St. John the Divine Anglican Church



Sunday October 25th, 2020 21st after Pentecost Service of the Word

We gather on the unceded territory of Squamish Nation

www.squamishanglicanchurch.ca info@squamishanglicanchurch.ca 1930 Diamond Road, Squamish

Phone number: 604-898-5100



Take a deep breath. And again.

The Gathering of the Community

Leader The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,

and the love of God,

and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit

be with you all

All: And also with you.

Leader Let us pray.

All We thank you, O God, that you have again brought us together on the Lord's

Day to praise you for your goodness and to ask your blessing.

Give us grace to see your hand in the week that is past,

and your purpose in the week to come; through Christ our Lord. Amen

Leader Dear friends in Christ,

as we turn our hearts and minds

to worship almighty God, let us confess our sins.

All 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.

Leader Merciful God, grant to your faithful people pardon and peace,

that we may be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with a quiet mind;

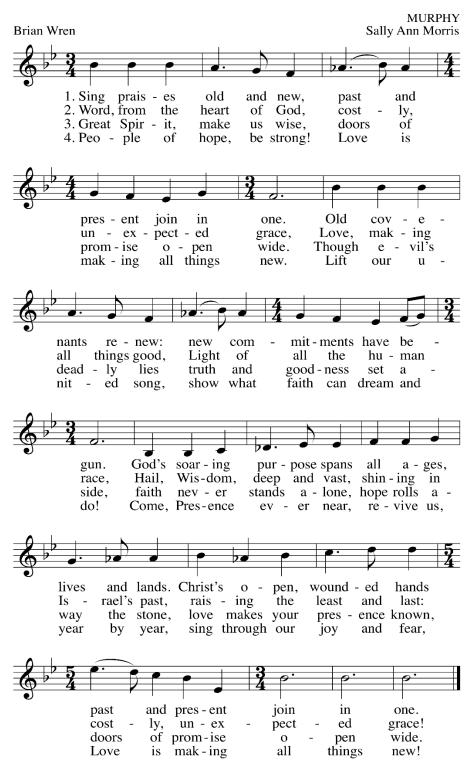
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you

and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Leader May the Peace of God be with you.

All And also with you.

SING PRAISES OLD AND NEW



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The Collect of the Day

Opening Prayers (1997) alt.

Your love, O God, is boundless. We who were strangers have been made your children; we who were defenceless have been brought into your household. Keep us mindful of your mercy, so that we may love you with our whole heart and love our neighbour as ourselves. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading: Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the Lord showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, the Negeb, and the Plain that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees as far as Zoar. The Lord said to him, "This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, 'I will give it to your descendants'; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there." Then Moses, the servant of the Lord, died there in the land of Moab, at the Lord's command. He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Bethpeor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. Moses was one hundred twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigour had not abated. The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended. Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on him; and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the Lord had commanded Moses. Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face. He was unequalled for all the signs and wonders that the Lord sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

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.

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also

our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

Acclamation: Ev'ry Day Is a Day of Thanksgiving More Voices #185

Ev'ry day is a day of thanksgiving.

God, you've been so good to me.

Ev'ry day you're blessing me.

Ev'ry day is a day of thanksgiving.

I will glorify you, O my Lord, today!

You keep blessing me, blessing me, blessing me.

You opened the door that I might see, you're blessing me.

And you keep blessing me, blessing me, blessing me.

I will glorify you, O my Lord, today!

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Gospel: Matthew 22:36-46

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet"'? If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

Sermon

The Apostle's Creed

Leader Let us confess our faith as we say,

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

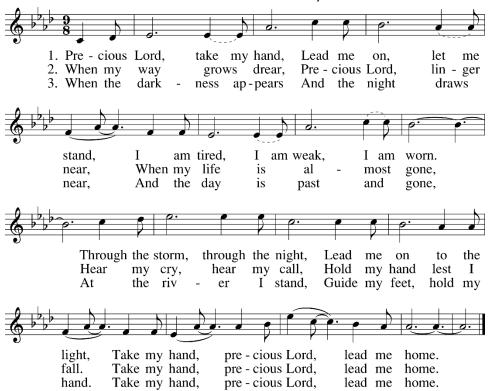
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again
to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,

The Prayers of the People

Offertory Hymn: Precious Lord, Take My Hand CP #509

and the life everlasting. Amen





Text: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899-1993 Tune: PRECIOUS LORD, 66 9 D; George N. Allen; arr. by Kelly Dobbs Mickus, b.1966 © 1938, Unichappell Music, Inc.

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

All 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

Leader Glory to God

All 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, forever and ever. Amen

Leader May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power

of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

St. John the Divine Prayers for October 25th, 2020

The Church

All Saints, Ladner - The Reverend Robin Ruder-Celiz

All Saints, Agassiz - The Reverend David Price

All Saints, Burnaby – The Reverend Justin Cheng, The Reverend Gordon

Barrett

All Saints, Mission - The Reverend Paul Bowie, The Reverend Glen

Nicholson, The Reverend Connie Wilks

St. John the Divine Squamish – The Reverend Cameron Gutjahr

Immediate Prayer Requests

Jordon, Gwen Taylor, Jessica, Muriel, Susan, Eleanor, Lori, The Howe Sound Women's Centre, the residents of Hilltop House, the residents of Shannon Falls and the patients of Squamish General Hospital.

We pray for Gwen Taylor who passed away on Thursday. We pray for Gwen's family and friends.

We pray for Stacey Spencer as she prepares for her baptism, as well as anyone else preparing for baptism or confirmation.

In this time of COVID-19, we pray for all who are sick, for all who are grieving, for health care professionals, researchers and emergency

personnel.

Rector's Reflection: Mutual Ministry Goal: Connection

Another of our goals for this year is Connection.

As we prepare for a baptism next week (God willing), I have been reflecting on connection and that wonderful, watery sacrament.

In the Book of Alternative Services (our green prayer book) it says on page 146,

"Baptism is the sign of new life in Christ. Baptism unites Christ with his people. That union is both individual and corporate. Christians are, it is true, baptized one by one, but to be a Christian is to be part of a new creation which rises from the dark waters of Christ's death into the dawn of his risen life. Christians are not just baptized individuals; they are a new humanity."

I miss you. Yes, you. Whether we have seen each other often in the past months, or have talked on the phone once or twice, or especially if we have not seen each other or spoken at all. I miss you, and it hurts my heart sometimes. How is your heart feeling?

This week I have found balm for my soul in these words from the BAS, 'baptism unites Christ with his people [and] that union is both individual and corporate.' Though we are distant, though we may feel disconnected, there is an unbreakable bond between us. We are connected through the waters of baptism, that mystical union, which is the Church. So, when I have been feeling isolated, I remember this, that my heart is linked with Christ, and through Christ to you; I remember, and I feel a little less alone.

However, we need outward and visible signs to accompany this inward and spiritual grace.

So, we will phone, and email, and Zoom, and text; we will gather with safety protocols; we will struggle with technology, sometimes winning, and sometimes losing; we will run into each other by accident at the grocery store and wave, smiling behind our masks; we will play and work; we will rejoice and grieve; we will pray.

We will need your help, dear friends, to achieve this goal of connection. We will need your help to reach out to one other, to show how our hearts are connected to and through Christ.

Together I believe that we can.

Thanks be to God!

CG+