

St. Philip's Anglican Church, Etobicoke
Thanksgiving Sunday - October 10, 2021
Holy Eucharist



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.

As we gather on this sacred land, we acknowledge that this is the Dish with One Spoon Territory created in Treaty by the Anishinabee, Mississaugas and Haudenosaunee binding them to share and protect this land. Subsequent indigenous nations and peoples, Europeans and all newcomers have been invited into this treaty in the spirit of peace, friendship and respect. May we faithfully fulfill our treaty commitments to the land and its people.

This land has also been the place of Christian worship since the 1820's.

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.

Almighty God,

to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Children's Time — Michele Parkin

Hymn – *Gather Us In*

**Gather us in, ground us in you.
Gather us in, ground us in you.
Gather us in,
gather us in,
ground us,
ground us in you.**

Collect of the Day

Let us pray.

Creator God,
you made the goodness of the land,
the riches of the sea, and the rhythm of the seasons.
As we thank you for the harvest,
may we cherish and respect this planet and its peoples;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Breaking Open the Word

The First Reading: Joel 2.21–27

Reader: Frances Clarkson

Do not fear, O soil; be glad and rejoice, for the LORD has done great things! Do not fear, you animals of the field, for the pastures of the wilderness are green; the tree bears its fruit, the fig tree and vine give their full yield. O children of Zion, be glad and rejoice in the LORD your God; for he has given the early rain^[a] for your vindication, he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the later rain, as before. The threshing-floors shall be full of grain, the vats shall overflow with wine and oil. I will repay you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent against you. You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the LORD your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame. You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I, the LORD, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 126

When the Holy One restores Zion's fortunes,
it will be like a glorious dream.

**Our mouths will be filled with laughter
and our tongues with joyful shouts.**

The nations will exclaim,

“What wonderful things God has done for them.”

The Holy One has indeed done wonders for us!

We will be filled with ecstasy.

**O Holy One, bring back our exiles
streaming through the southern desert.**

Those who sowed in tears
will harvest in great joy.

**Those who carried the seed went forth in tears,
but will surely return carrying the sheaves of harvest!**

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 6.25—33

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.

Jesus said: ‘Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you — you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, “What will we eat?” or “What will we drink?” or “What will we wear?” For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon: The Rev. Mike Stuchbery

Affirmation of Faith

Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one.

**Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul,
with all your mind, and with all your strength.**

This is the first and the great commandment.

The second is like it:

Love your neighbour as yourself.

There is no commandment greater than these.

O God our creator,
whose good earth is entrusted
to our care and delight and tenderness,
we pray:

For all who are in captivity to debt,
whose lives are cramped with fear
from which there is not turning
except through abundant harvest.

May those who sow in tears
Reap with shouts of joy.

For all who depend on the earth
for their daily food and fuel
whose forests are destroyed
for the profits of a few.

May those who sow in tears
Reap with shouts of joy.

For all who labour in poverty,
who are oppressed by unjust laws,
who are banned for speaking the truth,
who long for a harvest of justice.

May those who sow in tears
Reap with shouts of joy.

For all who are in captivity
To greed and waste and boredom,
whose harvest joy is choked
with things they do not need.

May those who sow in tears
Reap with shouts of joy.

Turn us again from our captivity
and restore our vision,
**that our mouth may be filled with laughter
and our tongue with singing. Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;
welcoming sinners and inviting them to this table.
Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence is kept.

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.**

Almighty God have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

The Offertory

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

Hymn – *O Great Earth*

**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**

Prayer Over the Gifts

Let us pray.

God of love and justice,
you make known your ways in the lives of your saints.
Receive all we offer you this day,
and help us to know your holy will and do it;
through Jesus Christ the 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.

We give you thanks and praise, almighty God,
for the gift of a world full of wonder,
and for our life which comes from you.
By your power you sustain the universe.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

You created us to love you with all our heart,
and to love each other as ourselves,
but we rebel against you by the evil that we do.

In Jesus, your Son,
you bring healing to our world
and gather us into one great family.
Therefore, with all who serve you
on earth and in heaven,
we praise your wonderful name,

**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 you thanks and praise, loving Father,
because in sending Jesus, your Son, to us
you showed us how much you love us.
He cares for the poor and the hungry.
He suffers with the sick and the rejected.

Betrayed and forsaken, he did not strike back
but overcame hatred with love.

On the cross
he defeated the power of sin and death.
By raising him from the dead
you show us the power of your love
to bring new life to all your people.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

On the night before he gave up his life for us,
Jesus, at supper with his friends,
took bread, gave thanks to you,
broke it, and gave it to them,
saying, "Take this, all of you, and eat it:
this is my body which is given for you."

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine,
said the blessing, gave it to his friends,
and said, "Drink this, all of you:
this is the cup of my blood,
the blood of the new and eternal covenant,
which is shed for you and for many,
so that sins may be forgiven.
Do this in memory of me."

Glory to you for ever and ever.

Gracious God,
with this bread and wine
we celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus,
and we offer ourselves to you in him.

Send your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts,
that we may know the presence of Jesus
in the breaking of bread,
and share in the life
of the family of your children.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

Father, you call us to be your servants;
fill us with the courage and love of Jesus,
that all the world may gather in joy
at the table of your kingdom.

We sing your praise, almighty Father,
through Jesus, our Lord,
in the power of the Holy Spirit,
now and for ever.

Glory to you for ever and ever. 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.**

Breaking of the Bread

Creator of all,
you gave us golden fields of wheat,
whose many grains we have gathered
and made into this one bread.

**So may your Church be gathered
from the ends of the earth
into your kingdom.**

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

**Jesus, I believe that you are present with us
in the sacrament of bread and wine.
I love you and I desire your presence afresh in my life.
Since I cannot now receive the bread and wine of the altar,
come spiritually into my heart.
I embrace you and unite myself to you;
never let me be separated from you. Amen.**

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray.

God of glory, this table is a foretaste of the kingdom of your Son.
May we be faithful to him in this life
and rejoice with your servant Francis for ever;
through the same 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.

Closing Hymn 258 *We Plough the Fields and Scatter* vs. 1 and 3

- 1. We plough the fields and scatter
the good seed on the land,
but it is feed and watered
by God's almighty hand;
he sends the snow in winter;
the warmth to swell the grain,
the breezes and the sunshine,
and soft refreshing rain.**

Refrain

**All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above;
then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord, for all his love.**

- 3. We thank thee then, O Father,
for all things bright and good:
the seed-time and the harvest,
our live, our health, our food.
Accept the gifts we offer
for all thy love imparts,
and, what thou most desirest,
our humble, thankful hearts.**

Refrain

Final Blessing

May God keep you in all your days.
May Christ shield you in all your ways.
May the Spirit bring you healing and peace.
May the Holy Trinity drive all darkness from you
and pour upon you blessing and light.

Amen.

Postlude

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