

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

Pentecost 2

JUNE 2, 2024

PRELUDE *Ethan Kwan*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
Full of compassion and mercy, abounding in steadfast love.

Amen.

Trusting God's promise of forgiveness,
Let us confess our sin against God and one another.

Silence for reflection

Eternal God our creator.

In you we live and move and have our being.

Look upon us, your children, the work of your hands.

Forgive us all our offenses

and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires.

**By your grace draw us near to you, our refuge and strength;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Amen.

Since we are justified by faith,
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

God's love has been poured into our hearts
through the Holy Spirit given to us.

In the mercy of almighty God,

Christ died for us while we were still sinners,
and for his sake, God + forgives you all your sins.

Amen.

HYMN ELW 532 GATHER US IN

Here in this place new light is streaming.
Now is the darkness vanished away.
See in this space our fears and our dreamings.
Brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken.
Gather us in, the blind and the lame.
Call to us now and we shall awaken.
We shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a mystery.
We are the old who yearn for your face.
We have been sung throughout all of history.
Called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty.
Gather us in, the proud and the strong.
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly.
Give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water.
Here we will take the bread of new birth.
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters.
Call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion.
Give us to eat the bread that is you.
Nourish us well and teach us to fashion.
Lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining.
Not in some heaven light years away.
But here in this place the new light is shining.
Now is the kingdom, now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever.
Gather us in and make us your own.
Gather us in, all peoples together.
Fire of love in our flesh and our bones.

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

Healing God, we carry in this body we are, the dying Jesus who breathes life into us. We are afflicted and perplexed; persecuted and worn out. And yet we are humbled because you bring life from death and place us in your Reign of love. Grace us with the realization we are wonderfully made and truly blessed in our needing one another and in our being healed together in Jesus, our peace. **Amen.**

WORD

DEUTERONOMY 5:12-15

Observe the sabbath day and keep it holy, as the Lord your God commanded you. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, or your son or your daughter, or your male or female slave, or your ox or your donkey, or any of your livestock, or the resident alien in your towns, so that your male and female slave may rest as well as you. Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the Lord your God brought you out from there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm; therefore the Lord your God commanded you to keep the sabbath day.

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

PSALM 81:1-10

Sing with joy to God our strength
and raise a loud shout to the God of Jacob.

Raise a song and sound the timbrel,
the merry harp, and the lyre.

Blow the ram's horn at the new moon,
and at the full moon, the day of our feast;
for this is a statute for Israel,
a law of the God of Jacob.

God laid it as a solemn charge upon Joseph,
going out over the land of Egypt,
where I heard a voice I did not know:

“I eased your shoulder from the burden;
your hands were set free from the gravedigger’s basket.

You called on me in trouble, and I delivered you;
**I answered you from the secret place of thunder
and tested you at the waters of Meribah.**

Hear, O my people, and I will admonish you:

O Israel, if you would but listen to me!

There shall be no strange god among you;

you shall not worship a foreign god.

I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt.

Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.

2 CORINTHIANS 4:5-12

We do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus’ sake. For it is the God who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus’ sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Your word, O Lord, is truth.

Sanctify us in the truth. Alleluia.

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: MARK 2:23—3:6

One sabbath Jesus was going through the grainfields; and as they made their way his disciples began to pluck heads of grain. The Pharisees said to him, “Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the sabbath?”

And he said to them, "Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need of food? He entered the house of God, when Abiathar was high priest, and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and he gave some to his companions." Then he said to them, "The sabbath was made for humankind, and not humankind for the sabbath; so the Son of Man is lord even of the sabbath." Again he entered the synagogue, and a man was there who had a withered hand. ²They watched him to see whether he would cure him on the sabbath, so that they might accuse him. And he said to the man who had the withered hand, "Come forward." Then he said to them, "Is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the sabbath, to save life or to kill?" But they were silent. He looked around at them with anger; he was grieved at their hardness of heart and said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was restored. The Pharisees went out and immediately conspired with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him. The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN: ELW # 526 GOD IS HERE

God is here! As we your people
Meet to offer praise and prayer,
May we find in fuller measure
What it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us,
All our varied skills and arts
Wait the coming of the Spirit
Into open minds and hearts.

Here are symbols to remind us
Of our lifelong need of grace;
Here are table, font and pulpit;
Here the cross has central place.
Here in honesty of preaching,
Here in silence, as in speech,
here, in newness and renewal,
God the Spirit comes to each.

Here our children find a welcome
In the Shepherd's flock and fold;
Here as bread and wine are taken,
Christ sustains us as of old.
Here the servants of the Servant
Seek in worship to explore
What it means in daily living
To believe and to adore.

Lord of all, of church and kingdom,
In an age of change and doubt,
Keep us faithful to the Gospel;
help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication,
All we have to give, receive;
We, who cannot live without you,
We adore you! We believe!

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 the life everlasting.
Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

We come before you, O God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world.

A brief silence

Healing God, may we be reminded that while each of us possesses power and strength, that we are stronger together. Remind us that each life is important and that even your smallest creations play a big role in maintaining the delicate ecosystem of our world.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Healing God, remind us that we have much to learn from one another. Help us to be intentional to make intergenerational connections and to build relationships with those who come from all different cultures, communities, and experiences so that we can learn from one another and grow together.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Healing God, help us to embrace our gifts and share them with others without being boastful, arrogant, or self-important. Be with all in need of healing, especially Ingrid, Jean and all we hold in our thoughts and hearts.....

pause

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Healing God, help us to not be so proud that we cannot admit the ways in which where we fall short. Help us to have the humility to seek the support we need.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Healing God, remind us that in your infinite universe we are but mustard seeds. Draw us close to you, Creator and may we always look to you for guidance and teaching. Help us to care and tend the earth, our home.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Healing God, we carry in this body we are, the dying Jesus who breathes life into us. We are afflicted and perplexed; persecuted and worn out. And yet we are humbled because you bring life from death and place us in your Reign of love. Grace us with the realization we are wonderfully made and doubly blessed in needing one another and being healed together in Jesus our peace.

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.**

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

HYMN DURING OFFERING ELW 479 WE COME TO THE HUNGRY FEAST

We come to the hungry feast

hungry for a word of peace.

To hungry hearts unsatisfied the love of God is not denied.

We come, we come to the hungry feast.

We come to the hungry feast

hungry for a world released

from hungry folk of ev'ry kind, the poor in body, poor in mind.

We come, we come to the hungry feast.

We come to the hungry feast

hungry that the hunger cease,

and knowing, though we eat our fill, the hunger will stay with us; still

we come, we come to the hungry feast.

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

Holy God, our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer,

In the harmonious world of your creation

The plants and animals, the seas and stars

Were whole and well in your praise.

When sin had scarred the world

You sent your Son to heal our ills

And to form us again into one.

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 therefore, his acts of healing,
His body given up, and his victory over death,
We await that day when all the peoples of the earth
Will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.
Send your Spirit upon us and this meal;
As grains scattered on the hillside become one bread,
So let your church be gathered from the ends of the earth,
That all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son.
Through him all glory and honour is yours, Almighty God,
with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church,
both 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 Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING

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

HYMN: ELW # 534 SAVIOUR, AGAIN TO YOUR DEAR NAME

**Saviour, again to your dear name we raise
with one accord our parting hymn of praise.
Once more we bless you ere our worship cease,
then, lowly bending, wait your word of peace.**

**Grant us your peace upon our homeward way;
with you began, with you shall end the day.
Guard all the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
that in this house have called upon your name.**

**Grant us your peace, Lord, through the coming night;
for us transform its darkness into light.
Keep us from harm and danger till the dawn,
your evening presence promise to your own.**

**Grant us your peace throughout our earthly life,
our balm in sorrow and our stay in strife.
Then, when your voice shall bid our conflict cease,
call us, O Lord, to your eternal peace.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live and love in the truth and joy of the Spirit.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Ethan Kwan*