

We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee, and Anishinabek Nations, and the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation. This territory was the subject of the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement between the Iroquois Confederacy and the Ojibwe and allied nations to peaceably share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes.

This territory is also covered by the Toronto Purchase, Treaty 13 of 1805, and the Williams Treaties of 1923.

Today, our community is home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island. We gather by these territorial lands and waters to worship, listen, learn, share, and heal together in the name of our Creator, the Holy One of Blessing.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pentecost 12

AUGUST 20, 2023

PRELUDE and WELCOME

HYMN ELW # 641 ALL ARE WELCOME

**Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions.**

***Refrain:* All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.**

**Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus. *Refrain***

**Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us. *Refrain***

**Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger. *Refrain***

**Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter. *Refrain***

GREETING

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

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy that your name may be known throughout the earth through your Son Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

GENESIS 45:1-15

Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, "Send everyone away from me." So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.' And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here." Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

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

PSALM 67

May God be merciful to us and bless us;
may the light of God's face shine upon us.

Let your way may be known upon earth,
your saving health among all nations.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations on earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

The earth has brought forth its increase;
God, our own God, has blessed us.

May God give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

ROMANS 11:1-2a, 29-32

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. Do you not know what the scripture says of Elijah, how he pleads with God against Israel?for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION HYMN ELW # 172 HALLE, HALLE, HALLELUJAH

Halle, halle, halle - lujah

Halle, halle, halle - lujah

Halle, halle, halle - lujah

Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

MATTHEW 15:21-28

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN ELW # 665 RISE, SHINE, YOU PEOPLE

**Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered
our human story; God in him is centered.**

**He comes to us, by death and sin surrounded,
with grace unbounded.**

**See how he sends the pow'rs of evil reeling;
he brings us freedom, light and life and healing.**

**All men and women, who by guilt are driven,
now are forgiven.**

**Come, celebrate; your banners high unfurling,
your songs and prayers against the darkness hurling.**

**To all the world go out and tell the story
of Jesus' glory.**

Tell how the Father sent the Son to save us.

Tell of the Son, who life and freedom gave us.

Tell how the Spirit calls from ev'ry nation

God's new creation.

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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,
and life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS

Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

Hear us, O God.....**your mercy is great.**

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE and OFFERING

MEAL

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

We praise you, all-holy God, our maker, our lover, our keeper,
For the universe beyond our knowing,
For lands and seas and all their animals,
And for friends and strangers and family,
For homes, and grocery stores and schools.

We praise you for your covenant people,
For Abraham and Sarah, Moses, and Miriam.
For centuries of faithful Christians,
For Mary and Mary Magdalene, Peter, and Paul
and all who speak truth to power in our day.

We praise you for your Son Jesus Christ,
Who saves us from sin and from evil,
Who bids us to love our neighbour.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread,
and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

And so we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

We pray for your Holy Spirit,

Your breath, your fire, your wisdom.

Nourish us with the body and blood of Christ,

Inspire us for service.

And renew the world with your mercy,

With your healing, your justice, and your peace.

We praise you, all-holy God, our Creator, our Redeemer, our Sustainer,
Today, tomorrow, and forever. **Amen.**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.....

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread.

Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever.

Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All people are called to Christ's table, come, eat what is good.

Thanks be to God.

HOLY COMMUNION

*Please come forward to the communion rail, receive the communion wafer in your hand from
the pastor and the wine in an individual glass from the assisting minister.*

Place your communion cup in the basket provided.

TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord and Saviour Jesus the Christ strengthen us and keep us always in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is your dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed +
bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age. **Amen.**

HYMN ELW # 878 SOLI DEO GLORIA

**O God of blessings, all praise to you!
Your love surrounds us our whole life through.
You are the freedom of those oppressed;
You are the comfort of all distressed.
Come now O holy and welcome guest.**

***Refrain:* Soli Deo gloria! Soli Deo gloria!**

**All praise for prophets, through grace inspired
To preach and witness with hearts on fire.
Your Spirit chooses the weak and small
To sing the new reign where mighty fall;
With them may we live your gospel call. *Refrain***

**All praise for music, deep gift profound
Through hands and voices in holy sound;
The psalms of David and Mary's praise,
In wordless wonder and lyric phrase,
With all creation one song we raise. *Refrain***

**All praise for Jesus, best gift divine,
Through word and witness, in bread and wine;
Incarnate love song of boundless grace,
Priest, teacher, prophet in time and space,
Your steadfast kindness with human face. *Refrain***

**A billion voices in one great song,
Now soft and gentle, now deep and strong,
In every culture and style and key,
With hill and valley, with sky and sea,
With Christ we praise you eternally. *Refrain***

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, share the harvest.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE