



ORDER FOR WORSHIP

17th Sunday after Pentecost

September 19, 2021

Today we hear James warn against selfish ambition, while the disciples quarrel over which one of them is the greatest. Jesus tells them the way to be great is to serve. Then, to make it concrete, he puts in front of them a flesh-and-blood child. We are called to welcome the children God puts in front of us, to make room for them in daily interaction, and to give them a place of honor in the assembly.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We wish to acknowledge this land on which St. Philip's Lutheran Church is located. For thousands of years, it has been the traditional land of the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Haudenosaunee, and the Wendat peoples. We are grateful to have the opportunity to meet, worship, and serve on this land.

WELCOME

GATHERING SONG

"God We Gather as Your People"

ACS 1038

- 1 God, we gather as your people to raise our song above,
and we dare to claim the promise of your love.
Though the day may not yet be here,
we trust it soon will be, when your children will be free.

Refrain

Oh, may our hearts and minds be opened,
fling the church doors open wide.
May there be room enough for ev'ryone inside.
For in God there is a welcome, in God we all belong.

May that welcome be our song.

- 2 Oh, we sing for all the children, that one day they be free;
and we sing for generations yet to be,
that they never have a reason to doubt that they are blest.
May they, in your love, find rest. *Refrain*

Text: David Lohman, b. 1961

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING

James 3:13 – 4:3, 7 – 8a

Today's reading tells of the suffering of the prophet Jeremiah, who announced God's word to Judah but was met with intense opposition and persecution. Jeremiah continues to trust in God in the midst of his suffering.

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from?

Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you?

You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder.

And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in

disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You

ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend

what you get on your pleasures. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

THE BIBLE BUNCH

"All are Welcome"

GOSPEL

Mark 9:30 - 37

Jesus' teaching and action in this text are directed to the church whenever it is seduced by the world's definition of greatness: prestige, power, influence, and money. The antidote to such a concern for greatness is servanthood.

Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Children of the Heavenly Father"

ELW 781

- 1 Children of the heav'nly Father
safely in his bosom gather;
nestling bird nor star in heaven
such a refuge e'er was given.
- 2 God his own doth tend and nourish,

in his holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things he spares them,
in his mighty arms he bears them.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870-1958
Text © 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg
Fortress.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

SHARING OF PEACE

COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG

"Will You Let Me Be Your Servant"

ELW 659

- 1 Will you let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant, too.
- 2 We are pilgrims on a journey,
we are trav'lers on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.

Text: Richard Gillard, b. 1953

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord of life,
in the gift of your body and blood

you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation.
Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy,
bearing witness to the abundance of your love
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

People of God,
you are Christ's body,
bringing new life to a suffering world.
The holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

"The Lord Now Sends Us Forth"

ELW 538

The Lord now sends us forth
with hands to serve and give,
to make of all the earth
a better place to live. *Repeat*

The angels are not sent
into our world of pain
to do what we were meant
to do in Jesus' name;
that falls to you and me
and all who are made free.
Help us, O Lord, we pray,
to do your will today. *Repeat*

Text: Anonymous, Central America; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923
English text © 1998 Augsburg Fortress

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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SERVING TODAY

The Rev. Tuula Van Gaasbeek	Pastor
Chris Ritcey-Conrad	Music Director
Sarah Glinski	Assisting Minister
Sarah Pascoe	Cantor
Les Piller, Herb Feller	Ushers
Donna Schwantes	Reader
Dave Pascoe	Audio Visual
Jim Rouse	Counter

IN OUR PRAYERS

Gus Berndt, Kevin Cartwright, Rodney Erlandson, Al Jacksteit, Mona Kibsey, Mark Kieswetter, Matt Kirkpatrick, Fran Moore, Marion Morningstar, Pat Penney, Julie Potocny, Helen Scollnik, Elga Smidt, Juliet and Paul.

PASS THE OFFERING PLATE PLEASE

Thanks for giving your offering regularly. Our ministries need your support. Place your offering on the plate when you enter or leave today. Or find details for other options at stphilipstoronto.com/donate-now/.

THIS WEEK AT ST. PHILIP'S

Monday	Polling Station – All Day
Tuesday	Bible Study @ 7pm
Wednesday	Outdoor Yoga 11am Good Food Market 4-7pm
Thursday	
Friday	
Saturday	



ST. PHILIP'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

OUR VISION

*Freed by the grace of Christ, we seek to connect with God,
neighbour and self.*

VISION STATEMENT:

We are a diverse and inclusive Lutheran faith community freed by the grace of Christ to find God and self as we connect with our neighbours. We **practise hospitality** of open hearts and open arms. We **unite with partners** to make a difference in our neighbourhood. We **nurture** the community of Christ.

VALUES SUPPORTING THE VISION:

- Our Lutheran heritage of grace.
- Our call to pray, worship and learn as we grow in our Christian faith.
- Our need to gather and belong in Christian community.
- The call to love our neighbours as Christ loves us.
- The acceptance of all people as children of God.
- The opportunities to meet God everywhere.

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