

St. Luke’s Gondola Point

**MORNING PRAYER** - Proper 21 - September 26, 2021

[Un-bolded words are said by one, **Bolded words** can be said by all.]

**PENITENTIAL RITE**

Your word, O Lord, is truth; sanctify us in the truth. *John 17.17*

Dear friends in Christ, as we prepare to worship almighty God, let us with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

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 us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn: *Holy, Holy, Holy* (CP #1)

**MORNING PRAYER**

Lord, open our lips,

**And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

O God, make speed to save us.

**O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

**as it was in the beginning, is now,** **and will be for ever. Amen.** **Alleluia!**

The Lord is our refuge and strength: **O come, let us worship.**

**Venite** *Psalm 95.1–7*

Come, let us sing to the Lord; \*

**let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.**

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*

**and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.**

For the Lord is a great God, \*

**and a great king above all gods.**

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*

**and the heights of the hills are his also.**

The sea is his for he made it, \*

**and his hands have moulded the dry land.**

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*

**and kneel before the Lord our maker.**

For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. \***Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!**

The Lord is our refuge and strength: **O come, let us worship.**

**PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

A reading from the book of *Esther 7:1–6, 9–10, 9:20–22*

*1So the king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. 2On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, “What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled.” 3Then Queen Esther answered, “If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me—that is my petition—and the lives of my people—that is my request. 4For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king.” 5Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, “Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?” 6Esther said, “A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!” Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen.*

*9Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, “Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman’s house, fifty cubits high.” And the king said, “Hang him on that.” 10So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.*

*20Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, 21enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, 22as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.*

The Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 124

If the Lord had not been on our side, \*

**let Israel now say;**

If the Lord had not been on our side, \*

**when enemies rose up against us;**

Then would they have swallowed us up alive \*

**in their fierce anger toward us;**

Then would the waters have overwhelmed us \*

**and the torrent gone over us;**

Then would the raging waters \*

**have gone right over us.**

Blessed be the Lord! \*

**he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.**

We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; \*

**the snare is broken, and we have escaped.**

Our help is in the name of the Lord, \*

**the maker of heaven and earth.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

**As it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.**

A reading from the book of James 5:13–20.

*13Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. 14Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. 15The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. 16Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. 17Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. 18Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.*

*19My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, 20you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner’s soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.*

The word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn: *Come Ye Sinners, Poor & Needy*

The Lord be with you: **And also with you.** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Mark (9:38-50). **Glory to You, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*38John said to him, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” 39But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. 40Whoever is not against us is for us. 41For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.*

*42“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. 43If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. 45And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell.,  47And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, 48where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.*

*49“For everyone will be salted with fire. 50Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”*

The Gospel of Christ: **Praise be to You, O Christ.**

Sermon

The Apostles’ Creed

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

**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.**

**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.**

**INTERCESSIONS**

Let us pray with confidence to the Lord, saying, “Lord hear our prayer.”

O Lord, guard and direct your Church in the way of unity, service, and praise.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Give to all nations an awareness of the unity of the human family.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Cleanse our hearts of prejudice and selfishness, and inspire us to hunger and thirst for what is right. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Teach us to use your creation for your greater praise, that all may share the good things you provide. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Strengthen all who give their energy or skill for the healing of those who are sick in body or in mind. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We lift up before you, O Lord, those whom are on our hearts this day.

[***Take a moment of silence to offer up prayers and intercessions, for yourself and for others. Our weekly prayer list can be found in this week’s bulletin.***]

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Set free all who are bound by fear and despair. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Grant a peaceful end and eternal rest to all who are dying, and your comfort to those who mourn. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all you have done for us.

We thank you for the splendour of the whole creation, **for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.**

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, **and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.**

We thank you for setting us tasks which demand our best efforts, **and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.**

We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us **to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.**

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; **for the truth of his word and the example of his life**;

for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; **for his dying, through which he overcame death;**

for his rising to life again, **in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.**

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know Christ and make him known; **and through him, at all times and in all places,**

**may give thanks to you in all things.** **Amen**.

Collect

*Grant, O merciful God,*

*that your Church, being gathered by your Holy Spirit into one, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord,*

*who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.* **Amen.**

The Lord’s Prayer

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Song: *Live In Charity*

Dismissal

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**