We store up goods for ourselves alone,  
as if there were no God and no heaven.

Father, in your mercy:

**All Forgive us and help us.**

*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.

**All Amen.**

## **THE PEACE**

*The Celebrant may use some appropriate introductory words.*

*Celebrant* You shall go out in joy and be led back in peace;  
the mountains and the hills before you  
shall burst into song,  
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. (Isa 55:12)

The Peace of our God, in Jesus be with us all.

**All With each other, with us all, and with all creation. Amen**

*Deacon will informally give directions.*

## CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

*The table is prepared.*

### PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

*Celebrant* Let us pray  
*The community prays in silence.*

*Celebrant* Great and holy God,  
accept our offering of labour and love.  
May we bring you true and spiritual worship  
and be one with you.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

**All** Amen.

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Celebrant* May God be with you.

**All** And also with you.

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

**All** We lift them up.

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to God our Creator.

**All** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*Celebrant* It is right in all times and in all places to thank and praise you Creator of all. We praise you here where the Fraser River meets the Salish Sea, where city and farm, wilderness and industry are side by side. We praise you at a time when the body of earth is broken again and again.

We give thanks for our place in the story of salvation. Our ancestors journeyed with you in creation and migration. They depended on the land, were displaced from the land and displaced others from their lands. They knew you in tents and cities, on mountains and by wells, in families and in dreams, and through wilderness prophets who spoke of cedars and listened to ravens.

Together with angels and ancestors, orca and salmon, bear and raven, salal and cedar we join our voices with all creation in this ancient honour song:

## **SANCTUS**

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*Celebrant* We give thanks to you for Jesus, whose first bed was a feed trough. He was baptized in the Jordan, tested in the wilderness, he traveled in fishing boats and told parables of farmers and seeds, labor and wages, yeast and bread.

On the night before he died, Jesus took bread, food of the poor, the work of field and hearth, he gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his friends saying: Take and eat, this is my body, given for you, do this to remember me.

Again after supper he took the cup of wine, fruit of the land, gave thanks and gave it to his friends saying: This is my blood, which is shed for you. When you do this, do it in memory of me.

Remembering Jesus' life, death and resurrection and awaiting his coming kingdom, we offer you this bread and this cup.

Creator, send your Spirit on these gifts so that we know Jesus in them and are gathered together with everyone who shares this sacred meal of justice and community.

Fill us with the courage and love of Jesus, that we may strive for justice and peace, respect the dignity of every human being, and safeguard the integrity of creation.

Bring us with all your saints to your commonwealth of sparrow and lily, child and beggar which is both now and yet to come.

All honour and glory are yours, Creator, Christ and Spirit, now and forever.

**All** **Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER** *(said)*

*Please use the language/version which is most helpful to you*

*Celebrant* As our Saviour taught us, let us pray.

**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.**

## **THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread.*

*Celebrant* Today, Christ meets us at the table.  
Today, salvation comes to everyone, everywhere.  
These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

**All** **Thanks be to God**

*Communion is shared at this point as possible according to local COVID-19 protocols*

## **THE INVITATION**

*Celebrant* This is the table, not of the righteous,  
but of the poor in spirit.  
It is made ready for those who love God  
and who want to love God more.

So come, you who have much faith and you who have little,  
You who have been here often  
and you who have not been for a long time or ever before,  
You who have tried to follow and all of us who have failed.

Come, not because the Church invites you;  
It is Christ who invites you to be known and fed here.

The gifts of God for the people of God

**All Thanks be to God.**

## **THE COMMUNION**

*Everyone is invited to share in the communion through receiving the bread or, if preferred, a prayer of blessing.*

## **THE CONCLUDING RITE**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*Deacon* Let us pray.

*The community prays in silence.*

*Celebrant* Father,

**All your word and sacrament give us food and life.  
May we who have shared in holy things  
bear fruit to your honour and glory,  
in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.**

*Celebrant* Glory to God,

**All whose power, working in us,  
can do infinitely more  
than we can ask or imagine.  
Glory to God from generation to generation,  
in the Church and in Christ Jesus  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **THE BLESSING**

*Celebrant* May God the Holy Spirit,  
who hovered over the waters of creation  
and formed the world from chaos,  
form us in the likeness of Christ and renew the face of the earth  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

*All* **Amen.**

## **THE DISMISSAL**

*Deacon* Tend the earth, care for God's good creation,  
and bring forth the fruits of righteousness.  
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*All* **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

### **POST SUNDAY SERVICE VIRTUAL COFFEE TIME**

<https://bit.ly/3hM6u2Z> Meeting ID: 240 454 925 Passcode: 153936