COLLECT/READINGS FOR THE 24th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
8 November 2026

Collect

Eternal God, who caused all holy scriptures to be written for our learning, grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

1st Reading – A Reading from the Book of Joshua, Chapter 24, verses 1-3a, 14-25

Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many. Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who

lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God." But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the Lord, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good." And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve the Lord!" Then Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord, to serve him." And they said, "We are witnesses." He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel." The people said to Joshua, "The Lord our God we will serve, and him we will obey." So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

Psalm 78:1-7

Refrain: Forget not the deeds of God, but keep his commandments.

Hear my teaching, O my people; incline your ears to the words of my mouth.I will open my mouth in a parable; I will declare the mysteries of ancient times. That which we have heard and known, and what our forefathers have told us, we will not hide from their children. We will recount to generations to come the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord, and the wonderful works he has done. **Refrain**

He gave his decrees to Jacob and established a law for Israel, which he commanded them to teach their children; That the generations to come might know, and the children yet unborn; that they in their turn might tell it to their children; So that they might put their trust in God, and not forget the deeds of God, but keep his commandments. **Refrain**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

2nd Reading – A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians, Chapter 4, verses 13-18

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

NOTICES

Christmas Donation Box – Hope Cottage – As in past years, we are hoping to make the lives of patrons of Hope Cottage a little brighter again this Christmas. We would like to collect at least 100 **new** winter hats (for men and women) as well as wrapped candy. Please place donations in the box provided at the back of the church until 7 December. Thank you for your continued support of this worthy cause.

Christmas Shoe Box – In keeping with our annual tradition, we are again collecting items for a **Christmas Shoe Box for the Mission to Seafarers.** Suggested items include: toothpaste, toothbrush, face soap, deodarant, disposable razors, shaving foam, writing pads, envelopes, playing cards, wool socks, scarves, gloves or mittens, warm hats, wrapped candy. Please do not wrap the box. There is a collection box at the back of the church in which to leave your donations until 7 December . Thanks for your support.

Parish YouTube Channel – As soon as we get 50 subscribers, we will be able to start broadcasting services live on YouTube.
Visit us at https://www.youtube.com/@AnglicanApostles and subscribe!

50th Anniversary Eucharist – All are warmly invited to attend a special diocesan Eucharist to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the ordination of women to the priesthood in the Anglican Church of Canada. The gathering will begin at 6:00 pm on Monday 30 November at All Saints Cathedral.

Father Jonathan Away this Week – Father Jonathan will be out of the province this week. In the event of a pastoral emergency, you can call the Rectory phone number (455-9543) to be forwarded to a neighbouring priest.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Worldwide

Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo

Our Diocese

- Pray for Veterans of the Canadian Armed Forces and the Ministry of Armed Forces Chaplains
- We remember this day the Anglican Priests who serve their country for our Diocese:
    - LCol the Rev'd Canon Dennis Newhook, CD and LCol (Ret'd) the Rev'd Canon Beverley Kean-Newhook, CD
    - LCol the Rev'd Canon Jim McCorriston, CD and the Rev'd Sr Sulin Milne
    - Maj the Rev'd Rebecca Foley, CD and Cory
    - Capt the Rev'd Maya Bevan
    - Capt the Rev'd Meghan Nicholls
    - LCol (Ret'd) the Rev'd Canon Dr. Gary Thorne, MMM, CD and Sandra
    - LCol (Ret'd) the Rev'd Canon Todd Meaker, CD and Theresa
    - LCdr (Ret'd) the Rev'd Andrew Cooke, CD and Valerie
    - LCdr (Ret'd) the Rev'd Canon Robert Parker, CD and the Right Rev'd Rachael Parker
    - Capt (Ret'd) the Rev'd Kent Greer and the Rev'd Dawn-Lea Greer
    - Capt (Ret'd) the Rev'd Leonard Bednar
    - LCdr (Ret'd) the Rev.d Canon Charles Black

Our Parish

Jim, Florence, Peggy, Roger, Nancy, Maverick, Connie, Edward, Karl, Blaine, Marie