



30th August 2026

14th Sunday after Pentecost

Take Up Your Cross and Follow

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 14th Sunday in the season of Pentecost. We welcome those watching via livestream. I invite you to stand to sing our opening hymn.

Opening Hymn: Lord Jesus Christ

Lord Jesus Christ, you have come to us,
you are one with us, Mary's son;
cleansing our souls from all their sin,
pouring your love and goodness in,
Jesus, our love for you we sing, living Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ, you have come to us,
born as one of us, Mary's son;
led out to die on Calvary,
risen from death to set us free,
living Lord Jesus, help us see you are Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ, now and every day
teach us how to pray, Son of God.
You have commanded us to do
this in remembrance, Lord, of you:
into our lives your power breaks through,
living Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ, I would come to you,
live my life for you, Son of God.
All your commands I know are true,
your many gifts will make me new,
into my life your power breaks through,
living Lord.

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Minister's Welcome

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honour and power,
for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.

God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth,
with our lips we will praise him, with our hearts we honour his name.

The Kingdom of God is at hand: repent, and believe in the gospel.

The Sentence

If you want to become a disciple of Jesus, deny yourself, take up your cross and follow him.
(Matthew 16: 24-25)

Prayer of Approach

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

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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.

Minister:

Prayer of the Day

O God, whose Son has shown the way of the cross to be the way of life: transform and renew our minds that we may not be conformed to this world but may offer ourselves wholly to you as a living sacrifice who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Ministry of the Word

The first reading is from the Book of Exodus, chapter 3 verses 1-15.

¹Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. ²There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. ³So Moses thought, "I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up."

⁴When the Lord saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, "Moses! Moses!" And Moses said, "Here I am."

⁵"Do not come any closer," God said. "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground." ⁶Then he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob." At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

⁷The Lord said, "I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. ⁸So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey—the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites. ⁹And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. ¹⁰So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt." ¹¹But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?"

¹²And God said, "I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain."

¹³Moses said to God, "Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' Then what shall I tell them?"

¹⁴God said to Moses, "I am who I am. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: 'I am has sent me to you.'"

¹⁵God also said to Moses, "Say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.'

"This is my name forever, the name you shall call me from generation to generation.

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

The Psalm for today is number 105, verses 1-6, then 23-26.

¹Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name;
make known among the nations what he has done.

**²Sing to him, sing praise to him;
tell of all his wonderful acts.**

³Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

**⁴Look to the Lord and his strength;
seek his face always.**

⁵Remember the wonders he has done,
his miracles, and the judgments he pronounced,

**⁶you his servants, the descendants of Abraham,
his chosen ones, the children of Jacob.**

²³Then Israel entered Egypt;
Jacob resided as a foreigner in the land of Ham.

**²⁴The Lord made his people very fruitful;
he made them too numerous for their foes,**

²⁵whose hearts he turned to hate his people,
to conspire against his servants.

**²⁶He sent Moses his servant,
and Aaron, whom he had chosen.**

Glory to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
as in the beginning, so now and forever. Amen.

The second reading is from Paul's first book to the Romans, chapter 12, verses 9-21.

⁹Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. ¹⁰Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. ¹¹Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervour, serving the Lord. ¹²Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. ¹³Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.

¹⁷Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. ¹⁸If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. ¹⁹Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. ²⁰On the contrary:

"If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink.
In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head."

²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.
Hear the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Song: Majesty

Majesty, worship His majesty;
unto Jesus be glory, honour and praise.
Majesty, kingdom, authority,
flows from His throne
unto His own, His anthem raise.

So exalt, lift up on high the name of Jesus,
magnify, come glorify,
Christ Jesus the King.
Majesty, worship His majesty~
Jesus who died, now glorified,
King of all kings.

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Hearing the Gospel of our Lord

**The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew, chapter 16 verses 21-28.
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

²¹From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

²²Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!" ²³Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns."

²⁴Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. ²⁶What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? ²⁷For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done.

²⁸"Truly I tell you, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

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

The Sermon: Rev John West will present the message

Offertory Hymn: Lord of the Church

Lord of the Church,
we pray for our renewing:
Christ over all, our undivided aim;
fire of the Spirit, burn for our enduing,
wind of the Spirit, fan the living flame!
We turn to Christ
amid our fear and failing,
the will that lacks the courage
to be free,
the weary labours, all but unavailing.
to bring us nearer what a church should be.

Lord of the Church,
we seek a Father's blessing,
a true repentance and a faith restored,
a swift obedience and a new possessing,
filled with the Holy Spirit of the Lord!
We turn to Christ

from all our restless striving,
unnumbered voices with a single prayer
the living water for our souls' reviving,
in Christ to live,
and love and serve and care.

Lord of the Church,
we long for our uniting,
true to one calling,
by one vision stirred;
one cross proclaiming and one creed reciting,
one in the truth of Jesus and His word!
So lead us on;
till toil and trouble ended,
one Church triumphant
one new song shall sing,
to praise His glory, risen and ascended,
Christ over all, the everlasting King!

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Giving and Offerings The minister will pray over the offerings.

The Prayer of the Week

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: graft in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of your great mercy keep us in the same; 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,

Please join me in praying,

Come, O Spirit of God, and make within us your dwelling place and home. May our darkness be dispelled by your light, and our troubles calmed by your peace; and may all evil be redeemed by your love, all pain transformed and healed through the suffering of Christ, and all dying glorified by his risen life. Amen.

Prayer at the time of choosing an incumbent.

Bountiful God, give to this parish a faithful pastor who will faithfully speak your word and minister your sacraments;

an encourager who will equip your people for ministry and enable us to fulfil our calling.

Give to those who will choose, wisdom, discernment and patience,

and to us give warm and generous hearts, for Jesus Christ's sake. 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.

God of mercy, we humbly admit that we need your help.

We have wandered from your way.

We have sinned in thought, word and deed,

and failed to do what is right. You alone can save us.

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

Bring forth in us the fruit of your Spirit

that we may live the new life to your glory.

This we ask in the name of Jesus our Saviour. Amen.

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

Promise of Forgiveness

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith; pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, 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.**

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,
mighty Creator, ever living God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary and lived as one of us.

By His death on the cross, and rising to new life, He offered the one true sacrifice for sin, and
obtained an eternal deliverance for His people.

From the outpouring of your Spirit at Pentecost, you continue to fill and empower your people
with love, so we may boldly proclaim your gospel to all peoples,
and serve you as a royal priesthood.

Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your
great and glorious name, for ever praising you and 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.**

Merciful God, we thank you for these gifts of bread and this wine,
and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit,
we who eat and drink them may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread; and when he had given you thanks, he broke it,
and gave it to his disciples, saying:

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

After supper, he took the cup, and again giving you thanks he gave it to his disciples saying,

'Drink from this, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant shed for you and for many.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith.

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

Therefore, we do as our Saviour has commanded;
proclaiming his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross,
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension and looking for his coming again,
we celebrate, with this bread and this cup,
his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit, unite us in the body of your Son,
and bring us with all your people into the joy of your eternal kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom and in whom,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, we worship you, Father, in songs of never-ending praise:

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.

Commitment to live out our worship of the Lord

Almighty and eternal God, may we who have received this sacrament of your Son's body and
blood worship you in all that we do, proclaim your word to those in our community, and live in
the power of your Spirit.

**Most loving God, you send us into the world you love. Give us grace to go thankfully
and with courage in the power of your Spirit.**

Announcements: Please refer to the church newsletter for notices.

The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord;
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: Jesus Put this Song Into Our Hearts

Jesus put this song into our hearts,
Jesus put this song into our hearts,
It's a song of joy no-one can take away:
Jesus put this song into our hearts.

Jesus taught us how to live in harmony,
Jesus taught us how to live in harmony;
different faces, different races, he made us one;
Jesus taught us how to live in harmony.

Jesus taught us how to be a family,
Jesus taught us how to be a family,
loving one another with the love that He gives:
Jesus taught us how to be a family.

Jesus turned our sorrow into dancing,
Jesus turned our sorrow into dancing,
changed our tears of sadness into rivers of joy:
Jesus turned our sorrow into a dance.

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