

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

460 McBride Street, Prince Rupert, B.C

Office Phone: 624-4164 Email: stpauls@citywest.ca

Church Website: stpaulsprincerupert.com

Pastor: Diana S. Edis Home: 250 622-2725 Pastor's email: pastor2stp@gmail.com

Offering email (E-transfer): offering2stpauls@citywest.ca

15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 5, 2021

Worship 11:00 AM

Minister: Rev. Diana Edis Musician: Larissa Goruk

Videographer: Herman Seidemann Reader: Carol Bulford Usher: Carol Bulford

Worship is live streamed on our Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/princerupertlutheran/. You do not need a Facebook account to worship. You may also view the service later on our YouTube channel after it is uploaded: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMY5N1JmPn41 R5 Xahok w?view as=subscriber

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church. James tells us to stop showing favoritism in the assembly, treating the rich visitor with more honor than the poor one. Jesus himself seems to show partiality in his first response to the Syrophoenician woman in today's gospel. Was he testing her faith in saying Gentiles don't deserve the goods meant for God's children? Or was he speaking out of his human worldview, but transcended those limits when she took him by surprise with her reply? Either way, the story tells us that God shows no partiality. Everyone who brings a need to Jesus is received with equal honor as a child and heir.

Weekly Prayer Petitions

Local: Fellowship Baptist Church - Pastor Alex Hogendoorn

Synod Parishes: Our Redeemer Lutheran in Penticton – Rev. Curtis Aguirre, Trinity Anglican and Lutheran Church in Port Alberni – Rev. Brenda Nestegaard Paul, For the Ministry of Hospital Chaplains in our Synod.

Anglican/Lutheran Joint Prayers: ACC – Theological colleges and training in Rupert's Land:

ELCIC: The right to water and a renewed commitment to the stewardship of creation.

Discipleship Opportunities

1. The Pastor is Public by Zoom Wednesdays from 9:30 - 11:30AM. You may call in from your home or cell phone to 1-778-907-2071 or you can join by computer, tablet, or smart phone by clicking the link or by typing: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87222984486?pwd=OHFIcWZySkR1dHNpeklqMzU4RIJWUT09

Meeting ID: 872 2298 4486 Password: 263906

If you are willing and able to serve the congregation as either reader (reading the 1st reading, the psalm, and 2nd reading from the lectern) or usher please let one of the deacons (Herman Seidemann or Pat Cristiano) know. There is a sign up list where you can also add your name. You can also call the church at 250-624-4164 to let us know that you are interested.

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^{*} Our Bible readings are taken from the New Revised Standard Version, covered under AF license number SB157842.

Prelude

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \pm one God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless.

Amen.

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God our comforter:

like lost sheep, we have gone astray. We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity. We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression. We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed. Free us from our sin, gracious God. Listen when we call out to you for help. Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Amen.

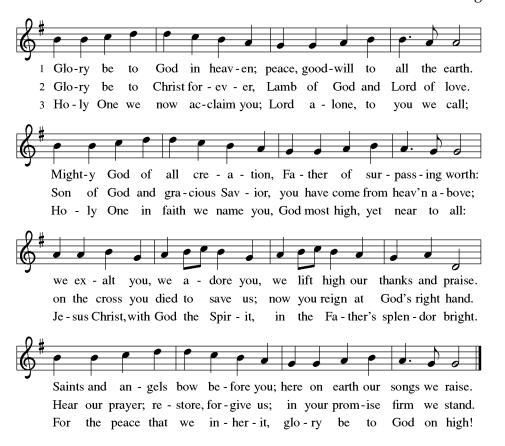
All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. By the gift of grace in + Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous. Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

Amen.



L: 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.**

Canticle of Praise Pg. 204 (vs 3)



Prayer of the Day

L: Let us pray together our Prayer of the Day.

Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord.

Amen.

Our first reading is from Isaiah, beginning at the 35th chapter

35:4-7a

Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

We read Psalm 146:1-10 responsively: (leader reads the light print, congregation reads the bold)

Hallelujah! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

Put not your trust in rulers, in mortals in whom there is no help.

When they breathe their last, they return to earth, and in that day their thoughts perish.

Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the LORD their God;

who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; who keeps promises forever; who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger. The LORD sets the captive free.

The LORD opens the eyes of the blind;

the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

The LORD cares for the stranger;

the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

The LORD shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

Our second reading is from James, beginning at the 2nd Chapter

2:1-17

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. For the one who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

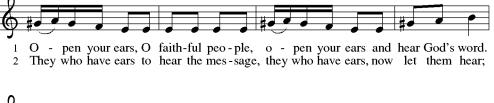
The word of the Lord.

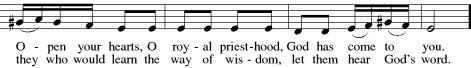
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Open Your Ears, O Faithful People

No. 519 (vs 1 & refrain)





Refrain on next page*



Text: Hasidic traditional; Willard F. Jabusch, b. 1930, English version

Music: YISRAEL V'ORAITA, Hasidic tune
Text © 1966, 1982 Willard F. Jabusch, admin. OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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The holy gospel according to John, beginning at the 6th chapter Glory to you, O Lord.

6:51-58

[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go – the demon has left your daughter." So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.

"The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Gospel Refrain *Open Your Ears, O Faithful People* No. 519 (vs 2 & refrain)

Sermon Rev. Diana Edis

Light Dawns on a Weary World Hymn of the Day

No. 726



Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953
Music: TEMPLE OF PEACE, William P. Rowan, b. 1951
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Confession of faith

Apostles' Creed

Pg 105

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 power of 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: (petition response: L: Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.)

L: The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Offerings may be mailed to the church or placed in our locked mailbox.

In Canada you may send e-transfers to <u>offering2stpauls@citywest.ca</u>. You may also give electronically through CanadaHelps at St. Paul's Lutheran, Prince Rupert or by using the "Donate" button on our church website.

Offering Prayer

Let us pray,

God of abundance, you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

We enter into a time of communion. All people are invited to join in God's meal, however you may choose whether or not to participate. If you hear the call of the Holy Sprit inviting you, please respond. If you would like to learn more about communion you may call the church and speak with the pastor about the presence of Christ in this meal. You at home may prepare bread and wine or juice in advance of communion. You may wish to set up a small home altar for this purpose, using: a cross, a candle, an image of Christ (called an icon), and the bread and beverage if you feel so called. When the bread and beverage are offered by the pastor and you eat and drink you may respond, "Amen." Those worshipping online in the same household are encouraged to serve one another.

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

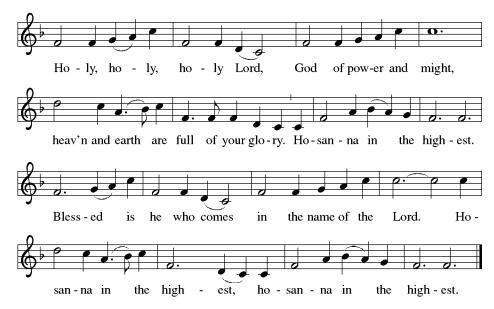
L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

L: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



L: Blessed are you, O God, creator of heaven and earth. You rescued your covenant people, led them on all their journeys, and taught them by the prophets. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal 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.

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

Pour out your Holy Spirit in this meal, and make us one in this community of faith and with your people throughout the world. Glory and praise to you, O God, Author of life, Word made flesh, Power of the Most High, now and forever.

Amen.

L: Gathered into one across time and space by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us, using whatever version of that prayer comforts you. We pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

L: If the Holy Spirit calls you to this feast of bread and wine or juice, I invite you to receive that which has been prepared, each in our own places, but gathered together around the table of God. Although we are separated at this time by physical and social distancing, we are united, made whole in the body of our Lord. All who hunger and thirst, come. The table is ready.

Communion

L: This is the body of Christ, given for you.

C: Amen

L: This is the blood of Christ, shed for you.

C: Amen

The body and blood of our Lord and Saviour strengthen you to eternal life.

C: Amen

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray,

Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Blessing

People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world. The holy Trinity, + one God, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Hymn

Sent Forth By God's Blessing

No. 547



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Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

Thanks be to God.