

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 on the 25th Sunday of Pentecost. We welcome those watching via livestream. I invite you to stand to sing our opening hymn.

Opening Song: This is the Day

This is the day,
this is the day that the Lord has made,
that the Lord has made.
We will rejoice,
we will rejoice and be glad in it,
and be glad in it.
This is the day that the Lord has made,
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day,
this is the day that the Lord hath made.

This is the day,
this is the day when He rose again,
when He rose again.
We will rejoice,
we will rejoice and be glad in it,
and be glad in it.

This is the day when He rose again,
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day,
this is the day when He rose again.

This is the day,
this is the day when the Spirit came,
when the Spirit came.
We will rejoice,
we will rejoice and be glad in it,
and be glad in it.
This is the day when the Spirit came,
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day,
This is the day when the Spirit came.

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Welcome and Opening Greeting

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
This is the day that the Lord has made. **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Sentence

God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other.' (1 Thessalonians 5: 9, 11)

Prayer of Approach

Let us prepare our hearts for worship,
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.

Collect of the Day

Everliving God, before the earth was formed, and even after it shall cease to be, you are God. Break into our short span of live and show us those things that are eternal, that we may serve your purpose in all we do; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in unity with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Ministry of the Word

The first reading is from the book of Zephaniah, chapter 1, verses 7 then 12 - 18.
7Stand in silence in the presence of the Sovereign Lord, for the awesome day of the Lord's judgment is near. The Lord has prepared his people for a great slaughter and has chosen their executioners.

12"I will search with lanterns in Jerusalem's darkest corners to punish those who sit complacent in their sins. They think the Lord will do nothing to them, either good or bad. **13**So their property will be plundered, their homes will be ransacked. They will build new homes but never live in them. They will plant vineyards but never drink wine from them. **14**"That terrible day of the Lord is near. Swiftly it comes—a day of bitter tears, a day when even strong men will cry out. **15**It will be a day when the Lord's anger is poured out—a day of terrible distress and anguish, a day of ruin and desolation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and blackness, **16**a day of trumpet calls and battle cries. Down go the walled cities and the strongest battlements! **17**"Because you have sinned against the Lord, I will make you grope around like the blind. Your blood will be poured into the dust, and your bodies will lie rotting on the ground." **18**Your silver and gold will not save you on that day of the Lord's anger. For the whole land will be devoured by the fire of his jealousy. He will make a terrifying end of all the people on earth.
Hear the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm of the day is number 123. We will read in alternate verse.
1I lift my eyes to you,
O God, enthroned in heaven.
2We keep looking to the Lord our God for his mercy,
just as servants keep their eyes on their master,
as a slave girl watches her mistress for the slightest signal.
3Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy,
for we have had our fill of contempt.
4We have had more than our fill of the scoffing of the proud
and the contempt of the arrogant.
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 letter to the church at Thessalonica, chapter 5 verses 1 – 11.
1Now concerning how and when all this will happen, dear brothers and sisters, we don't really need to write you. **2**For you know quite well that the day of the Lord's return will come unexpectedly, like a

thief in the night. [3]When people are saying, "Everything is peaceful and secure," then disaster will fall on them as suddenly as a pregnant woman's labour pains begin. And there will be no escape.
[4]But you aren't in the dark about these things, dear brothers and sisters, and you won't be surprised when the day of the Lord comes like a thief. [5]For you are all children of the light and of the day; we don't belong to darkness and night. [6]So be on your guard, not asleep like the others. Stay alert and be clearheaded. [7]Night is the time when people sleep and drinkers get drunk. [8]But let us who live in the light be clearheaded, protected by the armour of faith and love, and wearing as our helmet the confidence of our salvation.
[9]For God chose to save us through our Lord Jesus Christ, not to pour out his anger on us. [10]Christ died for us so that, whether we are dead or alive when he returns, we can live with him forever.
[11]So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing.
Hear the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Song: Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

Make me a channel of Your peace.
Where there is hatred
let me bring Your love;
where there is injury,
Your pardon, Lord;
and where there's doubt,
true faith in You.

O Master, grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved, as to love with all my soul.

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Make me a channel of Your peace.
Where there's despair in life
let me bring hope;
where there is darkness, only light;
and where there's sadness, ever joy.
O Master, grant that …

Make me a channel of Your peace.
It is in pardoning
that we are pardoned,
in giving of ourselves that we receive;
and in dying
that we're born to eternal life.
O Master, grant that …

The Gospel of our Lord

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew, chapter 25 verses 14 – 30.
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

[14]"Again, the Kingdom of Heaven can be illustrated by the story of a man going on a long trip. He called together his servants and entrusted his money to them while he was gone. [15]He gave five bags of silver to one, two bags of silver to another, and one bag of silver to the last—dividing it in proportion to their abilities. He then left on his trip.
[16]"The servant who received the five bags of silver began to invest the money and earned five more.
[17]The servant with two bags of silver also went to work and earned two more. [18]But the servant who received the one bag of silver dug a hole in the ground and hid the master's money.
[19]"After a long time their master returned from his trip and called them to give an account of how they had used his money. [20]The servant to whom he had entrusted the five bags of silver came forward with five more and said, 'Master, you gave me five bags of silver to invest, and I have earned five more.'
[21]"The master was full of praise. 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let's celebrate together!'
[22]"The servant who had received the two bags of silver came forward and said, 'Master, you gave me two bags of silver to invest, and I have earned two more.'
[23]"The master said, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let's celebrate together!'

24"Then the servant with the one bag of silver came and said, 'Master, I knew you were a harsh man, harvesting crops you didn't plant and gathering crops you didn't cultivate. **25**I was afraid I would lose your money, so I hid it in the earth. Look, here is your money back.'
26"But the master replied, 'You wicked and lazy servant! If you knew I harvested crops I didn't plant and gathered crops I didn't cultivate, **27**why didn't you deposit my money in the bank? At least I could have gotten some interest on it.'
28"Then he ordered, 'Take the money from this servant, and give it to the one with the ten bags of silver. **29**To those who use well what they are given, even more will be given, and they will have an abundance. But from those who do nothing, even what little they have will be taken away. **30**Now throw this useless servant into outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'
This is the Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon: Br Bill Nicolle will present the message today

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayer of the Week

Almighty God, whose sovereign purpose none can make void: give us faith to be steadfast amid the tumults of this world, knowing that your kingdom shall come and your will be done, to your eternal glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Prayers for God's broken and divided world

The intercessor on the roster will prepare prayers for:
-the world and for those in authority, the universal church, our missionaries, our community, and those on our prayer list …
Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray,
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.

The Confession

Assistant: Let us affirm our trust in God's mercy, and confess that we need forgiveness.
Lord God, you created this world, and made us in your own image,
forgive us when we turn away from you. Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
Lord God, through your Son you overcame evil and death. Rescue us from slavery to sin.
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**
Lord God, by your Spirit, you restore us to fellowship with you and with one another. Breathe your love and freedom into our lives. Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
Assistant: Please stand to hear God's promise of forgiveness.
Minister:
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 have been forgiven! We have been set free!
Therefore, we have peace with God with which to share with others.
Christ has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.
We are the body of Christ. **His Spirit is with us.**
The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Cantor: *We will now sing the Offertory Hymn.*

Offertory Song: I Will Sing the Wondrous Story

I will sing the wondrous story
of the Christ who died for me,
how he left the realms of glory
for the cross on Calvary.
Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story
of the Christ who died for me,
sing it with his saints in glory,
gathered by the crystal sea.

I was lost: but Jesus found me,
found the sheep that went astray,
raised me up and gently led me
back into the narrow way.
Days of darkness still may meet me,
sorrow's paths I oft may tread;
but his presence still is with me,
by his guiding hand I'm led.

He will keep me till the river
rolls its waters at my feet:
then he'll bear me safely over,
where the loved ones I shall meet.
Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story
of the Christ who died for me,
sing it with His saints in glory,
gathered by the crystal sea.

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Gifts and offerings

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 of his people.

Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name, forever 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 creation, this bread and 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 and eat. This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way, 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 which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

Let us proclaim the mystery of 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

As this broken bread was once many grains, which have been gathered together and made one bread: **so may your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.**

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

Commitment to live out our worship of the Lord

Heavenly Father, you are the source of all holiness: may we who have shared at his table as strangers and pilgrims on earth be welcomed with all your saints to the heavenly feast in your kingdom.

Keep us in this hope that we have grasped; so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name.

Announcements: Please refer to the church newsletter for notices

The Benediction and Blessing

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: God Has Spoken to His People

God has spoken to His people,
alleluia,
and His words are words of wisdom,
alleluia!

Open your ears, O Christian people,
open your ears and hear good news;
open your hearts, O royal priesthood,
God has come to you.
God has spoken…

They who have ears to hear His message,
they who have ears, then let them hear;
they who would learn the way of wisdom,
let them hear God's word!
God has spoken…

Israel comes to greet the Saviour,
Judah is glad to see His day;
from east and west the peoples travel,
he will show the way.
God has spoken…

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