

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Lectionary 15 - July 12, 2020

Treaty 4 Territory

We are privileged to gather today in Treaty 4 Territory and the traditional homeland of the Metis.

Welcome Statement

You are welcome here, you, whose face does not resemble mine, whose spirit I may not define, you, whose eyes have seen, what I will never dream. You, whose frame is bent or broken, whose mind fears the unspoken. You are welcome here.

Regardless of your race, your age, your gender identity or expression, your marital status, physical and mental ability, your sexual orientation, country of origin, economic and religious status, you will be honoured here.

For Christ has made us whole and Christ has set us free. His daily grace enables us to live in harmony.

OPENING HYMN – “512 Lord, Let My heart Be Good Soil”

The Prayer of the Day

Let us pray... Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading: Genesis 25:19-34.

¹⁹These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham’s son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, ²⁰and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. ²¹Isaac prayed to the LORD for his wife, because she was barren; and the LORD granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. ²²The children struggled together within her; and she said, “If it is to be this way, why do I live?” So she went to inquire of the LORD. ²³And the LORD said to her,

“Two nations are in your womb,
and two peoples born of you shall be divided;
the one shall be stronger than the other,
the elder shall serve the younger.”

²⁴When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. ²⁵The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau. ²⁶Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau’s heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.

²⁷When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. ²⁸Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob.

²⁹Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. ³⁰Esau said to Jacob, “Let me eat some of that red

stuff, for I am famished!” (Therefore he was called Edom.) ³¹Jacob said, “First sell me your birthright.” ³²Esau said, “I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?” ³³Jacob said, “Swear to me first.” So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. ³⁴Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 119:105-112

¹⁰⁵Your word is a lamp | to my feet
and a light up- | on my path.
¹⁰⁶**I have sworn and | am determined
to keep your | righteous judgments.**
¹⁰⁷I am | deeply troubled;
preserve my life, O LORD, according | to your word.
¹⁰⁸**Accept, O LORD, the willing tribute | of my lips,
and teach | me your judgments. R**
¹⁰⁹My life is al- | ways in danger,
yet I do not for- | get your teaching.
¹¹⁰**The wicked have set a | trap for me,
but I have not strayed from | your commandments.**
¹¹¹Your decrees are my inheri- | tance forever;
truly, they are the joy | of my heart.
¹¹²**I have applied my heart to ful- | fill your statutes
forever and | to the end. R**

Second Reading: Romans 8:1-11

¹There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: sending God’s own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, God condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God’s law—indeed it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of

sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through this Spirit dwelling in you. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 The holy gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And in the sowing, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹Let anyone with ears listen!
¹⁸"Hear then the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the dominion of heaven and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Reflection

Hymn of the Day - 508 As Rain form the Clouds OR solo: "Thy Word" – (Amy Grant song)

CREED

**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 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

Praying separately in our homes yet united in the Spirit, let us together intercede for all the needs of the world. In response to each bid, you are invited to offer your own prayers, silently or aloud, and to conclude each petition with the words, “**Your mercy is everlasting.**” *A brief silence.*

We pray for our congregation and for all the churches in neighborhood.
Take time for prayer.

O God, rain down your mercy on us: **your mercy is everlasting.**

We pray for missionaries and for newly planted congregations around the world. *Take time for prayer.*

O God, rain down your mercy on us: **your mercy is everlasting.**

We pray for those for whom growth in faith is difficult. *Take time for prayer.*

O God, rain down your mercy on us: **your mercy is everlasting.**

We pray for farms and fields that are devastated by drought. *Take time for prayer.*

O God, rain down your mercy on us: **your mercy is everlasting.**

We pray for all animals in search of water. *Take time for prayer.*

O God, rain down your mercy on us: **your mercy is everlasting.**

We pray for peace throughout the world, especially in the Middle East.
Take time for prayer.

O God, rain down your mercy on us: **your mercy is everlasting.**

We pray for the government of our country, state, and county. *Take time for prayer.*

O God, rain down your mercy on us: **your mercy is everlasting.**

We pray for our society to be purged of racism. *Take time for prayer.*

O God, rain down your mercy on us: **your mercy is everlasting.**

We pray for the thousands who each day are contracting the coronavirus. *Take time for prayer.*

O God, rain down your mercy on us: **your mercy is everlasting.**

We pray for those without jobs or health care. *Take time for prayer.*

O God, rain down your mercy on us: **your mercy is everlasting.**

We pray for medical workers and researchers. *Take time for prayer.*

O God, rain down your mercy on us: **your mercy is everlasting.**

We pray for all who are sick. Especially we remember Lynne, Maureen, Beth, Terri, Russell, Fred and all those we name in the silence. *Take time for prayer.*

O God, rain down your mercy on us: **your mercy is everlasting.**

We pray for all who are burdened by anxiety. *Take time for prayer.*

O God, rain down your mercy on us: **your mercy is everlasting.**

We pray, each of us, for ourselves. *Take time for prayer.*

O God, rain down your mercy on us: **your mercy is everlasting.**

We thank God for all who were dedicated to ecumenism, and for all who have died in the faith. *Take time for prayer.*

O God, rain down your mercy on us: **your mercy is everlasting.**

O merciful God, receive these prayers, and grant us your Spirit of peace and joy, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Then conclude with these prayers:

Let us pray. Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into the darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life, O God,
we give you thanks and praise.

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness:
forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,
we give you thanks and praise.

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith,
increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of the world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.
Amen.

**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.**

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forever.
Amen.

Closing Hymn - 550 On What Has Now Been Sown