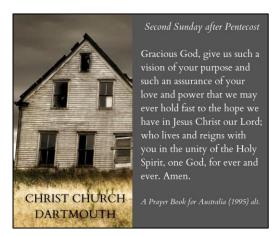




The Office of Morning Prayer from the New Zealand Prayer Book

Worship lies at the heart of the Christian life. It is in worship that we express our theology and define our identity. It is through encountering God within worship that we are formed and transformed as the people of God. One of the glories of the Anglican Church of Canada is its liturgical worship. Liturgy refers to the patterns, forms, words, and actions through which public worship is conducted.

house divided against itself cannot stand. Jesus makes this observation in light of charges that he is possessed. He is possessed, not by a demon, but by the Holy Spirit. We who have received the Holy Spirit through baptism have been joined to Christ's death and resurrection and knit together in the body of Christ. Those with whom we sing and pray this day are Jesus' family. With them we go forth in peace to do the will of God.



Territorial Acknowledgment

Ithough we have come together in this space, we each stand in place on solid ground that is the ancestral territory of peoples who were here long before the Europeans crossed the ocean. We gratefully acknowledge that we are in the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Hymn: What is this Place

Silence

Let us pray,
Loving God,
help us to live respectfully on these lands,
seeking justice and peace.
Help us to pray to you in faith,
to sing to you with gratitude,
and to listen to your word with eagerness;
so that we might follow Christ our Lord. Amen.

Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (adapted)

Great is the Lord and worthy of all praise.

Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom,
thanksgiving and honour, power and might,
be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.

Jubilate - Psalm 100 (Inclusive Language Psalter)

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands;

serve the Lord with gladness and come into the divine presence with a song.

Know this: the Lord, the Lord, is God;

the One made us is the One to whom we belong; we are God's people, the sheep of God's pasture.

Enter the gates of the Lord with thanksgiving;

go into these courts with praise; give thanks to God and call upon the name of the Lord.

For the Lord is good, whose steadfast love is everlasting; and whose faithfulness endures from age to age.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, let us praise and worship God who has called us together. Let us celebrate God's majesty, and delight in the wonder of God's love. Together we shall confess our sins and receive assurance that we are forgiven. As the scriptures are read, we can allow God's word to speak to us, and ponder its meaning for our lives. In our prayers, we give thanks for God's goodness, we pray for others as well as for ourselves, and we offer our lives anew in Christ's service. All this we do, because we believe in the presence among us of our Saviour Jesus Christ, and in the mighty power of the Holy Spirit.

The Confession

Hear these words of scripture.

If we claim to be sinless,
we are self-deceived and strangers to the truth.

If we confess our sins,
God is just and may be trusted to forgive our sins and cleanse us from every kind of wrong.

Spirit of God, search our hearts.

In silence, remember our need for God's forgiveness.

Silence

Let us confess our sins to God.

God of mercy,
we have sinned against you and against others.
We have sinned in what we have done,
and in what we have failed to do.
We are truly sorry.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for our sins,
forgive us all that is past
and raise us to newness of life. Amen.

Almighty God, who pardons all who truly repent, forgive your sins, strengthen you by the Holy Spirit, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

Amen.

The Ministry of the Word

O come, let us sing to the Lord, let us rejoice in the rock of our salvation.

We sing to you, O God, and bless your name; and tell of your salvation from day to day.

We proclaim your glory to the nations, your praise to the ends of the earth.

The Readings, Psalm, and Holy Gospel

First Reading: 1 Samuel 8:4-11, 16-20

Reading semicontinuously through 1 Samuel, we come to the story of Israel's decision to mimic their neighbors by merging their tribes into a monarchy. Israel consolidated into a monarchy in about 1050 bce. Although parts of the books of Samuel attest God's actions for and through the kings, the final redactor expresses the theological judgment that the desire for a monarch was

lack of trust in God, which then helps explain why the monarchy soon failed. The full reading includes a stunning description of the horrors of absolute monarchs. Indeed, by the time of Solomon, the king maintained a massive harem and used forced labor to construct self-aggrandizing buildings. Christians have used this passage to illustrate our problematic desire to be like our neighbors and our willingness to trust unreliable human institutions, both of which may indicate lack of faith in God. For Christians, Christ is our king: he "goes out before us and fights our battles."

hen all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah, and said to him, 'You are old and your sons do not follow in your ways; appoint for us, then, a king to govern us, like other nations.' But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, 'Give us a king to govern us.' Samuel prayed to the Lord, and the Lord said to Samuel, 'Listen to the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them. Just as they have done to me, from the day I brought them up out of Egypt to this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so also they are doing to you. Now then, listen to their voice; only—you shall solemnly warn them, and show them the ways of the king who shall reign over them.'

So Samuel reported all the words of the Lord to the people who were asking him for a king. He said, 'These will be the ways of the king who will reign over you: he will take your sons and appoint them to his chariots and to be his horsemen, and to run before his chariots; He will take your male and female slaves, and the best of your cattle and donkeys, and put them to his work. He will take one-tenth of your flocks, and you shall be his slaves. And in that day you will cry out because of your king, whom you have chosen for yourselves; but the Lord will not answer you in that day.'

But the people refused to listen to the voice of Samuel; they said, 'No! but we are determined to have a king over us, so that we also may be like other nations, and that our king may govern us and go out before us and fight our battles.'

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church The people respond: **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 138

Responding to the story of the desire for a king, we sing Psalm 138, through which we praise God as our monarch, whose name is exalted above everything. As sovereign, our God cares for the lowly, which Samuel warned that a human king would not do.

I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I will sing your praise.

I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your love and faithfulness; for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.

When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.

All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O Lord, when they have heard the words of your mouth.

They will sing of the ways of the Lord, that great is the glory of the Lord.

Though you are high, you care for the lowly; you perceive the haughty from afar.

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your mighty hand shall save me.

O Lord, you will make good your purpose for me; your love endures for ever; do not abandon the works of your hands.

Second Reading:

2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

Today's reading of 2 Corinthians hears Paul urging us, despite contemporary afflictions, to believe in Jesus, who will bring us into his presence. In worship we are already in Christ's presence. The church itself has been described as the building that God has constructed. We hope to stand, not only with the woman and the man, naked and ashamed of our sin, but also with Jesus, to the glory of God.

believed, and so I spoke"—we also believe, and so we speak, because we know that but just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—"I the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God. So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal. For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church The people respond: **Thanks be to God**

Gradual Hymn: The Servant Song

Gospel: Mark 3:20-35

What is the power upon which we rely? Mark asks us to take with utter seriousness the power of evil and to trust with all those who do the will of God that Jesus embodies the power of God. The claim that there is a sin that cannot be forgiven contrasts with other biblical passages that indicate that God will always forgive.

and the crowd came together again, so that they could not even eat. When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, "He has gone out of his mind." And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, "He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons." And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, "How can Satan cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. But no one can enter a

strong man's house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.

"Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin"— for they had said, "He has an unclean spirit."

Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, "Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you." And he replied, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" And looking at those who sat around him, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church The people respond: **Thanks be to God**

The Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, 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, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and 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.

Offertory Hymn:

Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works, and give glory to your Father in heaven. *Matthew 5.16*

Prayers of the People

Call: In the light or shadows

Response: We remember we do not walk alone.

Come to me all you who labour... In the daily rhythm of life, in this time of COVID it can feel like hard work. Jesus spoke so long ago the words that he would never leave us, he would never leave us alone. For all those who daily venture out to work, and keep our services and communities running, we give thanks. We pray for those suffering from fatigue and weariness.

Holy One, may this great love be very tangibly felt by those who are suffering with illness of the body, the spirit, the mind. Together we name those on our prayer list, and those we carry in our heart, and all those who names are unknown to us but need to know their name was spoken in prayer this day: Joan Halsey, Glen, Nancy, Les, Rick, Melba, Shelia Jollimore, Edith, Bob, Christine, Susan, Shelagh, Bev & John Zinck, Faye & Brud Thornham, Allan, Ross and Residents of the Admiral, Oakwood, Oceanview, Parkland, and all in Care Homes. We also give thanks and offer prayers for those on our <u>Christ Church Prayer Cycle</u>: Charlotte and Peter Scott, Marg Seaman, Rea and John Shaw, Sheila Clyburne and Andy Sherin, Janice and Kenny Silver

Call: In the light or shadows

Response: We remember we do not walk alone.

Come to me and I will give you rest... We give thanks for all who minister to the church. We pray for Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury, Archbishop Linda Nicholls, Primate, Archbishop David Edwards our Metropolitan, and Bishop Sandra Fyfe, our Bishop. We pray for those who work in the church and community. We give thanks and pray for Rev. Dr. Kyle our Rector, Rev. Bonnie Baird our Pastoral Visitor, our Lay Reader Vanessa Turner, Tessa Short and Joey Dowell our musicians. We pray for all their families this day.

We give thanks for the abundance of Gifts here in our beloved parish of Christ Church, as we seek to minister to the needs of all people. Today we give thanks for the volunteers of our Food Bank, and to the staff of Feed Nova Scotia, as we seek to feed the hungry, and clothe the poor.

Call: In the light or shadows

Response: We remember we do not walk alone.

Come to me all who are weary and burdened... We are tired of this road of unknowns, of strangeness that isolates us from each other and community. At this time, we recognize the devastating findings of the graves of at least 215 Indigenous Children in Kamloops BC. We stand in solidarity with our indigenous communities, and we seek justice. We pray for an end to genocide, and we recognize that this is not history but an issue we have yet to come to terms with today. We seek forgiveness and reconciliation.

We pray with minorities, where the voices blend to call for justice. Some are the voice for Creation and its protection. Yet the journey has been long and arduous, and those in power cling so tightly to that power. Those whose voices cry for justice, those whose voices have been silenced, all are weary with this burden. Thank you for those voices that continue to cry in the wilderness for the love of Jesus and the call to do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with God. Holy One, may they know their tears are not in vain.

Call: In the light or shadows

Response: We remember we do not walk alone.

Come child learn my heart, for I am gentle and lowly... Our hearts hold love, joy, grief, anger... every emotion we have been created with. They give us the ability to share, to help carry each other's burdens, to let us sing, to allow us to lament. We are called family and can learn to be gentle, humble, to carry each other with the most tender compassion.

Call: In the light or shadows

Response: We remember we do not walk alone.

See how great my love for you that I have called you my child. This immense and allencompassing love is there for every human being who was, who is and who has yet to be born., children who are loved and separated from their families by injustice - oh for deep mercy and compassion to find a way to bring them back together.

Call: In the light or shadows

Response: We remember we do not walk alone.

Come to me all you who labour
Come to me and I will give you rest
Come to me, all who are weary and burdened
And you will find rest for your souls.
Come my child learn my heart
For I am gentle and lowly,
See how great my love for you.
that I have called you, my child.

Come, come, come. Amen.

Collect of the Day

Gracious God, give us such a vision of your purpose and such an assurance of your love and power that we may ever hold fast to the hope we have in Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. A Prayer Book for Australia (1995) alt.

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us,

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.
The almighty and merciful God bless us and keep us now and for ever. Amen.

Closing Hymn: Joyful, Joyful we Adore Thee

This service is assembled from morning prayer resources found in the New Zealand Prayer book, published by the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia https://anglicanprayerbook.nz/ and adapted to fit our local context in Canada.

The Psalms are drawn from the Inclusive Language Psalter, commended for use by the Council of General Synod, March 2019 and found online at https://www.anglican.ca/wp-content/uploads/GS2016-Liturgical-Psalter-2016-05-04.pdf







Directory of Parish Officers

Rector

The Rev. Dr. Kyle Wagner, BA, MDiv, DMin

Pastoral Visitor

The Rev. Bonnie Baird, BJ, MDiv

Parish Administrator

John Gallant, BA

Music Leadership

Tessa Short, Joey Dowell, John MacDonald

Sexton

Andrew Smith

Honorary Assistants

The Rev. Canon Dr. Jody Clarke (Theologian in Residence)
The. Rev. Canon David Greenwood

Lay Reader

Vanessa Turner

Wardens

Steve Smith, Don Murray, Cathy Connors

Altar Guild

Marg Seaman

Chair of Finance

John MacDonald

Youth Ministry

The Rev. Dr. Kyle Wagner

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Carolyn Chenhall

Historical

Janice Silver

Property

Larry Graham

Anglican Church Women

ACW Isabel Creighton Unit: Lindsay Patriquin; ACW Ethel F. Stevens Unit: Carolyn Chenhall

Perpetual Care Committee

Marg Seaman

Food and Clothing Ministry

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