

Canon Davis Memorial Church
Anglican Church of Canada
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
8th October, 2023

We Come and worship God.
We go our way with souls nourished.

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October 8, 2023 — Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Service of the Word

Processional Hymn # 399
Now Thank We All Our God

Officiant: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Officiant: Let us pray.

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.

People: Amen.

Officiant: Dear friends in Christ, as we turn our hearts and minds to worship almighty God, let us confess our sins.

People: 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.

Officiant: Merciful God, grant to us, 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 for ever.

People: Amen.

Officiant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Officiant: Let us reconcile to God and one another a sign of Christ's peace.

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, you have built your Church on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone. Join us together in unity of spirit by their teaching, that we may become a holy temple, acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

First Reading Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20

1. Then God spoke these words;

2. "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery;

3. "you shall have no other gods before[a] me.

4. "You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above or that

is on the earth beneath or that is in the water under the earth.

7 "You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

8. "Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

9. Six days you shall labor and do all your work.

12 "Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

13 "You shall not murder.

14 "You shall not commit adultery.

15 "You shall not steal.

16 "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

17 "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, male or female slave, ox,

donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor."

18. When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance

19. and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen, but do not let God speak to us, lest we die."

20. Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid, for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you

do not sin.”

Officiant: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 19

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament shows his handiwork. One day tells its tale to another, and one night imparts knowledge to another. Although they have no words or language, and their voices are not heard,

Their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world.

In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

The law of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.

The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.

The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever; the judgements of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.

Who can tell how often he offends? cleanse me from my secret faults.

Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offence.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

Second Reading Philipians 3: 4B-14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more:

circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee;

as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. 8 More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his

sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ

and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith.

I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death,

if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own.

Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead,

I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Officiant: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Officiant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Matthew.

People: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Gospel Matthew 21: 33-46

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Jesus said, "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'? Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the

kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls." When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

Officiant: The Gospel of the Christ

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

Thanksgiving and Matthew 21:33-46

In today's Gospel, Jesus uses the metaphor of a vineyard to illustrate the relationship between God and the religious leaders of his day, particularly the Pharisees. The landowner represents God, the vineyard symbolizes Israel, the servants symbolize the prophets who were sent to guide and instruct the people, and the son represents Jesus himself.

The tenants of the vineyard symbolize the religious leaders who were entrusted with the spiritual well-being of the people but failed in their responsibilities. They mistreated and even killed the prophets (servants) sent by God. When the landowner (God) sent his son (Jesus), they plotted to kill him, thinking that by doing so, they could seize his inheritance, his following.

Jesus' question about what the owner of the vineyard would do to these wicked tenants prompts the Pharisees to acknowledge that the owner would bring a severe judgment upon them and give the vineyard to others who would be faithful.

In this parable, Jesus is not only addressing the religious leaders' rejection of him but also prophesying his own impending crucifixion. He's warning the Pharisees about the consequences of their unfaithfulness and their rejection of him as the Messiah. This passage highlights the themes of judgment, rejection, and the establishment of a new, faithful people who will bear fruit in God's kingdom.

"A new, faithful people who will bear fruit in God's Kingdom" seems relational to Thanksgiving. Don't you think?

There can be some thematic overlap between the idea of a "new people who will bear fruit in God's Kingdom" in the Bible, and the concept of gratitude and thanksgiving. Both emphasize the notion of being blessed or fruitful and acknowledging those blessings.

As a faithful and grateful people of God, let us give thought for what we can be thankful for today.

There are many things we can be grateful for...too many to mention; but I think it's important to recognize and appreciate the blessings in our lives

In a traditional folktale called "Stone Soup," a traveler arrives in a village with nothing but a large cooking pot. He places a stone in the pot, fills it with water, and begins to boil it. Curious villagers come to inquire about the stone soup, and the traveler explains that it's delicious but just missing a few ingredients.

One by one, the villagers offer to contribute vegetables, spices, and other ingredients to improve the soup. As a result, they all come together to create a hearty and delicious soup that they share as a community.

This story illustrates how an act of sharing and cooperation can lead to a more grateful and fulfilling outcome. It's a tale about the power of community, selflessness, and the idea that when people come together and contribute, everyone benefits.

"Stone Soup" serves as a gentle reminder to us all, to appreciate the value of collaboration, generosity, and the importance of being grateful for the contributions of others. It shows that by working together and giving what we can, we can create something wonderful that benefits everyone.

Gratitude is a practice that can be cultivated daily. Taking a moment each day, to reflect on the things we're thankful for can help foster a sense of contentment and well-being in our lives. It can also deepen our spiritual connection and sense of appreciation for the world around us.

Let Us Pray...

Let us bless almighty God, whose power extends over sea and land, whose angels watch over all.

Let us study sacred books to calm our souls; let us pray for peace, kneeling at heaven's gates.

Let us do our daily work, gathering the harvest, and share our food with others.

Let us say our daily prayers, sometimes chanting, sometimes quiet, but always Thanking God.

Amen.

Sermon Hymn # 617

Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee

Officiant: Let us confess our faith as we say.

People: 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, and the life everlasting.

Amen.

Prayers of the People

In peace we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbours, and for all those who are alone.

For this community, our country, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the gospel, and all who seek the truth.

For Todd our bishop, and for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in the Church.

For our own needs and those of others.

Silence.

In our parish cycle of prayer, we pray for...

Hear us, Lord.
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence. *(The people may add their own thanksgivings.)*

We will exalt you, O God our king;
And praise your name for ever and ever.

We pray for those who have died in the peace of Christ, and for those whose faith is known to you alone, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence.

Lord, let your loving kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

Gracious God, you have heard the prayers of your faithful people; you know our needs before we ask, and our ignorance in asking. Grant our requests as may be best for us. This we ask in the name of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Offertory Hymn # 505

Be Thou My Vision

Offertory Response*All Things Come of Thee*

People: Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours. All things come from you, and of your own do we give you.

Officiant: And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us,
we are bold to say,

**People: 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.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Officiant: Glory to God

**People: 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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Recessional Hymn # 438
O Jesus, I Have Promised**

Officiant: May the God of hope fill us all with joy and peace in believing
through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Sung Benediction **Howard's Blessing** (vs 1-2)

***The Flowers on the Altar today are given to
the Glory of God, and in memory of loved ones and friends,
from Bill and Donna Taylor.***

Please enter names in the Intercessions Book each week to be read in the service.

NEWS AND EVENTS

Please send all announcements for the bulletin to Karen by **11:00 a.m. Tuesday** of each week.
Call 519-344-9531 or E-mail: canondavis@gmail.com.

If you would like to contact Rev'd Jon Forbes or would like a home visit with Communion or know of
someone who would, Rev'd Jon may be reached at 1 905 818 9488 or
email jonforbes@outlook.com.

Please join us for **Coffee Hour** after service for a time of fellowship in the parish hall.

Thank you again to those who donated fruit and vegetables as decorations for our Harvest
Thanksgiving and Thanksgiving Services, and to the Chancel Guild for decorating the church. Thank
you.

Upcoming Events:

Sew Day Saturday October 28 from 9:00 am to 3:00 p.m. Cost \$20.00 and lunch is provided. To
sign up, please call Carol Turner at 519 384 3015

There is nothing like a home cooked meal... and it can't get any more home cooked than
CDM's **Roast Beef Dinner on October 18th** at 5:00 p.m. Please **call 519-344-9531** to reserve your
seat or for take-out. Cost: \$20.00.

Reminders

18 Oct CDM's Roast Beef Dinner

25 Oct Parish Council Meeting in the Boardroom at 10:00 a.m.

28 Oct Sew Day – Parish Hall.