October 25, 2020 - Order of Service

(Announcements)

Candle Lighting

We light a candle as a symbol of God's presence with us.

Opening Hymn: "The God of Abraham Praise" (CP 347)

1. **The God of Abraham praise who reigns enthroned above;**
Ancient of everlasting Days, and God of love;
Jehovah, great I AM! By earth and heaven confessed;
I bow and bless the sacred name forever blest.

2. **The great I AM has sworn; I on this oath depend.**
I shall, on eagle wings upborne, to heaven ascend.
I shall behold God's face; I shall God's power adore,
and sing the wonders of God's grace forevermore.

Opening

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.
Almighty God,
to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you 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.

Sung Gloria (CP 376)

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia! *(repeat)*

Children's Focus

Song: "Silver and Gold Have I None"

Peter and John went to pray.
They met a lame man on the way
He asked for alms and held out his palms,
And this is what Peter did say

Silver and gold have I none,
But such as I have give I thee,
In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk.

He went walking and leaping and praising God,
Walking and leaping and praising God,
In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk.

The Collect

Lord of the teasing riddle,
whose questions undo our certainty and set us on a different path:
give us a heart of passion, a searching mind, gentle strength of body and unseen depths of soul,
so that we might love you wholly and our neighbour as ourselves;
through Jesus Christ, the law of grace. Amen.

The First Reading: Deuteronomy 34:1-12 *(Barbara Herbert)*

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17 *(Don Paul)*

Lord, you have been our refuge
from one generation to another.
Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born,
from age to age you are God.
You turn us back to the dust and say,
"Go back, O child of earth."
For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past
and like a watch in the night.
You sweep us away like a dream;
we fade away suddenly like the grass.
In the morning it is green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried up and withered.
Return, O Lord; how long will you tarry?
Be gracious to your servants.
Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning;
so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.
Make us glad by the measure of the days that you afflicted us
and the years in which we suffered adversity.
Show your servants your works
and your splendour to their children.
May the graciousness of the Lord our God be upon us;
prosper the work of our hands; prosper our handiwork.
Glory to God,
Source of all being, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 *(Jim Huang)*

Gradual Hymn: "Many and Great, O God, Are Your Works" (CP 407)

1. **Many and great, O God, are your works, maker of earth and sky.**
Your hands have set the heavens with stars; your fingers spread the mountains and plains.
Lo, at your Word the waters were formed; deep seas obey your voice.

2. **Grant unto us communion with you, O star-abiding one.**
Come unto us and dwell with us; with you are found the gifts of life.
Bless us with life that has no end, eternal life in you.

The Holy Gospel *(Tony Herbert)*

May God be with you.
And also with you
The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Matthew 22:34-46

The Gospel of Christ.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Sermon: The Rev. Roberta Fraser

~ A minute of silence for reflection & prayer ~

2 Minutes for Stewardship *(Roger Farrier)*

Affirmation of Faith

You, O God, are supreme and holy.
You create our world and give us life. Your purpose overarches everything we do.
You have always been with us. You are God. You, O God, are infinitely generous, good beyond all measure. You came to us before we came to you. You have revealed and proved your love for us in Jesus Christ, who lived and died and rose again. You are with us now. You are God.
You, O God, are Holy Spirit. You empower us to be your gospel in the world.
You reconcile and heal; you overcome death. You are our God. We worship you.

Prayers of the People *(Rachel Eaton)*

The Confession & Absolution

Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy, welcoming sinners and inviting us to share the abundance of divine love. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

(short silence for reflection)

Most merciful God, **we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

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

(Please un-mute your own mic to share in greeting one another with a blessing of peace)

The Offering

With grateful hearts, let us give what we have. With joyful hope, let us give for what can be.

~A moment of silence to reflect on your gratitude for what you have received or to make your weekly pledge online.~

Offertory Hymn: "Seek Ye First" (CP 458)

1. **Seek ye first the kingdom of God and God's righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Allelu, alleluia.**

2. **Ask and it shall be given unto you; seek and you shall find;
knock and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Allelu, alleluia.**

Blessing Over the Gifts

Abundant God, **you made us in your image and breathed in us a spirit of generosity that is both gift and response. Move us, we pray, to give as we have received — abundantly, generously, and joyfully that our common ministry may ever bear witness to your unfailing grace.
In the name of the Three in whom we are One, Amen.**

The Lord`s Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, let us 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 for ever. Amen.**

Glory to God, **whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.
Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever.
Amen.**

The Blessing

Closing Hymn: "Let Streams of Living Justice" (CP 575)

1. **Let streams of living justice flow down upon the earth;
give freedom's light to captives, let all the poor have worth.
The hungry's hands are pleading, the workers claim their rights,
the mourners long for laughter, the blinded seek for sight.
Make liberty a beacon, strike down the iron power;
abolish ancient vengeance: proclaim your people's hour.**

3. **Your city's built to music; we are the stones you seek;
your harmony is language: we are the words you speak.
Our faith we find in service, our hope in other's dreams,
our love in hand of neighbour: our homeland brightly gleams.
Inscribe our hearts with justice; your way - the path untried;
your truth - the heart of stranger; your life - the Crucified.**

The Dismissal *(Tony Herbert)*

Go into the world in peace, loving and serving God in all you do. **Thanks be to God.**