

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 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, RICHMOND HILL

The Holy Trinity

MAY 26, 2024

PRELUDE *Ethan Kwan*

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins

Refreshed by the life we share in Christ,
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water is poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

We thank you for these waters where you make us new.

We bless you that your Spirit comes to us
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,

Make us one. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life.

To you be given all praise,
as we join in the words of the psalmist this Holy Trinity Sunday.

PSALM 29

Ascribe to the Lord, you gods,

ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due God's name;

worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;

the God of glory thunders, the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice;

the voice of the Lord is the voice of splendour.

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees;

The Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

The Lord makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
And Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

The voice of the Lord
bursts forth in lightening flashes.

The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;
The Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

The voice of the Lord causes the oak trees writhe, and strips the forest bare;
and in the temple of the Lord all are crying, "Glory!"

The Lord sits enthroned above the flood;
The Lord sits enthroned as king forevermore.

O Lord, give strength to your people!
Give them, O Lord, blessings of peace!

HYMN ELW # 412 COME JOIN THE DANCE OF TRINITY

**Come, join the dance of Trinity, before all worlds begun,
the interweaving of the Three, the Father, Spirit, Son.
The universe of space and time did not arise by chance,
but as the Three, in love and hope, made room within their dance.**

**Come, speak aloud of Trinity, as wind and tongues of flame
set people free at Pentecost to tell the Saviour's name.
We know the yoke of sin and death, our necks have worn it smooth;
go tell the world of weight and woe that we are free to move!**

**Within the dance of Trinity, before all worlds begun,
we sing the praises of the Three, the Father, Spirit, Son.
Let voices rise and interweave, by love and hope set free,
to shape in song this joy, this life: the dance of Trinity.**

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.

KYRIE

Congregation:

Refrain S184



Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-ry day.

Leader:

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity all;
For this holy house, for all who worship and praise,
Let us pray to the Lord. Let us pray to the lord. **Refrain**

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor;

That we may live out truth and justice and grace,
Let us pray to the Lord. Let us pray to the lord. **Refrain**

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family;
For life and for love, for our work and our play
Let us pray to the Lord. Let us pray to the lord. **Refrain**

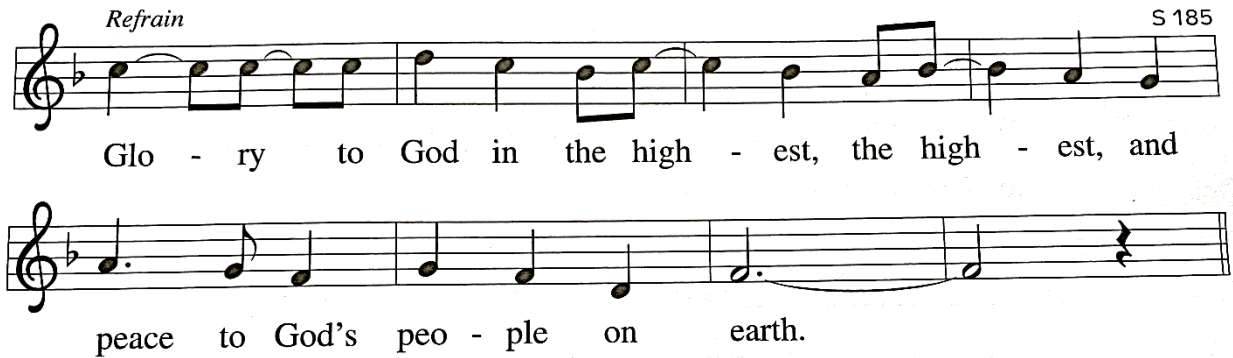
For your Spirit to guide, that you center our lives in the water and the word;

That you nourish our souls with your body and blood,
Let us pray to the Lord. Let us pray to the lord. **Refrain**

HYMN OF PRAISE

Congregation:

Refrain S 185



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and
peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

Leader:

Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father, we worship you,
We give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. **Refrain**

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. **Refrain**

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
In the glory of God the Father. Amen. Amen. Amen. **Refrain x 2**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Triune God – you are the lover who begets us, the beloved who befriends us, the love who beholds and enfolds us. You give yourself in covenantal love to the whole cosmos so that all creation is blessed by you – you, who shelters us under your wings and raises us up with wings like eagles. All praise to you holy one in three – love in eternity and love in this time and place. **Amen.**

WORD

ISAIAH 6:1-8

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said: “Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.” The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke.

And I said: “Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!” Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: “Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.” Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I; send me!”

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

ROMANS 8:12-17

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

S 188



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

JOHN 3:1-17

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony.

If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

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

SERMON

HYMN: ELW # 323 GOD LOVED THE WORLD

**God loved the world so that he gave
his only Son the lost to save
that all who would in him believe
should everlasting life receive.**

**Christ is the solid rock of faith,
who was made flesh and suffered death.
All who confide in him alone
are built on this chief cornerstone.**

**If you are ill, if death draws near,
this truth your troubled heart can cheer:
Christ Jesus rescues us from death;
this is the firmest ground of faith!**

**Be of good cheer, for God's own Son
forgives the sins that you have done.
You're justified by Jesus' blood;
your baptism grants the highest good.**

**All glory to God the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To you, O blessed Trinity,
be praise now and eternally!**

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:

**by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made 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.**

With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.

He 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.**

SINGING INTO PRAYER

ELW 473 HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Holy, holy, holy,

my heart, my heart adores you.

My heart is glad to say the words:

You are holy, God. X 2

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world.

A brief silence

Abba God, you have brought us into your family, claiming us as beloved children. Bless your family of faith with gifts of cooperation and graciousness. Increase our hospitality toward all expressions of faith and teach us to honour our shared humanity.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your love and power burst forth in the flashes of lightning, the dance of the wind, and the deeply rooted trees of the forest. Sustain fragile and interconnected ecosystems, that they flourish for generations to come.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You are a God of love and not of condemnation. Let your peace dwell richly among the nations and peoples of the world.

Quiet the hearts of all who struggle with health problems. Restore wholeness to all who seek hope and healing, especially Ingrid, Jean and all we hold in our thoughts and hearts.....

pause

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Strengthen bonds between parents, children, and families of all varieties. We pray especially for adoptive and foster families, multi-generational households, and blended families. Grant gifts of nurture and patience to all caregivers.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

The Spirit bears grateful witness to all children of God who have now come into their inheritance among the saints. As they lived with hope in your gift of eternal life, so strengthen us in faith, that we recognize your eternal presence even in this mortal life.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

SINGING INTO PEACE

ELW 473 HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you.

My heart is glad to say the words:

You are holy, God. X 2

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

OFFERING

The offering will now be received and may God bless the gifts of your life

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Let us pray. God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord.

Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

O God most mighty, O God most merciful,

O God our rock and our salvation,

hear us as we praise, call us to your table,

grant us your life.

When the world was a formless void, you formed order and beauty.

When Abraham and Sarah were barren, you sent them a child.

When the Israelites were enslaved, you led them to freedom.

Ruth faced starvation,

David fought Goliath,

and the psalmists cried out for healing,

and full of compassion, you granted the people your life.

You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother.

He was born among the poor,

he lived under oppression,

he wept over the city.

With infinite love he granted the people your life.

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.

Remembering his death, we cry out Amen. **Amen.**

Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen. **Amen.**

Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen. **Amen.**

O God, you are breath: send your Spirit on this meal.

O God, you are bread: feed us with yourself.

O God, you are wine: warm our hearts and make us one.

O God you are fire: transform us with hope.

O God most majestic, O God most motherly,

O God our strength and our song,

you show us a vision of a tree of life

with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations.

Grant us such life, the life of the Father to the Son,

the life of the Spirit of our risen Saviour,

life in you, now 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.

HOLY COMMUNION

you are invited to eat your bread and drink your wine as you hear the words

"the body of Christ given for you" "the blood of Christ shed for you"

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come let us eat, for now the feast is spread.

Thanks be to God.

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

Let us pray.

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

HYMN: ELW # 832 MY LORD OF LIGHT

**My Lord of light who made the worlds,
in wisdom you have spoken;
But those who heard your wise commands
your holy law have broken.**

**My Lord of love who knew no sin,
a sinner's death enduring;
for us you wore a crown of thorns,
a crown of life securing.**

**My Lord of life who came in fire
when Christ was high ascended:
your burning love is now released,
our days of fear are ended.**

**My Lord of lords, one Trinity,
to your pure name be given
all glory now and evermore,
all praise in earth and heaven.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace.

Live and love in the truth and joy of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Ethan Kwan*