



Seventh Sunday of Easter

Jerusalem and Confirmation Sunday

The Right Reverend Shane Parker

May 12, 2024

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Bishop: Dear friends, we gather on the ancestral territory of the Anishnaabeg Algonquin, the traditional stewards of the lands and waters on which we meet.

All: **May we walk gently together on this land, seeking renewed relationship based on honour, respect, and peace.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN Christ, Be Our Light ELW 715

**Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.**

Refrain

**Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.**

**Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.
Make us your living voice. *Refrain***

**Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed. *Refrain***

**Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone. *Refrain***

**Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
signs of your kingdom come. *Refrain***

EASTER GREETING

Bishop: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Bishop: May his grace and peace be with you.

All: **May he fill our hearts with joy.**

CHILDREN'S TALK

Janet Currie-Kelk

(Children are invited to come forward during the last verse of the Opening Hymn. The children may join the Church School following the talk.)

Bishop: Almighty God,

All: **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.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Bishop: Let us pray.

Giver of eternal life, send us to your world to speak the truth of peace, to stand with those who suffer, and to show another way; through Jesus Christ, the life of all things.

All: Amen.

The First Reading is from Acts (1:15-17, 21-26).

In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred and twenty people) and said, 'Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.'

So one of the men who have accompanied us throughout the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.' So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, 'Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.' And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

All: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 1

Happy are those
who do not follow the advice of the wicked,

**or take the path that sinners tread,
or sit in the seat of scoffers;**

but their delight is in the law of the Lord,
and on his law they meditate day and night.

**They are like trees
planted by streams of water,**
which yield their fruit in its season,
and their leaves do not wither.

In all that they do, they prosper.

The wicked are not so,
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

**Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgement,
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;**
for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.

The Second Reading is from 1 John (5:9-13).

If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

All: Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN Open Your Ears, O Faithful People ELW 519

**Open your ears, O faithful people,
open your ears and hear God's word.
Open your hearts, O royal priesthood,
God has come to you.**

Refrain (Hebrew)

***Torah ora, Torah ora, hallelujah!
Torah ora, Torah ora, hallelujah!
Torah ora, Torah ora, hallelujah!
Torah ora, Torah ora, hallelujah!***

**They who have ears to hear the message,
they who have ears, now let them hear;
they who would learn the way of wisdom,
let them hear God's word. *Refrain***

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according
to **John (17:6-19)**.

All: **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

[Jesus prayed:] 'I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them.

And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them

was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled.

But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

The Rt. Rev. Shane Parker

PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION

Sponsors: **We present Gideon, Margot, Merit, Marcus, John and Matthew** for confirmation.

Bishop: Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil?

Response: I do.

Bishop: Do you renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

Response: I do.

Bishop: Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Response: I do, and with God's grace I will follow him as my Saviour and Lord.

Bishop: Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

All: We will.

Bishop: Let us join with those who commit themselves again to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

Bishop: Do you believe in God the Father?

**All: I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Bishop: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

All: 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.

Bishop: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

All: I believe in God the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Bishop: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

All: I will, with God's help.

Bishop: Will you persevere in resisting evil and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

All: I will, with God's help.

Bishop: Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?

All: I will, with God's help.

Bishop: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbour as yourself?

All: I will, with God's help.

Bishop: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

All: I will, with God's help.

Bishop: Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation, and respect, sustain and renew the life of the Earth?

All: I will, with God's help.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Bishop: Let us pray for those who are affirming their baptism, and for all the baptized everywhere, saying, "Lord, hear our prayer."

Leader: That they may be redeemed from all evil and rescued from the way of sin and death; in your mercy,

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: That the Holy Spirit may open their hearts to your grace and truth; in your mercy,

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: That they may be kept in the faith and communion of your holy Church; in your mercy,

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: That they may be sent into the world in witness to your love; in your mercy,

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: That they may be brought to the fullness of your peace and glory; in your mercy,

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: O God, we give you thanks that your dear Son gathers us in the embrace of his love and sends us to share that love to the ends of the earth. We pray your blessings and strength for the living stones of the Church in Jerusalem who witness to your love there and throughout the Middle East. Grant them courage and endurance for the trials they face. In your mercy,

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Sustain the hope in all who long and labour for a just and lasting peace in the land of the Holy One. Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Silence may be kept.

Bishop: Almighty God, we thank you that by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you have overcome sin and brought us to yourself, and that by the sealing of your Holy Spirit you have bound us to your service. Renew in these your servants the covenant you made with them at their baptism.

Send them forth in the power of that Spirit to perform the service you set before them; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All: Amen.

Bishop: Strengthen, O Lord, your servant **Merit / Gideon / Margot / Matthew / John/ Marcus**, with your Holy Spirit; empower him/her for your service; and sustain him/her all the days of his/her life. Amen.

Bishop: Almighty and ever living God, let your loving hand ever be over these your servants; let your Holy Spirit ever be with them; and so lead them in the knowledge and obedience of your word, that they may serve you in this life, and dwell with you in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

PEACE

Bishop: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And also with you.

OFFERTORY HYMN

All Are Welcome

ELW 641

**Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:**

Refrain

**All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.**

**Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground
where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us: *Refrain***

**Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger: *Refrain***

**Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: *Refrain***

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Bishop: Blessed are you, O God,
ruler of heaven and earth.
Day by day you shower us with blessings.
As you have raised us to new life in Christ,
give us glad and generous hearts,
ready to praise you and to respond to those in need,
through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.

All: **Amen.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Bishop: May God be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Bishop: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them up to God.**

Bishop: Let us give thanks to God.

All: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Bishop: Holy God, Lover of creation, we give you thanks and praise for in the ocean of your steadfast love you bear us and place the song of your Spirit in our hearts. When we turn from your love and defile the earth, you do not abandon us.

Your Spirit speaks through Huldah and Micah, through prophets, sages, and saints in every age, to confront our sin and reveal the vision of your new creation. Joining in the song of the universe we proclaim your glory singing:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
CP 732 heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

Bishop: Gracious God, in the fullness of time you sent Jesus the Christ to share our fragile humanity. Through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection you open the path from brokenness to health, from fear to trust, from pride and conceit to reverence for you. Rejected by a world that could not bear the Gospel of life, Jesus knew death was near. His head anointed for burial by an unknown woman, Jesus gathered together those who loved him.

He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it and gave it to his friends, saying, "Take and eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, gave you thanks, and said, "Drink this all of you, this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

And now we gather at this table in response to his commandment, to share the bread and cup of Christ's undying love, and to proclaim our faith.

All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Bishop: Breathe your Holy Spirit, the wisdom of the universe, upon these gifts that we bring to you: this bread, this cup, ourselves, our souls and bodies, that we may be signs of your love for all the world and ministers of your transforming purpose. Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, Creator of all, and we bless your holy name for ever.

All: Amen.

Bishop: And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we sing together,

All: 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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Bishop: Lord, we died with you on the cross.

All: Now we are raised to new life.

Bishop: We were buried in your tomb.

All: Now we share in your resurrection.

Bishop: Live in us, that we may live in you.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Bishop: With those joining us online, I will lead the Prayer for Spiritual Communion: In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, O Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. Since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come.

All: Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN On Eagle's Wings CP 531

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
who abide in this shadow for life,
say to the Lord: "My refuge,
my rock in whom I trust!"

Refrain

And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of God's hand.

The snare of the fowler will never capture you,
and famine will bring you no fear;
under God's wings your refuge,
with faithfulness your shield. **Refrain**

You need not fear the terror of the night,
nor the arrow that flies by day;
though thousands fall about you,
near you it shall not come. **Refrain**

For to the angels God's given a command
to guard you in all of your ways;
upon their hands they will bear you up,
lest you dash your foot against a stone.

Final refrain

And God will raise you up on eagle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of God's hand;
and hold you, hold you in the palm of God's hand.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Bishop: Life-giving God,
in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to
conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread
of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as
witnesses to your Son's resurrection, so that we may
show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ,
our risen Lord.

All: Amen

Bishop: Glory to God,
**All 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.**

Bishop: *and the blessing...*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Let there be light,
let there be understanding,
let all the nations gather,
let them be face to face.**

**Open our lips,
open our minds to ponder,
open the door of concord
opening into grace.**

**Perish the sword,
perish the angry judgment,
perish the bombs and hunger,
perish the fight for gain.**

**thy kingdom come,
thy spirit turn to language,
thy people speak together,
thy spirit never fade;**

**Let there be light,
open our hearts to wonder,
perish the way of terror,
hallow the world God made.**

DISMISSAL

LM: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!