

St. Luke’s Gondola Point

Morning Prayer Service

**The Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost** – September 24, 2023

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

**PENITENTIAL RITE**

Open our hearts, O Lord, to give heed to what is said by your Son.

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.**

All-Ages Song: *10 Commands*

**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.**

God rules over all the earth: **O come, let us worship.**

Invitatory - Psalm 24

The earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it, \*

**the world and all who dwell therein.**

For it is he who founded it upon the seas \*

**and made it firm upon the rivers of the deep.**

“Who can ascend the hill of the Lord? \*

**and who can stand in his holy place?”**

“Those who have clean hands and a pure heart, \*

**who have not pledged themselves to falsehood,**

**nor sworn by what is a fraud.**

They shall receive a blessing from the Lord \*

**and a just reward from the God of their salvation.”**

Such is the generation of those who seek him, \*

**of those who seek your face, O God of Jacob.**

Lift up your heads, O gates; lift them high, O everlasting doors; \*

**and the King of glory shall come in.**

“Who is this King of glory?” \*

**“The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle.”**

Lift up your heads, O gates; lift them high, O everlasting doors; \*

**and the King of glory shall come in.**

“Who is he, this King of glory?” \*

**“The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.”**

God rules over all the earth: **O come, let us worship.**

**PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

A reading from the book of Exodus 16:2–15.

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

Then the Lord said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.” So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?” And Moses said, “When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord.”

Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.’ ” And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke to Moses and said, “I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’ ”

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.

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

Psalm 105:1–6, 37–45

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name; \*

**make known his deeds among the peoples.**

Sing to him, sing praises to him, \*

**and speak of all his marvellous works.**

Glory in his holy name; \*

**let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.**

Search for the Lord and his strength; \*

**continually seek his face.**

Remember the marvels he has done, \*

**his wonders and the judgements of his mouth,**

O offspring of Abraham his servant, \*

**O children of Jacob his chosen.**

He led out his people with silver and gold; \*

**in all their tribes there was not one that stumbled.**

Egypt was glad of their going, \*

**because they were afraid of them.**

He spread out a cloud for a covering \*

**and a fire to give light in the night season.**

They asked, and quails appeared, \*

**and he satisfied them with bread from heaven.**

He opened the rock, and water flowed, \*

**so the river ran in the dry places.**

For God remembered his holy word \*

**and Abraham his servant.**

So he led forth his people with gladness, \*

**his chosen with shouts of joy.**

He gave his people the lands of the nations, \*

**and they took the fruit of others’ toil,**

That they might keep his statutes \*

**and observe his laws.**

**Hallelujah!**

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 of St. Paul to the Philippians 1:21–30.

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, 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, and 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. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well— since 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.**

Hymn: *Come Thou Fount* (CP #354)

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

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew (20:1–16). **Glory to You, Lord Jesus Christ.**

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. And 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?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’

When 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.’ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, ‘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.’

But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

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 to the Lord, saying, “Lord, hear our prayer.”

Let us pray for the peace of the world: the Lord grant that we may live together in justice and faith. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for this country, and especially for King Charles, the Governor General, the Prime Minister, and all in authority: the Lord help them to serve this people according to his holy will. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for children and young people: the Lord guide their growth and development. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for the sick: the Lord deliver them and keep them in his love.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for all who are condemned to exile, prison, harsh treatment, or hard labour, for the sake of justice and truth: the Lord support them and keep them steadfast. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We remember the prophets, apostles, martyrs, and all who have borne witness to the gospel: the Lord direct our lives in the same spirit of service and sacrifice. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Grant, O Lord,

that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

Remember, Lord, your people bowed before you, and those who are absent through age, sickness, or any other cause.

**Care for the infants, guide the young, support the aged, inspire the faint-hearted, and bring the wandering to your fold.**

Journey with the travellers, encourage the oppressed, defend the widows, deliver the captives, heal the sick.

**Strengthen all who are in tribulation, necessity, or distress.**

Remember for good those who love us, and those who hate us, and those who have asked us, unworthy as we are, to pray for them. [**Our weekly prayer list can be found in this week’s bulletin. Take a moment to offer your own petitions and requests to the Lord.**]

**Remember especially, Lord, those whom we have forgotten. For you are**

**the helper of the helpless, the saviour of the lost, the refuge of the wanderer, the healer of the sick. You know the need of all and have heard each prayer: save us in your merciful lovingkindness and eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Collect

*Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth, and ourselves in your image.*

*Teach us to discern your hand in all your works and to serve you with reverence and thanksgiving; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive 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 Hymn: *O Worship The King* (CP #380)

Dismissal

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**