

# The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Cycle A – Proper 23 (Green) Sunday September 06, 2020

*The Season of Creation, First Sunday (September 06 – Oct 04, 2020)*

*Presiders:* the Rev. Andrew Twiddy, the Rev. Christine Muise

*Youth Team:* Juliette Desvaux, Luke Desvaux

## *Readings*

**Exodus 12.1-14**

**Psalm 149.1-5a**

**Romans 13.8-14**

**Matthew 18.15-20**

## *Music for the day:*

Hymns from *Common Praise* (1998)

**Opening 424 Sing Praise to God**

**\* Reflective (553) Where There is Love, There We Find God \* (tune: 553)**

**At the Gospel 422 God Who Touchest Earth With Beauty**

**At Prayer 259 For the Fruit of All Creation**

**Closing 425 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee**

## **\* Lyrics:**

Where there is love, wherever there is love,

Where there is love, there we find God

## *The Collect – the Prayer of the Day:*

**Jesus our Beloved, centre of our community,**

**you call a broken people to gather around your table;**

**in times of disagreement:**

**teach us to listen,**

**release us from prejudice,**

**and bind us to your way of forgiving grace;**

**in the name of the one who stands at the heart of our gathering. Amen.**

*Prayers for an Inclusive Church (2009) alt.*

A First Reading:        A READING FROM THE BOOK OF EXODUS

**Did you ever have to eat a meal in a hurry?**

The Holy One said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: “This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you.

Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household.

If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbour in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it.

Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats.

You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight.

They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it.

They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs.

Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn.

This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly.

It is the passover of the Lord. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgements: I am the Holy One.

The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

**Holy word, holy wisdom ~ hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches**

EXODUS 12:1-14 ~ NRSV, alt. A. Twiddy

## **The Psalm**

**VERSE OF THE DAY: Sing to the Holy One a new song**

*(REFRAIN): (Sing to the Holy One a new song)*

- 1 Hallelujah! Sing to the Holy One a new song; \*  
sing praise in the congregation of the faithful. R
- 2 Let Israel rejoice in the Creator; \*  
let the children of Zion be joyful in their sovereign.
- 3 Let them praise God's name in the dance; \*  
let them sing praise to God with timbrel and harp.
- 4 For the Holy One takes pleasure in the people, \*  
and adorns the poor with victory.
- 5 Let the faithful rejoice in triumph.

**A Second Reading: FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE CHRISTIANS IN ROME**

*Reader:* “Have you ever felt you needed a new outfit for a new occasion?”

A reading from Paul’s letter to the Christian community in Rome (...pause)

8-10 There is no point in running up debts, except for this one huge debt: the debt of *love* you owe each other. When you love others, you complete what the law has been after all along.

The law code - rules such as “don’t sleep with another person’s spouse, don’t take someone’s life, don’t take what isn’t yours, don’t always be wanting what you don’t have”, and any other “don’t” you can think of—finally adds up to this: *Love other people, as well as loving yourself.*

You can’t go wrong when you love others. When you add up everything in the law code, the sum total is *love*.

11-14 Then again, make sure that you don’t get so absorbed and exhausted in taking care of all your day-by-day obligations that you lose track of the time and doze off, oblivious to God.

The night is nearly over, the dawn is about to break. Be up and awake, conscious of what God is doing!

God is putting the finishing touches on the salvation work begun in us when we first started to trust.

We can’t afford to waste a minute, must not squander these precious daylight hours in frivolity and indulgence, in sleeping around and dissipation, in bickering and grabbing everything in sight.

Let’s get out of bed and get dressed! Don’t loiter and linger, waiting until the very last minute.

Dress yourselves in Christ ... now! Be up and about!

(...pause) **Holy word, holy wisdom ~ hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches**

## The Gospel Reading:

*Reader:*

**It can take a lot of energy to deal with conflict, and to look for transformation.**

The holy gospel, according to Matthew. *(Glory to you, Jesus, the Anointed One)*

Jesus said, "If another member of the community hurts you, go and deal with the hurt you have received privately, when the two of you are alone.

If the other person listens to you and accepts that they have hurt you, you have begun to regain your relationship with them!

But if they do not listen, go a second time, and take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses.

If your opponent refuses to listen to the witnesses, then tell it to the wider community.

If the offender refuses to listen even to the community, approach them as though you are trying to win over an outsider ~ someone of a different ethnicity, a Gentile, or someone unpopular, such as a tax-collector.

I really mean it when I tell you that whatever you tie up on earth will be tied up in the spirit world, and whatever you release on earth will be released in the spirit world.

Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree at an in-person level about anything you are asking for, it will be done for you at the energetic level by my Beloved, in the spirit world.

Let me be clear about this. Where two or three are gathered, with my energy and in my name, I am there among them."

Holy Word, Holy Wisdom: The Gospel of Christ. ... **Praise to you, Jesus the Anointed One.**

*Matthew 18: 15-20. NRSV, alt. A. Twiddy*

# *The Simplicity Prayer*

*The Prayer Jesus Gave Us,  
in the tradition and simplicity of Clare and Francis of Assisi*

*~ A Franciscan Lord's Prayer ~*

**Our Beloved,**

**Your energy is compassionate and unique.**

**We want everyone to be aware of this.**

**We want everything to share in this.**

**Restore all things,**

**to be in harmony, on the outside, and on the inside.**

**Give us what we really need now,**

**for today, and for each day.**

**Free us from the harm we have done,**

**and help us, in our journey of recovery,**

**to release those who have harmed us.**

**Keep us safe during our times of distress,**

**and release us from oppression.**

**For your purpose, your strength, and your glory,**

**is to bring together everyone and everything.**

**We are depending on this. We are committed to this.**

*Comparative information from the official readings listed on Anglican.ca*

## **Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost [Proper 23] (Green)**

**Sunday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

***The Season of Creation***

### **Readings**

EXODUS 12:1-14; PSALM 149; ROMANS 13:8-14; MATTHEW 18:15-20

### **Collect**

Stir up, O Lord,  
the wills of your faithful people,  
that richly bearing the fruit of good works,  
we may by you be richly rewarded;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

### **First Reading**

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF EXODUS

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbour in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the Lord. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgements: I am the Lord. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

EXODUS 12:1-14

### **Psalm**

REFRAIN Sing to the Lord a new song.

Hallelujah! Sing to the Lord a new song; sing his praise in the congregation of the faithful. R

Let Israel rejoice in his maker; let the children of Zion be joyful in their king.

Let them praise his name in the dance; let them sing praise to him with timbrel and harp.

For the Lord takes pleasure in his people and adorns the poor with victory.

Let the faithful rejoice in triumph; let them be joyful on their beds. R

Let the praises of God be in their throat and a two-edged sword in their hand;

To wreak vengeance on the nations and punishment on the peoples; R

To bind their kings in chains and their nobles with links of iron;

To inflict on them the judgement decreed; this is glory for all his faithful people. Hallelujah! R

PSALM 149

Psalms 149 (revised Canadian Psalter) Cantate Domino 1 Hallelujah! Sing to the Lord a new song; \* sing the praises of God in the congregation of the faithful. 2 Let Israel rejoice in their maker; \* let the children of Zion be joyful in their sovereign. 3 Let them praise the name of the Lord in the dance; \* let them sing praise to God with timbrel and harp. 4 For the Lord takes pleasure in this people \* and adorns the poor with victory. 5 Let the faithful rejoice in triumph; \* let them be joyful on their beds. 6 Let the praises of God be in their throat \* and a two-edged sword in their hand; 7 to wreak vengeance on the nations \* and punishment on the peoples; 8 to bind their rulers in chains \* 143 and their nobles with links of iron; 9 to inflict on them the judgement decreed; \* this is glory for all God's faithful people. Hallelujah!

## **Second Reading**

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE ROMANS

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbour as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

ROMANS 13:8-14

## **Gospel**

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST  
ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Jesus said, "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my



name, I am there among them."

MATTHEW 18:15-20

## From the Message:

<sup>8-10</sup> Don't run up debts, except for the huge debt of love you owe each other. When you love others, you complete what the law has been after all along. The law code—don't sleep with another person's spouse, don't take someone's life, don't take what isn't yours, don't always be wanting what you don't have, and any other "don't" you can think of—finally adds up to this: Love other people as well as you do yourself. You can't go wrong when you love others. When you add up everything in the law code, the sum total is *love*.

<sup>11-14</sup> But make sure that you don't get so absorbed and exhausted in taking care of all your day-by-day obligations that you lose track of the time and doze off, oblivious to God. The night is about over, dawn is about to break. Be up and awake to what God is doing! God is putting the finishing touches on the salvation work he began when we first believed. We can't afford to waste a minute, must not squander these precious daylight hours in frivolity and indulgence, in sleeping around and dissipation, in bickering and grabbing everything in sight. Get out of bed and get dressed! Don't loiter and linger, waiting until the very last minute. Dress yourselves in Christ, and be up and about!

### Alternative Collects – Year A – Sept, Oct, Nov 2020

Sunday between 4 and 10 September (Proper 23) Exodus 12.1-14; Psalm 149; Romans 13.8-14; Matthew 18.15-20

I

God of unity and truth,  
encourage the fervent, enlighten the doubtful  
and bring back the wayward.  
Gather us all together in mutual love,  
so that our prayer may be pleasing to you.  
Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God for ever and ever. Amen.

*Opening Prayers (1997) alt.*

II

Jesus our Beloved,  
centre of our community,  
you call a broken people to gather around your table:  
in times of disagreement,  
teach us to listen,  
loose us from prejudice,  
and bind us to your way of forgiving grace;  
through Jesus Christ, who stands at the heart of our gathering. Amen.

*Prayers for an Inclusive Church (2009), alt.*