

At home worship – October 11 – November 22, 2020

God's love has been poured into our hearts. We dwell in God and God in us. Give thanks to the Lord and call upon God's name; make known God's deeds among the peoples.

Sing to God, sing praises to God, and speak of all God's marvellous works.

Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God almighty, who was and is and is to come! (BAS p.98-99)

Proclamation of the Word (See seasonal list for the readings and invitation to reflection for the particular Sunday)

Proclamation of Faith

Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. This is the first and the great commandment. The second is like it: Love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.

Prayers

In peace I pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work; for families, friends, and neighbours, and for all those who are alone. For this community, our country, and the world; for all who work for justice, freedom, and peace. For the just and proper use of your creation; for the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression. For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble; for those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and needy. For the peace and unity of the Church of God; for all who proclaim the gospel, and all who seek the truth. For, Todd, our bishop, and for all bishops and other ministers; for all who serve God in the Church. For my own needs and those of others...*(add your own prayers as appropriate)*...Hear me, Lord. For your mercy is great.

Thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. *(Add your own thanksgivings)*. I will exalt you, O God; and praise your name for ever and ever.

I pray for those who have died in the peace of Christ, and for those whose faith is known to you alone, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. Lord, let your loving kindness be upon them; who put their trust in you.

Gracious God, you have heard the prayers of your faithful people; you know our needs before we ask, and our ignorance in asking. Grant our requests as may be best for us. This we ask in the name of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (BAS p 126-127)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Collect of the Day (see Readings, Reflection suggestions and Collects)

Final prayer: May the God of peace enable us to do God's will in every kind of goodness, working in us what pleases God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for every and ever. Amen. (BAS p. 55)

Readings, Reflection suggestions and Collects by Sunday

Harvest Thanksgiving – Oct. 11

Invitation to Reflection: Turkey, stuffing, cranberries and pie, the traditions of Thanksgiving are often filled with food and family. This may or may not be the experience of folks this year. Still, there is a feast in the readings today as we consider the challenges that are presented. To whom do we give thanks? In what ways are we cautioned to remember that it is not simply our hard work that creates bounty? What are we invited to do with the gifts we have been so generously given?

Readings: Deuteronomy 8:7-18; Psalm 65; 2 Corinthians 9:6-15; Luke 17:11-19

Collect: Creator of the fruitful earth, you made us stewards of all things. Give us grateful hearts for all your goodness, and steadfast wills to use your bounty well, that the whole human family, today and in generations to come, may with us give thanks for the riches of your creation. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen. (BAS p. 396)

Pentecost 20 – Oct. 18

Invitation to Reflection: "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." (Mt 22:21b) As Jesus engages with the challenge of the Pharisees about paying taxes he also invites those who listen (and by extension us) to consider how we give thanks for all that God has given us. In what other ways do these readings invite us to contemplate God's gifts and our response?

Readings: Exodus 33:12-23; Psalm 99; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10; Matthew 22:15-22

Collect: Almighty and everliving God, increase in us your gift of faith, that forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to what is before, we may run the way of your commandments and win the crown of everlasting joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen. (BAS p. 387)

Pentecost 21 – Oct. 25

Readings: Deuteronomy 34:1-12; Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17; 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8; Matthew 22:34-46

Invitation to Reflection: The author of the first letter to the Thessalonians says – "So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us." (1 Th 2:8) In the Gospel Jesus says that the greatest commandment includes loving your neighbour as yourself. How do we embody this kind of love and care for others? What

distractions keep us from embracing some people? How can we better respect the dignity of EVERY human being?

Collect: Lord God our redeemer, who heard the cry of your people and sent your servant Moses to lead them out of slavery, free us from the tyranny of sin and death, and by the leading of your Spirit bring us to our promised land; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen. (BAS, p. 388)

All Saints' Day – Nov. 1

Invitation to Reflection: Today we honour the saints. What does it mean to you to be a saint? How would you describe a saint? Who would list as being among the great cloud of witnesses we call saints? As you work through the readings today, keep these images in mind and reflect on the ways you and others you know might also be counted among these great witnesses.

Readings: Revelation 7:9-17; Psalm 34:1-10, 22; 1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12

Collect: Almighty God, whose people are knit together in one holy Church, the mystical Body of your Son, grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you; through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. (BAS, p. 428)

Pentecost 23 – Nov. 8

Invitation to Reflection: The year 2020 will go down in history as a time in which the world has become transformed by circumstances. This week we will honour other moments when the world was transformed as we remember those who fought in wars in recent history. Consider what today's readings teach us about significant changes in our understandings and our lives and what this means in terms of our relationships with others. What does it mean to 'keep awake' and be prepared for changes we may not even be expecting?

Readings: Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25; Psalm 78:1-7; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13

Collect: Eternal God, who caused all holy scriptures to be written for our learning, grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. (BAS, p. 391)

Prayers in honour of Remembrance Day can be found in your BAS and include Prayer for Peace (p. 677); For Armed Forces (p. 679) and for Our Enemies (p. 681)

Pentecost 24 – Nov. 15

Invitation to Reflection: Caution or daring, which do you choose? To what extent is the particular situation considered? To be cautious about COVID-19 makes sense. Could it also make sense to be daring when it comes to sharing the gifts we have so generously received from God? How do today's readings illustrate the value and importance of being open to the possibilities when it comes to God's gifts? Who among these individuals would we want to emulate? How could we do so this week?

Readings: Judges 4:1-7; Psalm 123; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30

Collect: Almighty God, you sent your Son Jesus Christ to be the light of the world. Free us from all that darkens and ensnares us, and bring us to eternal light and joy; through the power of him who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen. (BAS, p. 392-3)

Reign of Christ – Nov. 22

Invitation to Reflection: We have come to the end of the liturgical year. Note the final message in our year-long journey. How do today's readings describe who God is? What messages do we hear about who and what God prioritises? What does this say about who and what we should consider to be important? How will we seek to embody these priorities in the coming year? What resolutions might we make as we contemplate the "New Year" of the Church over this week?

Readings: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; Psalm 100; Ephesians 1:15-23; Matthew 25:31-46

Collect: Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, our Lord and King, grant that the peoples of the earth, now divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his gentle and loving rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen. (BAS p. 394)