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# *18th Sunday after Pentecost*

SEPTEMBER 26, 2021

*We acknowledge that we gather on the traditional and unceded  
territory of the Halq'eméyen-speaking Coast Salish peoples*

## THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

### **Prelude**

*'Méditation' by César Franck*

### **Greeting**

*Presider*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

### **Collect for Purity**

*Presider*

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.**

### **The Hymn of Praise**

*'God of Grace and God of Glory'*

*Common Praise #577*

God of grace and God of glory,  
on your people pour your power;  
now fulfil your church's story;  
bring its bud to glorious flower.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
for the facing of this hour,  
for the facing of this hour.

Lo, the hosts of evil round us  
scorn your Christ, assail his ways.  
Fears and doubts too long have bound  
us;

free our hearts to work and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
for the living of these days,  
for the living of these days.

Cure your children's warring madness.  
Bend our pride to your control.  
Shame our wanton selfish gladness,  
rich in goods and poor in soul.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
lest we miss your kingdom's goal,  
lest we miss your kingdom's goal.

Set our feet on lofty places;  
gird our lives that they may be  
armoured with all Christ-like graces  
in the fight for liberty.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
lest we fail ourselves and thee,  
lest we fail ourselves and thee.

### **The Collect of the Day**

*Presider*

Let us pray.

*After a period of silence, the Collect is said.*

O God, pour out your Spirit over all the world and inspire every heart with knowledge and love of you. May we who confess Jesus as Lord set aside whatever obscures this faith, so that our witness to your love may shine clearly in all our days, for with him you live and reign in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

### ***The First Reading: Esther 7.1-6, 9-1; 9.20-22***

*Reader*

A reading from Esther.

So the king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, "What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled." Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have won your favour, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me — that is my petition — and the lives of my people — that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king." Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, "Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?" Esther said, "A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!" Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen.

Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, "Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high." And the king said, "Hang him on that." So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for

Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

*Reader*

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

### ***The Psalm: Psalm 124***

*Psalmist*

Hide not your face from me, O Lord.

**Hide not your face from me, O Lord.**

If the Lord had not been on our side, let Israel now say;

if the Lord had not been on our side, when enemies rose up against us;

**Hide not your face from me, O Lord.**

then would they have swallowed us up alive in their fierce anger toward us;

then would the waters have overwhelmed us and the torrent gone over us;

then would the raging waters have gone right over us.

**Hide not your face from me, O Lord.**

Blessed be the Lord who has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.

We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

Our help is in the name of the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.

**Hide not your face from me, O Lord.**

**The Second Reading: James 5.13-20**

*Reader*

A reading from the Letter of James.

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven.

Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain,

and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

*Reader*

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

**The Gradual**

*Deacon*

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Your word, O Lord, is truth;

**sanctify us in the truth.**

**Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**The Gospel: Mark 9.38-50**

*Deacon*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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

John said to him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for

us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

“For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

*Deacon*

The Gospel of Christ.

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

### **The Sermon**

### **An Affirmation of Faith**

*Deacon*

Let us affirm our faith.

**We believe and trust in God,  
the source of all being and life,  
the one for whom we exist.**

**We believe and trust in the Word,  
who took our human nature,  
died for us and rose again.**

**We believe and trust in the Spirit,  
who gives life to the people of God  
and makes Christ known in the world.**

**We believe and trust in one God:  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

### **THE PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY**

#### ***Intercessions, Petitions and Thanksgivings***

*Leader of the Prayers*

Lord of every time and place, God of integrity and truth, we pray for our country as we draw near to the end of the federal election.

*A period of silence is kept during which you are invited to offer your own intercessions, petitions and thanksgivings.*

We pray for our country and give thanks that we are able to live in wisdom and prosperity: **Author of peace,  
graciously hear us.**

We pray for the newly-elected Prime Minister and Parliament that they may make wise decisions: **Author of peace, graciously hear us.**

We pray for those who are in any need or trouble that their needs may not be forgotten: **Author of peace, graciously hear us.**

We pray for our homes and families, our schools and young people, our places of work and leisure that they be kept safe and sound: **Author of peace, graciously hear us.**

We pray for our city and metropolitan region, for band councils and villages, for our Province that they may places of trust and friendship where all our known and cared for: **Author of peace, graciously hear us.**

Loving and compassionate Creator, help us to remember that we are not people of fear but of courage, that we are not people who protect our own safety but that of our neighbours, that we are not people of greed but of generosity; through Jesus Christ our Lord who came among us as servant of all. **Amen.**

*Adapted from  
<https://stgeorges.files.wordpress.com/2020/11/the-2020-post-election-litany.pdf>*

### **The Exchange of the Peace**

*Presider*  
The peace of Christ be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

*We greet one another in the name of Christ.*

### **THE HOLY COMMUNION**

#### **The Offertory Hymn**

*'Before I Take the Body of My Lord'*

*Common Praise #610*

Before I take the body of my Lord,  
before I share his life in bread and wine,  
I recognise the sorry things within –  
these I lay down.

The words of hope I often failed to give,  
the prayers of kindness buried by my pride,  
the signs of care I argued out of sight –  
these I lay down.

The narrowness of vision and of mind,  
the need for other folk to serve my will,  
and every word and silence meant to hurt,  
these I lay down.

Of those around in whom I meet my Lord,  
I ask their pardon and I grant them mine  
that every contradiction to Christ's peace  
might be laid down.

Lord Jesus Christ, companion at this feast,  
I empty now my heart  
and stretch my hands,  
and ask to meet you here  
in bread and wine –  
which you lay down.

## **The Prayer over the Gifts**

*Presider*

Let us pray.

Eternal God, in Jesus Christ we behold your glory. Receive the offering of your people gathered before you, and open our hearts and mouths to praise your great salvation, the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **The Thanksgiving at the Table**

*Presider*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

We give you thanks and praise, almighty God, through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Redeemer. He is your living Word, through whom you have created all things.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh from the Virgin Mary and shared our human nature. He lived and died as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

In fulfilment of your will he stretched out his hands in suffering, to bring release to those who place their hope in you; and so he won for you a holy people.

He chose to bear our griefs and

sorrows, and to give us his life on the cross, that he might shatter the chains of evil and death, and banish the darkness of sin and despair. By his resurrection he brings us into the light of your presence.

Now with all creation we raise our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.

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

*Sung to Schubert, Common Praise #735*

Holy and gracious God, accept our praise, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; who on the night he was handed over to suffering and death, took bread and gave you thanks, saying, "Take, and eat: this is my body which is broken for you."

In the same way he took the cup, saying, "This is my blood which is shed for you. When you do this, you do it in memory of me."

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we offer you this bread and this cup, giving thanks that you

have made us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

We ask you to send your Holy Spirit upon the offering of your holy Church. Gather into one all who share in these sacred mysteries, filling them with the Holy Spirit and confirming their faith in the truth, that together we may praise you and give you glory through your Servant, Jesus Christ.

All glory and honour are yours, Creator of the universe and incarnate Word, with the Holy Spirit in the holy Church, now and for ever. Amen.

### ***The Lord's Prayer***

*sung to the Caribbean setting*

*Presider*

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray.

**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 for ever. Amen.**

### ***The Breaking of the Bread***

*Presider*

Jesus, Lamb of God,

**have mercy on us.**

Jesus, bearer of our sins,

**have mercy on us.**

Jesus, redeemer of the world,

give us your peace,

**give us your peace.**

### ***The Invitation to the Table***

*Presider*

To this table the Lord bids you welcome. Come whether you have much faith or little. Come whether you have been here often or have not been here long. Come whether your path has been straight or has had many turns. Come and see that the Lord is good.

These are the gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

### ***The Communion***

*If you are not physically receiving Communion, then offer this prayer.*

In union, O God, with all your faithful people gathered wherever the eucharist is celebrated this day, I offer you praise and thanksgiving for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption given to us through the life, death and resurrection of Christ, and for the means of grace and the hope of glory. I pray you come into my heart, my soul and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you. May I serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your promised reign of justice and peace; through Christ and in the unity of the Spirit. Amen.

## **Music During Communion**

*'There Is a Redeemer'*

*Renew #232*

## **THE SENDING FORTH OF THE COMMUNITY**

### ***The Prayer after Communion***

#### **Presider**

Let us pray.

Source of life, strengthen the unity of your Church, so that we who have been fed with holy things may fulfil your will in the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### ***The Doxology***

Presider

Glory to God,

**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***

Presider

May the peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of Jesus the Christ: and the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## **The Closing Hymn**

*'You Are Salt for the Earth'*

*Common Praise #502*

You are salt for the earth, O people:  
salt for the kingdom of God!

Share the flavour of life, O people:  
life in the kingdom of God!

#### *Refrain*

Bring forth the kingdom of mercy,  
bring forth the kingdom of peace;  
bring forth the kingdom of justice,  
bring forth the city of God!

You are a light on the hill, O people:  
light for the city of God!

Shine so holy and bright, O people:  
shine for the kingdom of God!

#### *Refrain*

You are a seed of the Word, O people:  
bring forth the kingdom of God!

Seeds of mercy and seeds of justice  
grow in the kingdom of God!

#### *Refrain*

We are a blest and a pilgrim people  
bound for the kingdom of God!

Love our journey and love our homeland:  
love is the kingdom of God!

#### *Refrain*

### ***The Dismissal***

Deacon

Go forth as salt for the earth. **Thanks  
be to God.**

### ***Postlude***

*'1941 Marche Joyeuse' by George Ryan*

## ***Assisting with the Service***

### *Readers*

8AM – Bob Rothwell

10AM – Bob Rothwell

### *Musician*

George Ryan

### *Presider*

The Rev. Michael Deck

### *Preacher*

The Ven. Richard Leggett

### *Deacon*

The Rev'd Carole Neilson

***The Flowers at the Altar*** are given  
with thanks to the glory of God.

***Breakfasts Served:*** 70 take-out  
burritos were given out on Saturday  
the 18th of September.

### ***Next Sunday's Readings:***

*Job 1.1; 2.1-10*

*Psalms 26*

*Hebrews 1.1-4; 2.5-12*

*Mark 10.2-16*

## **WEEKLY CALENDAR**

***September 28*** 9:30 am -- A View  
from the Vicar  
(Facebook Live)

11:00 am -- Women's  
Prayer Group

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***September 29*** 9:30 am -- Eucharist  
(Cathedral and  
Facebook Live)

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***September 30*** 9:30 am  
Thursday Thoughts  
from HTC  
(Facebook Live)

5:30 pm Vespers  
(Zoom)

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***October 2*** 11:00 am  
HTC Breakfast Club  
(Parish Hall)

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***October 3*** 8:00 am  
BCP Eucharist  
(Cathedral)

10:00 am  
Contemporary  
Eucharist  
(Cathedral and  
Livestreamed)

Coffee Hour  
(Parish Hall and  
Zoom)