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St. Luke’s Gondola Point

Morning Prayer Service

**Service for the Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost**

September 4, 2022

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

**PENITENTIAL RITE**

Let your countenance shine upon your servant and teach me your statutes. *Psalm 119.135*

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 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.**

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

**PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy 30:15–20.

See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

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

Psalm 1

Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, \*

**nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!**

Their delight is in the law of the Lord, \*

**and they meditate on his law day and night.**

They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; \*

**everything they do shall prosper.**

It is not so with the wicked; \*

**they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgement comes, \*

**nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.**

For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, \*

**but the way of the wicked is doomed.**

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 Philemon 1–21.

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

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

Hymn: *All to Jesus I Surrender* (MP #25)

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

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke (14:25–33)

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

Now large crowds were traveling with him; and he turned and said to them, “Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

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

Sermon

The Apostles’ Creed

Let us confess the faith, as we say,

**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 in faith to God our Father, to his Son Jesus Christ, and to the Holy Spirit, saying, “Lord, hear and have mercy.”*

*For the Church of the living God throughout the world, let us ask the riches of his grace.*

***Lord, hear and have mercy.***

*For all who proclaim the word of truth, let us ask the infinite wisdom of Christ.*

***Lord, hear and have mercy.***

*For all who have consecrated their lives to the kingdom of God, and for all struggling to follow the way of Christ, let us ask the gifts of the Spirit.*

***Lord, hear and have mercy.***

*For Elizabeth our Queen, for the Prime Minister of this country, and for all who govern the nations, that they may strive for justice and peace, let us ask the strength of God.*

***Lord, hear and have mercy.***

*For students and teachers, scholars and research-workers, and all that share in the pursuit and nurture of wisdom and understanding, that their studies may benefit humanity, let us ask the light of the Lord.* ***Lord, hear and have mercy.***

*For all who have passed from this life in faith and obedience,*

*let us ask the peace of Christ.* ***Lord, hear and have mercy.***

*We pray for the people of Ukraine, Yemen, Myanmar, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Eritrea and Ethiopia, and all who are facing the horrors of war.  
We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.  
We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,*

*that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.  
We pray for those with power over war or peace,*

*for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions.  
Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear,  
that you would hold and protect them.*

***Almighty God,***

***kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with your wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth, that justice and peace may increase, until the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

*For those we have been asked to pray for, and for the concerns weighing on our hearts.*

[***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 and have mercy.***

Collect

Stir up, O Lord,

the wills of your faithful people, that richly bearing the fruit of good works, we may by you be richly rewarded; 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.**

Hymn: *I Have Decided To Follow Jesus* (MP #272)

Dismissal

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