

St. Philip's Anglican Church, Etobicoke

Season of Creation 4 – September 27, 2020



Genesis 1 – The Saint John's Bible

We welcome you to worship this morning. Our celebration is joyful, reflective, playful and reverent, as we thank God for new life through Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Gathering of the Community

Welcome and Announcements

The prayer bell calls us to silent preparation

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.

Hymn – O Great Earth

Worshipping online feel free to sing and sign.

Worshipping in person signing only.

O Great Earth so green and so blue,

This is the promise that I'll make to you:

**To care for your animals (trees...oceans...elders...flowers...children...owls),
for animals (trees...oceans...elders...flowers...children...owls) can hear
the rhythm of your heartbeat**

Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Lord of all the waters

Of oceans, rivers, aquifers and lakes, evaporation and rain

Grant us humility before the resources of the world

To respect their limits

And to acknowledge our dependence on them.

May the waters of the world remind us of the grace of life
and the depth of your love

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Breaking Open the Word

The First Reading: Philippians 2.1-13


Reader: Kathy Bignell-Jones

¹ If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, ² make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷ but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸ he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. ¹² Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Psalms 78.1-4, 12-16 - *Musical Refrain sung by Cantor only*

 **Holy One, give us the strength to trust you,
as we strive for reconciliation and peace.**

O my people, listen to my teaching;
turn your ear to my words.

I will open my mouth for a story,
to expound questions from the past,
things that we have heard and known
and that our ancestors told us.

**We will not hide these things from our children,
but tell the next generation
about the praiseworthy and power-filled work,
the marvelous acts of the Holy One.**

God performed a miracle on behalf of their ancestors
in the land of Egypt, near Zoan.

**God divided the sea and carried them across,
the waters standing like a wall on either side.**

They were led by a cloud by day,
by light of fire by night.

**The Holy One split rocks in the desert,
to let them drink as freely as from the sea.**

God brought water from the cliff,
waters flowing like rivers.

♪ **Holy One, give us the strength to trust you,
as we strive for reconciliation and peace.**

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 21.23-32

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

²³ When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, 'By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?' ²⁴ Jesus said to them, 'I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?' And they argued with one another, 'If we say, "From heaven", he will say to us, "Why then did you not believe him?"' ²⁶ But if we say, "Of human origin", we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.' ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, 'We do not know.' And he said to them, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸ 'What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today." ²⁹ He answered, "I will not"; but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father^[E] went to the second and said the same; and he answered, "I go, sir"; but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?' They said, 'The first.' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayers of the People

Leader: Kathy Bignell-Jones

Let us offer God our thanks and praise in prayer.

For the Church universal,
of which this building is a visible symbol,

For your presence
whenever two or three have gathered in your name,

For this place
where we may be still, and know that you are God,

For the fulfilling of our desires and petitions
as you see best for us,

For our past
and a vision of the future that lies ahead,

For the gift of the Holy Spirit
and new life in baptism,

For the pardon of our sins
when we have fallen short of your glory,

For the holy eucharist
in which we have a foretaste of your eternal kingdom,

For the blessing of our vows
and the crowning of our years with your goodness,

For the healing of those in our congregation
**and others we care for who are in particular need of prayer
at this time:**

for Bruce, Grayson, Karen, Greg L., Shirley, Pavini, Victoria, Teresa,
Douglas, Scott, Lilian, Susie, Carly, Ty and Teslyn.

For the faith of those who have gone before us
and for our encouragement by their perseverance,

For the fellowship of all your saints,
and especially for Philip, our patron,

O God, from living and chosen stones you prepare an
everlasting dwelling place for your majesty. Grant that in the

power of the Holy Spirit those who serve you here may always be kept within your presence. This we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and ever.

Amen.

Confession and Absolution

Let us confess our forgetfulness of the needs of the poor, and repent of the ways in which we waste the resources of the world.

We confess our sin, and the sins of our society, in the misuse of God's creation. God our Father, we are sorry for the times when we have used your gifts carelessly, and acted ungratefully. Hear our prayer, and in your mercy:

forgive us and help us.

We enjoy the fruits of the harvest, but sometimes forget that you have given them to us. Heavenly Mother, in your mercy:

forgive us and help us.

We belong to a people who are full and satisfied, but ignore the cry of the hungry. Holy God, in your mercy:

forgive us and help us.

We are thoughtless, and do not care enough for the world you have made. Compassionate and loving God, in your mercy:

forgive us and help us.

We store up goods for ourselves alone, as if there were no God and no heaven. God of grace and glory, in your mercy:

forgive us and help us.

Merciful God, grant to 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 Offertory

We offer ourselves and our monetary gifts for the support of the ministry of the Church.

1. **Many and great, O God, are your works,
maker of earth and sky.
Your hands have set the heavens with stars;
your fingers spread the mountains and plains.
Lo, at your Word the waters were formed;
deep seas obey your voice.**
2. **Grant unto us communion with you,
O star abiding one.
Come unto us and dwell with us;
with you are found the gifts of life.
Bless us with life that has no end,
eternal life in you.**

Prayer Over the Gifts

Let us pray.

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.

Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

As able, we continue standing together in thanksgiving before God.

Eucharistic Prayer

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to God our Creator.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right in all times and in all places to thank and praise you
Creator of all.

We praise you here in Southern Ontario where city and farm,
wilderness and industry are side by side. We praise you at a time
when the body of earth is broken again and again.

We give thanks for our place in the story of salvation. Our ancestors journeyed with you in creation and migration. They depended on the land, were displaced from the land and displaced others from their lands. They knew you in tents and cities, on mountains and by wells, in families and in dreams, and through wilderness prophets who spoke of cedars and listened to ravens.

Together with angels and ancestors, beluga and trout, bear and raven, trillium and cedar we join our voices with all creation in this ancient song of praise.

Holy, holy, holy Lord. God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

We give thanks to you for Jesus, whose first bed was a feed trough. He was baptized in the Jordan, tested in the wilderness, he traveled in fishing boats and told parables of farmers and seeds, labour and wages, yeast and bread.

On the night before he died, Jesus took bread, food of the poor, the work of field and hearth, he gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his friends saying: Take and eat, this is my body, given for you, do this to remember me.

Again after supper he took the cup of wine, fruit of the land, gave thanks and gave it to his friends saying: This is my blood, which is shed for you. When you do this, do it in memory of me.

Remembering Jesus' life, death and resurrection and awaiting his coming kingdom, we offer you this bread and this cup.

Creator, send your Spirit on these gifts so that we know Jesus in them and are gathered together with everyone who shares this sacred meal of justice and community. Fill us with the courage and love of Jesus, that we may strive for justice and peace, respect the dignity of every human being, and safeguard the integrity of creation. Bring us with all your saints to your commonwealth of sparrow and lily, child and beggar which is both now and yet to come.

All honor and glory are yours, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, let us 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 for ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

We, being many, are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

Invitation to Communion

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

You are invited to come forward one by one to receive Communion. Please do not leave your seat until a sidesperson has indicated that it is your turn, and as soon as you have consumed the bread and sanitized your hands immediately return to your seat.

If you would like to receive a blessing only, then come forward when it is your turn and place your hands across your chest. Return to your seat as soon as the priest has blessed you.

Music during Communion: *O What A Miracle*

O ——— O, what a mi - ra - cle |
to be a - wake_ in - side_ your breathing, |
your brea - thing, | your brea - thing. |
O ——— O ——— Om (*repeats*)

Prayer After Communion

Creator of All,
strengthen the unity of your Church,
so that we who have been fed with holy things
may fulfil your will in the world.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
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.**

Final Blessing

God the Source of all Being, who created the world, give you grace to be wise stewards of his creation.

Amen.

God the Eternal Word, who redeemed the world, inspire you to go out as labourers into the harvest.

Amen.

God the Holy Spirit, whose breath fills the whole creation, help you to bear the divine fruits of love, joy and peace.

Amen.

And the blessing of God, the Source of all Being, Eternal Word, and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Hymn Praise God from Whom

- 1. Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**
- 2. Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creature high and low;
give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word, and Spirit, one.**
- 3. Praise God the Source of life and birth,
Praise God the Word, who came to earth.
Praise God the Spirit, holy flame.
All glory, honour to God's name.**

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Organ Postlude

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Final blessing from “Let All Things Their Creator Bless”: Liturgy for Use During the Season of Creationtide, Diocese of Guilford, p. 37