**17TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST, ZION PHILIPSBURG**

**GATHERING**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

**announcements**

Welcome to worship on this 17th Sunday after Pentecost, September 24. We’ve had lovely weather this week as we welcomed fall.

Some announcements- next Sunday we celebrate our 180th years of ministry at Zion. This is another important milestone in our history! All are welcome to attend this service. Bishop Pryse will be preaching, and cake and fellowship follows the service.

September 28 is British Home Child Day. This day is intended to recognize and honour the contributions of the British home children who established roots in Ontario. We will remember these children in our prayers.

September 30th is the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, also known

as “Orange Shirt Day”. On this important day, Trinity, NH will host a Vigil Service

with prayer, music, and reflection. Join us at 6:30 pm on Saturday,

September 30th on Trinity’s Peel Street lawn. Seating will be provided.

Birthday this week- our dear Vivian has a birthday on Sept 27. Let us sing Happy Birthday.

Ongoing food drive and warm clothing drive.

Anything else?

**GATHERING SONG*****Take My Life, That I May Be ELW 583***

Refrain
Take my life, that I may be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

1 Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee. Refrain

2 Take my silver and my gold,
not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect and use
ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose. Refrain

3 Take my voice and let me sing
always, only for my King;
take my lips and let them be
filled with messages from thee. Refrain

4 Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine;
take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne. Refrain

**GREETING (ELW p. 213)**

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.**

**KYRIE (ELW p. 213)**

**CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 213)**

**Glory to God, glory to God,** **glory to God in the highest;** **glory to God, glory to God,** **and peace to God’s people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,** **almighty God and Father,**

**we worship you,** **we give you thanks,** **we praise you for your glory.**

**Glory to God, glory to God,** **glory to God in the highest;** **glory to God, glory to God,** **and peace to God’s people on earth.**

**Lord Jesus Christ,** **only Son of the Father,**

**Lord God, Lamb of God,** **you take away the sin of the world:** **have mercy on us;**

**you are seated at the right hand of the Father:** **receive our prayer.**

**Glory to God, glory to God,** **glory to God in the highest;** **glory to God, glory to God,** **and peace to God’s people on earth.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,** **you alone are the Lord,**

**you alone are the Most High,** **Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,**

**in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**Glory to God, glory to God,** **glory to God in the highest;** **glory to God, glory to God,** **and peace to God’s people on earth,** **and peace to God’s people on earth.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 215)**

Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, you always show lovingkindness to us your servants. Help us look beyond our imperfectness and uncomfortableness to embrace your grace and unconditional love. Open our hearts as you opened yours to us. In the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord we pray. **Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**WORD**

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

**FIRST READING: Jonah 3:10--4:11**

A reading from Jonah.

*After Jonah’s short sermon in 3:4, the Ninevites all repented and God decided to spare the city. Jonah objected to this and became even more angry when God ordered a worm to destroy a plant that was providing shade. The book ends with a question that challenges any who are not ready to forgive: You, Jonah, are all worked up about a bush, but shouldn’t I be concerned about a hundred and twenty thousand Ninevites?*

10When God saw what [the people of Nineveh] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.
 4:1But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. 2He prayed to the Lord and said, “O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. 3And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” 4And the Lord said, “Is it right for you to be angry?” 5Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.
 6The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. 7But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. 8When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, “It is better for me to die than to live.”
 9But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die.” 10Then the Lord said, “You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. 11And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 145:1-8**

 1I will exalt you, my God and king, and bless your name forever and ever.
 2**Every day will I bless you** **and praise your name forever and ever.**
 3Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised! There is no end to your greatness.
 4**One generation shall praise your works to another** **and shall declare your power.**
 5I will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty and all your marvelous works.
 6**They shall tell of the might of your wondrous acts,** **and I will recount your greatness.**
 7They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness;
  they shall sing joyfully of your righteousness.
 8**The Lord is gracious and full of compassion,** **slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

**SECOND READING: Philippians 1:21-30**

A reading from Philippians.

*Paul writes to the Philippians from prison. Though he is uncertain about the outcome of his imprisonment, he is committed to the ministry of the gospel and calls on the Philippians to live lives that reflect and enhance the gospel mission.*

21For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. 22If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. 23I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; 24but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. 25Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, 26so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.
 27Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, 28and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God’s doing. 29For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—30since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 216)**

**Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go?** **Alleluia. You have the words of eternal life.**

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

**GOSPEL: Matthew 20:1-16**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 1“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. 2After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. 3When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; 4and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. 5When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. 6And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ 7They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ 8When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ 9When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. 10Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. 11And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, 12saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ 13But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? 14Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. 15Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ 16So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON (ELW p. 217)**

*The assembly is seated.*

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY*****Lord of All Hopefulness* (ELW 765)**

1 Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could destroy:
be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

2 Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
be there at our labors, and give us, we pray,
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

3 Lord of all kindliness, Lord of all grace,
your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace:
be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

4 Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm:
be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors. *A brief silence.*

God who is gracious and merciful, embolden your church to invite and welcome all. Lead us to be grateful for the blessing of community. Challenge your church to choose equity and compassion over judgment and uncomfortableness. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God who sends the wind and the sun, you know every worm and bush by name. Help us remember that even the humblest parts of creation are precious to you. Show us how best to care for the earth and its creatures. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God who rules with justice and mercy. Send leaders who are wise and compassionate, honest and authentic to lead with courage to serve their communities in times of uncertainty, stress, or exhaustion. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God who saves, protect your children from calamity and disaster. Strengthen all who are incarcerated. Encourage all who struggle in mind, body, or spirit *especially* Sarah, Chris, John, Vivian, Edna, Felix, Gary, Erin, Zoli, Donna, John C, Debbie G, Deb S, Beatty, Nick, Elizabeth, Randy, and our members in Long Term Care, Robert, Evelyn and Rob, and those we name either out loud or in the silence of our hearts. (good pause). Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God who loves, help us to remember the thousands of British Home Children who were emigrated to Canada for almost 80 years. Many were loved and accepted, but more were overworked and abused, separated from families, lonely and isolated. Did they know that they were beloved in your eyes? Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God who is slow to anger, may we boast about the goodness of Jesus with the confidence of Paul in prison. Inspire us to find abundance in whatever vocation we are called to in the world and in service to our congregation. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God who abounds in steadfast love, we give thanks for the saints called to the kingdom of heaven. United with them in spirit, hold us firm as we labor in this life and look to the life to come. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**PEACE (ELW p. 217)**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**THANKSGIVING**

**OFFERING PRAYER**

God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We come with our gifts, so that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

**CANTICLE OF THANKSGIVING (ELW p. 219)**

**Salvation belongs to our God** **and to Christ the Lamb forever and ever.**

**Great and wonderful are your deeds,** **O God of the universe;**

**just and true are your ways,** **O Ruler of all the nations.**

**Who can fail to honor you, Lord,** **and sing the glory of your name?**

**Salvation belongs to our God** **and to Christ the Lamb forever and ever.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,** **and blessed is the one** **whose name is the Word of God.** **All praise and thanks to you, holy God!**

**Salvation belongs to our God** **and to Christ the Lamb forever and ever.**

**THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD (ELW p. 220)**

Holy God, mighty Fortress, loving Redeemer, steadfast Comforter, as vegetation matures in forests and fields, your living Word undergirds all that lives.

We praise your eternal Word. **We praise your eternal Word.**

In the words of the scriptures you offer us Christ: our refuge, our savior, our friend,

accompanying us throughout our years and renewing us in love.

We praise Jesus, your Word. **We praise Jesus, your Word.**

We pray for power from your abiding Spirit. Strengthen us to stand firm in faith,

in devotion to your Word, and in service to others. We pray for the Spirit of your Word. **We pray for the Spirit of your Word.**

To you be honor and praise and glory, today and forever. **Amen.**

Let us pray.

**LORD’S PRAYER (ELW p. 221)**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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,** **and the power, and the glory,** **forever and ever. Amen.**

**SENDING**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

**BLESSING**

The God of glory, ☩ Jesus Christ, name above all names,

and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

**SENDING SONG*Rise Up, O Saints of God!* (ELW 669)**

1 Rise up, O saints of God!
From vain ambitions turn;
Christ rose triumphant that your hearts
with nobler zeal might burn.

2 Speak out, O saints of God!
Despair engulfs earth's frame;
as heirs of God's baptismal grace,
the word of hope proclaim.

3 Rise up, O saints of God!
The kingdom's task embrace;
redress sin's cruel consequence;
give justice larger place.

4 Give heed, O saints of God!
Creation cries in pain;
stretch forth your hand of healing now,
with love the weak sustain.

5 Commit your hearts to seek
the paths which Christ has trod;
and, quickened by the Spirit's pow'r,
rise up, O saints of God!

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

**Thanks be to God.**

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