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**The Sixth Sunday After Pentecost** – July 9, 2023

St. Luke’s Gondola Point

Morning Prayer - Churchyard Service

[Un-bolded words are said by one.

**Bolded words** can be said by all.]

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“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.” *Matthew 11:28*

**CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION**

Dear friends in Christ, let us confess our sins against God and our neighbour.

**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.**

**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 light and our life: **O come, let us worship.**

*Psalm 63:1-4*

O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; \*

**my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,**

**as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.**

Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, \*

**that I might behold your power and your glory.**

For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; \*

**my lips shall give you praise.**

So will I bless you as long as I live \*

**and lift up my hands in your name.**

The Lord is our light and our life: **O come, let us worship.**

Hymn: *O God Our Help In Ages Past*

O God, our help in ages past,

Our hope for years to come,

Our shelter from the stormy blast,

And our eternal home.

Under the shadow of Thy throne

Thy saints have dwelt secure;

Sufficient is Thine arm alone,

And our defence is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,

Or earth received her frame,

From everlasting Thou art God,

To endless years the same.

A thousand ages in Thy sight

Are like an evening gone;

Short as the watch that ends the night

Before the rising sun.

O God, our help in ages past,

Our hope for years to come,

Be Thou our guard while life shall last,

And our eternal home.

**PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

A reading from the book of Zechariah 9:9–12.

 Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!

Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!

Lo, your king comes to you;

triumphant and victorious is he,

humble and riding on a donkey,

on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim

and the war-horse from Jerusalem;

and the battle bow shall be cut off,

and he shall command peace to the nations;

his dominion shall be from sea to sea,

and from the River to the ends of the earth.

As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;

today I declare that I will restore to you double.

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

Psalm 145:8-15

The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, \*

**slow to anger and of great kindness.**

The Lord is loving to everyone \*

**and his compassion is over all his works.**

All your works praise you, O Lord, \*

**and your faithful servants bless you.**

They make known the glory of your kingdom \*

**and speak of your power;**

That the peoples may know of your power \*

**and the glorious splendour of your kingdom.**

Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; \*

**your dominion endures throughout all ages.**

The Lord is faithful in all his words \*

**and merciful in all his deeds.**

The Lord upholds all those who fall; \*

**he lifts up those who are bowed down.**

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 letter to the Romans 7:15–25.

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

So then, with my mind I am a slave to the law of God, but with my flesh I am a slave to the law of sin.

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

Reading of the Gospel

The Lord be with you: **And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ,

according to Matthew (11:16–19, 25–30)

**Glory to You, Lord Jesus Christ.**

“But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

 ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;

we wailed, and you did not mourn.’

For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

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

Sermon

**CONFESSION OF FAITH**

Let us confess our faith, using the words of the Apostle’s 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.**

Offertory Hymn: *There Is A Redeemer*

There is a redeemer / Jesus, God's own Son
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah / Holy One

Thank you, oh my Father / For giving us Your Son
And leaving Your Spirit 'til / The work on Earth is done

Jesus my redeemer / Name above all names
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah / Oh, for sinners slain

Thank you, oh my Father / For giving us Your Son
And leaving Your Spirit 'til / The work on Earth is done

When I stand in Glory / I will see His face
And there I'll serve my King forever / In that Holy Place

Thank you, oh my Father / For giving us Your Son
And leaving Your Spirit 'til / The work on Earth is done

Prayer over the Gifts

God of heaven and earth, receive our sacrifice of praise,

and strengthen us for the perfect freedom of your service,

through our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**PRAYERS & INTERCESSIONS**

*Let us pray 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.**

[*Our weekly prayer list can be found in this week’s bulletin.* *Take a moment to offer up to the Lord your own petitions and prayers, for yourself or others, either silently or aloud.*] **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.**

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Almighty and everlasting God, with whom still live the spirits

of those who die in the Lord, and with whom the souls of the

faithful are in joy and felicity: we give you heartfelt thanks for

the good examples of all your servants, who having finished

their course in faith, now find rest and refreshment.

Father of all, we pray to you for those we love but see no

longer. Grant them your peace; let light perpetual shine upon

them; and in your loving wisdom and almighty power, work in

them the good purpose of your perfect will.

Lord Jesus Christ, by your death you took away the sting of

death. Grant to us your servants so to follow in faith where you

have led the way, that we may at length fall asleep peacefully

in you and wake up in your likeness, for your tender mercies*’*

sake. **Amen.**

Collect

*Almighty God,*

*your Son Jesus Christ has taught us that what we do for the least of your children we do also for him.*

*Give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all,*

*who gave up his life and died for us, but 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, let us 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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

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

Hymn: *Let Your Servant Now Go In Peace*

Let Your servant now go in peace, O Lord

Now go in peace according to Your word. (Repeated)

Blessing

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. And may the blessing of God, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Thank you for joining us for our

2nd Annual St. Luke’s Churchyard Service

All are invited to spend time visiting the graves in our Churchyard Cemetery, reflecting on the lives of those brothers and sisters in Christ who have gone before us, known and unknown to us, who have shared in the life of our community here in Gondola Point. Afterwards there will be a time of food and fellowship on St. Luke’s Parish Hall.