

Canon Davis Memorial Church

Anglican Church of Canada
Ninth Sunday After Pentecost
21st July 2024
9:00 a.m.



" The Tale of The Three Trees" by Rembrandt

We come and worship God.

We go our way with souls nourished.

MINISTERS: The Congregation

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July 21, 2024 — Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

Service of the Word

Opening Hymn # 415

All Things Bright and Beautiful

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

And also with you.

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. **Amen.**

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

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.

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. **Amen.**

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

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

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, your Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence. Give us pure hearts and constant wills to worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

First Reading: II Samuel 7:1 - 14a

Now when the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you." But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come forth from your body, and I will establish his

kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 89: 20-37

BAS p. 824

Refrain I will keep my love for him for ever.

I have found David my servant; with my holy oil have I anointed him. My hand will hold him fast and my arm will make him strong.

I will keep my love for him for ever.

No enemy shall deceive him, nor any wicked man bring him down. I will crush his foes before him and strike down those who hate him.

I will keep my love for him for ever.

My faithfulness and love shall be with him, and he shall be victorious through my name. I shall make his dominion extend from the Great Sea to the River.

I will keep my love for him for ever.

He will say to me, 'You are my Father, my God, and the rock of my salvation.' I will make him my firstborn and higher than the kings of the earth.

I will keep my love for him for ever.

I will keep my love for him for ever, and my covenant will stand firm for him. I will establish his line for ever and his throne as the days of heaven.

I will keep my love for him for ever.

If his children forsake my law and do not walk according to my judgements; If they break my statutes and do not keep my commandments; I will punish their transgressions with a rod and their iniquities with the lash;

I will keep my love for him for ever.

But I will not take my love from him, nor let my faithfulness prove false. I will not break my covenant, nor change what has gone out of my lips. Once for all I have sworn by my holiness: 'I will not lie to David.
I will keep my love for him for ever.

His line shall endure for ever and his throne as the sun before me; It shall stand fast for evermore like the moon, the abiding witness in the sky."
I will keep my love for him for ever.

Second Reading: Ephesians 2:11-22

Remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called "the uncircumcision" by those who are called "the circumcision" - a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands - remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Gospel: Mark 6: 30-34, 53-56

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things. When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

In the Gospel today, several themes emerge that highlight the nature and ministry of Jesus.

Compassion and Care:

In verses 30-34, Jesus shows compassion for the disciples by inviting them to rest after their work. However, seeing the crowd, He is moved with compassion for them because they are "like sheep without a shepherd." This shows Jesus' deep concern for people's spiritual and physical well-being.

Miraculous Healing:

Verses 53-56 describe Jesus healing many people. Wherever He goes, people recognize Him and bring the sick to Him, believing in His power to heal. This emphasizes Jesus' role as a healer and the faith people had in His abilities.

Teaching and Shepherding:

In verse 34, Jesus teaches the crowd, which underscores His role as a teacher and spiritual shepherd. He provides guidance and wisdom, addressing their deeper needs beyond physical healing.

Overall, these passages illustrate Jesus' compassion, His power to heal, and His dedication to teaching and guiding the people. Mark reveals Jesus multifaceted ministry, addressing both physical and spiritual needs.

One well-known story that speaks to both spiritual and physical needs is "The Tale of the Three Trees."

For generations the tale of the three trees has been handed down from parents to children, retold in churches, and even set to music and sung. As is often true of folktales, its originator is unknown. This traditional folktale has been retold by various authors over many years, but more recently it has been retold by Angela Elwell Hunt in 1989.

The Tale of the Three Trees Summary:

Three trees on a mountaintop stood and dreamed of what they wanted to become when they grew up.

The first tree looked up at the stars twinkling like diamonds and wished that he would become a golden treasure chest filled with precious stones.

The second tree looked out at the small stream making its way to the ocean, "I want to travel mighty waters and carry powerful Kings. I will be the strongest ship in the world!" she said.

The third tree looked down into the valley below, watching men and women working in a busy town. "I don't want to leave this mountaintop at all." She said. "I want to grow so tall that when people stop to look at me they will raise their eyes to heaven and think of God."

Journey and Transformation:

But in their journey of transformation, years passed and the little trees grew tall. One day three woodcutters climbed the mountain.

The first woodcutter looked at the first tree, and swung his axe and the first tree fell. The first tree rejoiced when the woodcutter brought him to the carpenter, but the carpenter was not thinking of treasure chests. Instead his work-worn hands fashioned the tree into a feed box for animals. It becomes the manger that holds baby Jesus, fulfilling its dream in an unexpected way by holding the greatest treasure of all.

The Second tree smiled when the woodcutter took him to a shipyard, but no mighty sailing ships were made that day. Instead the once-strong tree was hammered and sawed into a simple fishing boat used by Jesus to preach and calm the storm. Suddenly, the second tree knew she would be carrying the King of Heaven and Earth.

The third tree is confused when the woodcutter cuts her into strong beams and leaves her in a lumberyard. One Friday morning, the tree was startled when her beams were yanked from the forgotten woodpile. She flinched as she was carried through an angry, jeering crowd. She shuttered when soldiers nailed a man's hands to her. She felt ugly, harsh and cruel. But the tree came to realize that her beams, turned into a cross, on which Jesus was crucified, was pointing to God in a way more profound than it ever could have imagined.

Themes:**Spiritual Needs:**

This story teaches that God's plans for us can be different from our own, but they are always for a greater purpose. Like Jesus disciples in today's Gospel. It emphasizes faith, trust, and the idea that everyone has a special role in God's plan.

Physical Needs:

The transformation of the trees into objects that serve Jesus' mission shows how physical elements of the world can be used to meet spiritual needs and fulfill divine purposes.

Moral:

The story encourages us to trust in God's plan for our lives, even when it doesn't align with our own dreams...and highlights how physical objects and circumstances can be integral to spiritual fulfillment.

Let us Pray...

Renew My Mind, Body and Soul

Lord, we pray that you would fill us with spiritual strength to withstand the difficult times. Help us to discern truth from lies and to stand firm in our beliefs. May our hearts be filled with compassion and love toward others, and may we always know that in you, all things are possible.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen

Sermon Hymn #397***Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness***

Let us confess our faith as we say.

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 # 537

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

Offertory Response

All Things Come of Thee

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.

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

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.

Glory to God
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.

Announcements

Closing Hymn # 377

To the Name of Our Salvation

Sung Benediction

Howard's Blessing (vs 1,2)
(in the back of the blue Hymn book)

Dismissal

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

The flowers on the Altar today are given to the Glory of God, and in loving memory of John Manton and loved ones, a gift of Joyce and family.

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

Readings for Tenth Pentecost July 28th, 2024

2 SAMUEL 11:1-15; PSALM 14;
EPHESIANS 3:14-21; JOHN 6:1-21

NEWS AND EVENTS

- Please send all announcements for the bulletin to Karen by 11:00 a.m. Tuesday of each week or call: 519-344-9531 or email: canondavis@gmail.com.
- If you would like to contact Rev'd Paul Woolley for any reason, he may be reached at 519-464-2055 or email paul@woolley.com.
- Please join us this Sunday for a time of fellowship at **Coffee Hour** after service in the parish hall.
- There are still time slots available for volunteers to provide coffee and treats during the months of July and August. If you are willing to help out, please see the sign-up sheet at the back of the church. Thank you

Upcoming Events:

- **The next Sew/Craft Day is being hosted on Saturday August 24 (Pot Luck), from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** Cost is \$20.00 To sign up please call Carol Turner at 519-384 3015. The **next next** Sew/Craft Day is **September 21**. Thank you.

Reminders:

Aug 24 Sew/Craft Day