ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



August 24, 2025

"Telling the truth is an act of love, an act of resistance, an act of courage. Its end is liberation, freedom, and if possible, reconciliation."

Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis (from Sojourners)

Note: We are a Scent Free Facility for the health and comfort of those with allergies. Thank you for helping us care for one another.

Welcome, Introduction & Invitation to Stillness

Presider We acknowledge that we gather on the traditional and unceded lands of the kwikwəλəm (Kwikwetlem), qicəy (Katzie), and other Coast Salish peoples.

Here, where people have prayed and sung for generations, we open our hearts to God's call today.

Opening Acclamation

Presider God calls us before we are ready.

People God knows us and gives us words of life.

Presider Christ sees the bent and broken.

People Christ sets us free to stand tall.

Presider The Spirit shakes what cannot last.

People The Spirit steadies us in God's kingdom.

Gathering Hymn - Here in This Place (CP 465)

- 1. Here in this place new light is streaming
 Now is the darkness vanished away
 See in this space our fears and our dreamings
 Brought here to you in the light of this day
 Gather us in the lost and forsaken
 Gather us in the blind and the lame
 Call to us now, and we shall awaken
 We shall arise at the sound of our name
- 2. We are the young, our lives are a mystery
 We are the old, who yearn for your face
 We have been sung throughout all of history
 Called to be light to the whole human race
 Gather us in the rich and the haughty
 Gather us in the proud and the strong
 Give us a heart so meek and so lowly
 Give us the courage to enter the song
- 3. Here we will take the wine and the water
 Here we will take the bread of new birth
 Here you shall call your sons and your daughters
 Call us anew to be salt for the earth
 Give us to drink the wine of compassion
 Give us to eat the bread that is you
 Nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
 Lives that are holy and hearts that are true
- 4. Not in the dark of building confining
 Not in some heaven, light years away
 But here in this place the new light is shining
 Now is the kingdom, now is the day
 Gather us in and hold us forever
 Gather us in and make us your own
 Gather us in, all people together
 Fire of love in our flesh and our bone

Presider God be with you.

All: And also with you.

Presider Let us pray,

Faithful God,

All you have called us by name and gathered us here.

You see us as we are and love us still.

Lift our burdens, open our hearts,

and make us ready to worship you with joy and hope,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Collect of the Day (the special prayer which 'collects' the theme of the day)

Presider God of freedom and belonging,

you know us before we are born,

you call us to live and speak with courage,

and you set us free from all that weighs us down.

Make us a people who stand tall in your grace,

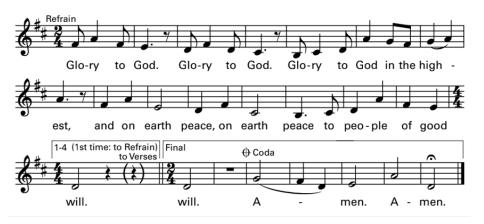
giving thanks for the kingdom that cannot be shaken,

through Jesus Christ our Liberator,

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Gloria - Glory to God - Mass of Christ the Saviour



Proclamation of the Word

The Readings

Presider Let us prepare ourselves for the Word of God as it comes

to us through the reading of the Holy Scriptures.

All Our hearts and minds are open

First Reading - Jeremiah 1:4-10

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying.

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm - Psalm 71:1-6 - From My Mother's Womb



- In you, O Lord, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame.
 In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me; incline your ear to me and save me. *Refrain*
- Be to me a rock of refuge,
 a strong fortress, to save me,
 for you are my rock and my fortress.
 Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked. *Refrain*
- For you, O Lord, are my hope, my trust, O Lord, from my youth. Upon you I have leaned from my birth; from my mother's womb you have been my strength. *Refrain*
- 4. My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of salvation all day long. O God, from my youth you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds. *Refrain*

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Second Reading - Hebrews 12:18-29

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying

All Thanks be to God

Please stand as you are able for the Gospel Reading

Gospel Acclamation



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Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

according to Luke.

All Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel - Luke 13:10-17

Reader The Gospel of Christ.

All Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily Rev. Philip Cochrane

Affirming Our Faith

Presider Together, we declare the faith that holds us and the hope that leads us.

All We believe in God, the Source of Life, by whom every being in heaven and earth is created, named, and sustained.

We believe in God, the Living Word, who restores us to relationship and speaks to us through faith.

We believe in God, the Holy Spirit, who comforts, guides, and strengthens us to share the good news of grace.

We believe in God, one, holy, undivided Trinity: Source of Life, Living Word, Comforter: Mystery. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Confession & Absolution

Presider Christ calls us children of Abraham,

yet we often live as though we do not belong. Let us bring before God the fears, doubts, and wrongdoings that weigh us down, trusting in God's mercy to lift us up.

We keep a moment of quiet for reflection

Presider God of all mercy,

All we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives.

We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created.

We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf.

Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Saviour Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

Presider Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**₁

Sharing of the Peace

Presider Jesus called the bent woman a daughter of Abraham, and Zacchaeus a son of Abraham.

In Christ, we are one family.

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

All And also with you.

The Peace is shared in the community, respecting personal boundaries

Offertory

In gratitude for all we've received, we offer of ourselves back to God. Bread, wine, and money symbolize the fruits of our labour. If you give through Pre-Authorized Donations or e-transfer (office@saintlaurence.ca), you're welcome to use a blue card to represent your offering to the glory of God.

Offertory Hymn - We Cannot Measure (CP 292)



Prayer over the Gifts

Presider Loving God,

All all that we have comes from you.

We offer these gifts of money and the work of our hands, together with our prayers and daily lives. Bless them, and use them to share your love and build your kingdom,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebration of our Sacred Meal

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider God is with you.

All And also with you.

Presider Open your hearts.

All We open them to God.

Presider Let us give thanks to God our Creator.

All We give our thanks and praise.

Presider Cosmic Artist, you made our world --- beautiful, wholesome, and good.

You made us to live in right relationship with you and all creation.

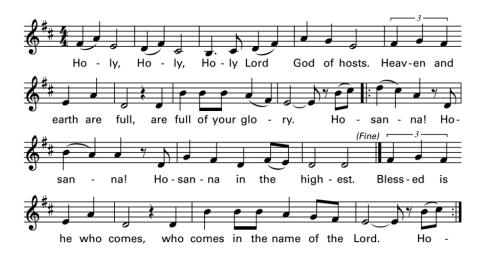
You sent Jesus to live among us and show us what you are like.

We bring our grateful, worshipping hearts to you, our awesome God.

You formed the earth and all that dwells here, the seas below and the skies above. You crafted all creatures and inspired them, animating all with your Spirit of love.

Therefore, you alone are worthy of glory, honour and praise. And so, we join with the heavenly beings and all of creation as we sing:

Sanctus - Holy - Mass of Christ the Saviour



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Presider Indeed, all glory and honour are yours, our true and loving God.

Of your grace you sent Jesus to live among us, to share our humanity and daily life, to proclaim the coming of justice and peace, and to give himself for us.

Through Jesus Christ we are reconciled to you and restored to the goodness you intended for us.

On the night before he died, Jesus ate supper with his friends.

He took bread, gave thanks, broke it and gave it to them, saying,

"Take and eat. This is my very self, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks and gave it to them, saying,

"Drink it, all of you.

This cup is a new covenant poured out for you and all people. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, we remember: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, and, longing for Christ's coming again in glory, we present these gifts to you.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts, so that we who share this bread and wine may live in your hope, seek your peace, further your joy and share your love.

Draw us together in Christ, and, in the fullness of time, gather us with all your people into the joy of your eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you, our God and Creator, and give you our unending praise. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer



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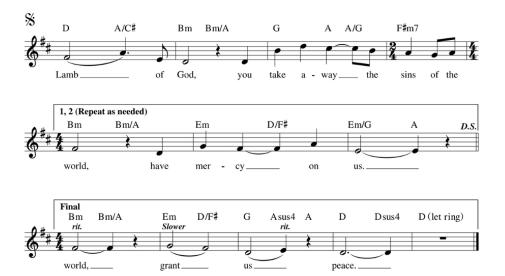
The Breaking of the Bread

The celebrant breaks the consecrated bread.

Presider We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All Though we are many, we are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

Lamb of God



Music: Mass of Christ the Savior; Dan Schutte, b. 1947, © 2007, 2009, Daniel L. Schutte. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.

The Invitation

Presider Here is the table of Jesus, where all are welcome.

Come not because you must but because you are loved.

Come, and be nourished for the journey.

Presider The gifts of God for the people of God.

All Thanks be to God.

The Distribution

At St. Laurence, everyone is invited to the table. You may receive only the bread or both bread and wine. Non-fermented grape juice is available in the ceramic chalice, and gluten-free wafers are offered—just ask at the distribution. If you prefer a blessing, simply cross your arms across your chest.

Communion Hymn - You Are the Light (OCP 635)



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Communion Hymn - In the Breaking of the Bread (S&S 369)



Text: Based on Luke 24:13–35; John 15:1–2; John 20:19–31; 1 Corinthians 12:12–13. Text and music © 2002, Timothy R. Smith. Published by OCP Publications. All rights reserved.

Moment of Silence

Take a moment to be still and know God. Let the world's noise fade as you listen for the deep stillness beneath it all. The silence begins and ends with the ringing of a bell.

Prayer after Communion

Presider God of grace,

All in this meal you renew our strength

and remind us that we belong to you. Send us out to live as people of freedom,

send us out to five as people of freet

standing tall in your love,

through Christ who sets us free. Amen.

Presider 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

Blessing

Presider May the God who formed you and knows you

call you to speak with courage.

May Christ, who names you a child of Abraham,

lift you to stand tall in freedom. May the Spirit keep you steady

in the kingdom that cannot be shaken.

And the blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer,

be with you now and always. Amen.

Closing Hymn - The Servant Song (GC 669)



Text: Richard Gillard, Music: The Servant Song, Richard Gillard, copyright 1977 Scripture in Song, Hosanna Integrity Music

Minister Go in peace, to see and to name, to lift and to free, to rejoice in God's wonderful works.

All Thanks be to God.

The flowers on the altar are given in loving memory of Jill and Henry Hightower, who were married on August 20, 1955.

With love from their family



Acknowledgements

cover - Jesus and the Bent-Over Woman By artist Barbara Schwarz OP https://margmowczko.com/jesus-and-infirmed-bent-over-woman-luke-13/

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> Office Hours: 10:00am-3:00pm (drop-in) Monday - Friday

www.saintlaurence.ca • 604-936-5423 • office@saintlaurence.ca

NEWS & NOTES

Wednesday Morning Service - 9:00 am

This service is a Bible Study and Communion all rolled into one. A great way to begin your day!

Funeral Service for Geoff Fulton

Friday, August 29, 2025 - 11:00 am Saint Laurence Anglican Church



Anglican Calendars - 2026

It's that time again...to place your order for your Anglican Calendars for 2026.

Cost: \$8.00

Please let the office know THIS WEEK if you would like to order one



A heartfelt **thank you** to everyone who made VBS such a success!

- The parish office will be closed on Monday, September 1 for the public holiday.
- Rev. Philip will be away September 2–16 inclusive.
- **Listening Forward:** Jan Taylor led parish conversations and prepared a summary. Parish Council will review it in September, and we'll share it with everyone afterwards.
- **Our Youth have safely arrived** in Saskatoon for the CLAY 2025 Gathering.
- **Interested** in gaining better self-understanding and exploring Spiritual Practices? Interested in becoming part of a potential St Laurence hub with the Centre for Spiritual Renewal? Philip is forming an exploratory team—please connect with him for details. thecentreforspiritualrenewal.org

REMINDER - We will be starting our Fall Sunday schedule on September 7, 2025 - 2 services - 9:00 am and 10:30 am