



12th October 2025

18th Sunday after Pentecost

Faithful & Grateful Living in Hard Places

Gratitude

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the triune God, the Creator of heaven and earth and God's ownership of all things (Psalm 24:1). In God's sovereignty, God has allowed other groups to migrate to these shores. We acknowledge the cultures of our First Nations Peoples and are thankful for the community that we share together now.

Cantor: Thank you for joining our Service today, as we celebrate the 18th Sunday in the season of Pentecost. We welcome those watching via livestream. I invite you to stand to sing our opening hymn.

Opening Hymn: How Lovely on the Mountains

How lovely on the mountains are the feet of Him
Who brings good news, good news,
Proclaiming peace,
announcing news of happiness,
Our God reigns, our God reigns!
Our God reigns, our God reigns!
Our God reigns, our God reigns!

You watchmen lift your voices joyfully as one,
Shout for your King, your King.
See eye to eye
the Lord restoring Zion:
your God reigns, your God reigns!
Your God reigns, your God reigns,
your God reigns, your God reigns!

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Minister's Welcome

As we gather together to worship, let's remember the words of Psalm 100:
We will enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise;
We will give thanks to him and praise his name.

**For the Lord is good and his love endures forever;
his faithfulness continues through all generations.**

So with grateful hearts, let's enter God's presence and worship Him because He is good.

The Sentence

What shall I return to the Lord for all his bounty to me? I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord, I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people.
(Psalm 116: 12-14)

Prayer of Approach

Assistant: Knowing the goodness of God and His generous love towards us, let us approach His throne of grace,

**Lord of the earth and everything in it, Creator of the land and sea:
cleanse our hands and purify our hearts, that we may stand in your presence and
worship you; keep us from idolatry, save us from making false promises,
that we may seek your face and receive your blessing:
for you are the Lord almighty, the king of glory –
we open the door of our hearts as you come among us. Amen.**

Minister:

Prayer of the Day

O God, you have made heaven and earth and all that is good: help us to delight in simple things and to rejoice always in the richness of your bounty; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Ministry of the Word

The first reading is God's message spoken through the prophet Jeremiah, chapter 29 verses 1, then 4-7.

¹This is the text of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the surviving elders among the exiles and to the priests, the prophets and all the other people Nebuchadnezzar had carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon.

⁴This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those I carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: ⁵"Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce.

⁶Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease. ⁷Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper."

Hear the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm for today is number 66, verses 1 - 11.

¹Shout for joy to God, all the earth!

²**Sing the glory of his name; make his praise glorious.**

³Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!

So great is your power that your enemies cringe before you.

⁴**All the earth bows down to you;**

they sing praise to you, they sing the praises of your name."

⁵Come and see what God has done, his awesome deeds for mankind!

⁶**He turned the sea into dry land,**

they passed through the waters on foot—come, let us rejoice in him.

⁷He rules forever by his power, his eyes watch the nations—
let not the rebellious rise up against him.

⁸**Praise our God, all peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard;**

⁹he has preserved our lives and kept our feet from slipping.

¹⁰**For you, God, tested us; you refined us like silver.**

¹¹You brought us into prison and laid burdens on our backs.

Glory to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,

as in the beginning, so now and forever. Amen.

The second reading is from the second book of Timothy, chapter 2 verses 8-15.

⁸Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David. This is my gospel,⁹for which I am suffering even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But God's word is not chained. ¹⁰Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.

¹¹Here is a trustworthy saying:

If we died with him, we will also live with him;

¹²if we endure, we will also reign with him.

If we disown him, he will also disown us;

¹³if we are faithless, he remains faithful, for he cannot disown himself.

¹⁴Keep reminding God's people of these things. Warn them before God against quarrelling about words; it is of no value, and only ruins those who listen. ¹⁵Do your best to present yourself to God

as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.

Hear the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Song: Let There be Peace on Earth

Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me;
Let there be peace on earth,
The peace that was meant to be
With God as our Father, Brothers all are we;
Let me walk with my brother,
In perfect harmony

Let peace begin with me,
Let this be the moment now.
With every step I take,
Let this be my solemn vow;
To take each moment and live
Each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me.

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Hearing the Gospel of our Lord

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke, chapter 17 verses 11 - 19.
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

¹¹Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus travelled along the border between Samaria and Galilee.

¹²As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance

¹³and called out in a loud voice, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!" ¹⁴When he saw them, he said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed. ¹⁵One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. ¹⁶He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷Jesus asked, "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? ¹⁸Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?" ¹⁹Then he said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well."

This is the Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

The Sermon: Faithful & Grateful Living whatever the Season

Offertory Hymn: Beauty for Brokenness

Beauty for brokenness,
hope for despair,
Lord, in the suffering,
this is our prayer.
Bread for the children,
justice, joy, peace,
sunrise to sunset
your Kingdom increase.

*God of the poor,
friend of the weak,
give us compassion we pray;
melt our cold hearts,
let tears fall like rain.
Come change our love
from a spark to a flame.*

Rest for the Ravaged earth,
oceans and streams
plundered and poisoned,
our future our dreams.
Lord, end our madness,
carelessness, greed;
make us content with
the things that we need.
God of the poor..

Shelter for fragile lives,
cures for their ills,
work for the craftsmen,
trade for their skills;
land for the dispossessed,
rights for the weak;
voices to plead the cause
of those who can't speak.

Refuge from cruel wars,
havens from fear,
cities for sanctuary
freedoms to share,
peace to the killing fields,
scorched earth to green;
Christ for the bitterness
his cross for the pain.

Lighten our darkness,
breathe on this flame
until your justice burns
brightly again;
until the nations
learn of your ways,
seek your salvation
and bring you their praise.
God of the poor...

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Giving and Offerings The minister will pray over the offerings.

The Prayer of the Week

Almighty God, in your wisdom you have so ordered our earthly life that we must walk by faith and not by sight: give us such trust in your fatherly care that in the face of all perplexities we may give proof of our faith by the courage of our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayers for the world and our community.

The intercessor on the roster will prepare prayers for:

A prayer for the world ... A prayer for all in authority ... A prayer for the church ...

A prayer for our community, and those on our prayer list ...

Let us pray together,

As we bring all our prayers before you, we ask that you go before us in all we do. Strengthen us with your kindness and help, so that everything we begin, continue, and complete may bring honour to your name. And in the end, by your mercy, bring us into everlasting life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please pray with me the prayer Jesus taught his disciples:

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.

Confession

Assistant: Confident of God's goodness and his willingness to forgive us, let us bring the confession of sins before him.

Most merciful Father,

we admit that we can't do this on our own—we need your help.

We've strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We've followed too much the desires of our own hearts,

and failed you in our thoughts, our words, and our actions.

We have left undone the good things we should have done.

Only you can save us.

Have mercy on us, forgive our sins, and teach us how to forgive others.

Grow in us the fruit of your Spirit,

so that we can live the new life you've called us to—all for your glory.

We pray this in the name of Jesus our Saviour. Amen

Assistant: Please stand to hear God's promise of forgiveness.

Promise of Forgiveness

Our holy God forgives everyone who truly turns back to him and trusts in his good news.

So we ask him to give us real repentance and the gift of his Holy Spirit, so that what we do now will bring him joy, and the way we live from here on will be pure and holy. Then, at the end, we'll share in his eternal joy—through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Greeting of Peace

We are the body of Christ. **His Spirit is with us.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Thanksgiving and Communion

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 thanks and praise.**

Loving God, we thank you for this world of wonder and delight. You have given it to us to care for, so that all your creatures may enjoy its bounty. *Lord our God,*

we give you thanks and praise.

We thank you that when we turned away from you, you sent Jesus to live and work as one of us, and bring us back to you. He showed us how to love you and set us free to love and serve one another. *Lord our God,*

we give you thanks and praise.

We thank you that on the cross Jesus took away our sin, all that keeps us from each other and from you. He frees us from hate and fear, from all that destroys love and trust. *Lord our God,*

we give you thanks and praise.

And so with everyone who believes in you, with all the saints and angels, we rejoice and praise you, saying:

**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.**

And now we thank you for these gifts of bread and wine; may we who receive them, as Jesus said, share his body and his blood.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread and gave you thanks. He broke the bread and gave it to his disciples, and said:

'Take and eat. This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper, he took the cup and gave you thanks. He shared the cup with them and said:

'This is my blood poured out so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in remembrance of me.'

Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

You have gathered us together to feed on Christ and to remember all he has done for us.

Fill us with your Spirit that we may follow Jesus in all we do and say, working for justice and bringing your peace to this world that you have made.

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Blessing and honour and glory and power are yours for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread and the Communion

We who are many are one body, **for we all share in the one bread.**

Let us draw near with faith, to feed on Christ in our hearts with thanksgiving.

Announcements: Please refer to the church newsletter for notices.

Commitment to live out our worship of the Lord

Gracious God thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the body and blood of our Saviour Jesus Christ. Thank you for assuring us of your goodness and love and that we are living members of Christ's body.

**Most loving God, by whose power we are created, and by whose love we are redeemed:
Guide and strengthen us by your Spirit that we may give ourselves to your service,
and live this day in love for one another and to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

May the love of Jesus Christ bring us wholeness, the grace of God the Father grant us peace, the breath of Holy Spirit ignite in us passion and the unity between them give us strength;

and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, **in the name of Christ. Amen.**

Closing Hymn: Lord of the Dance

I danced in the morning
when the world was begun,
And I danced in the moon
and the stars and the sun;
And I came down from heaven
and I danced on earth,
At Bethlehem I had my birth:

*Dance then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he;
And I'll lead you all wherever you may be,
And I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.*

I danced for the scribe and the pharisee,
But they would not dance
and they wouldn't follow me.
I danced for the fishermen,
for James and John they came with me
and the dance went on:

Dance then, ...

I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame:
The holy people said it was a shame.
They whipped and they stripped
and they hung me high,
And they left me there on a cross to die:

Dance then, ...

I danced on a Friday
when the sky turned black:
It's hard to dance with the devil on your back.
They buried my body
and they thought I'd gone;
But I am the dance and I still go on:

Dance then, ...

They cut me down and I leap up high,
I am the life that'll never, never die:
I'll live in you as you'll live in me:
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he:

Dance then, ...

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