

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Isaiah 44:6-8

Reader A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel,
and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts:
I am the first and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.
Who is like me? Let them proclaim it,
let them declare and set it forth before me.
Who has announced from of old the things to come?
Let them tell us what is yet to be.
Do not fear, or be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it?
You are my witnesses!
Is there any god besides me?
There is no other rock; I know not one.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 86:11-17

Please join on the alternating (bolded) verses of the psalm.

¹¹ Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth;
knit my heart to you that I may fear your name.
¹² **I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart,
and glorify your name for evermore.**
¹³ For great is your love toward me;
you have delivered me from the nethermost Pit.
¹⁴ **The arrogant rise up against me, O God,
and a band of violent men seeks my life;
they have not set you before their eyes.**
¹⁵ But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.
¹⁶ **Turn to me and have mercy upon me;
give your strength to your servant;
and save the child of your handmaid.**
¹⁷ Show me a sign of your favour,
so that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed;
because you, O Lord, have helped me and comforted me.
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.

Second Reading: Romans 8:12-25

Reader A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our

spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle A Song of Praise

Officiant Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers;

All **you are worthy of praise, glory to you.**

**Glory to you for the radiance of your holy name;
we will praise you and highly exalt you forever.**

**Glory to you in the splendour of your temple;
on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.**

**Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim;
we will praise you and highly exalt you forever.**

**Glory to you, beholding the depths;
in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.**

**Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost;
we will praise you and highly exalt you forever.**

Gospel Reading: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

The Rev'd Fr. Benjamin Gillard

Reader The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Jesus put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'" Then Jesus left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of

Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

Reader The Gospel of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Homily

The Rev'd Fr. Benjamin Gillard

The Apostles Creed

Officiant Let us confess our faith as we say,

All

**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.**

Invitation to Christian Stewardship

*We at St John the Baptist Norway give regularly to God's work through offerings and other gifts.
Our offerings support the life of the parish, as well as the work we do in the world, both locally and globally.*

We invite you to contribute financially as you are able to the life and ministry of the parish.

Instructions for submitting contributions can be found in the announcements.

Officiant Blessed be thou, Lord God of Israel, for ever and ever. All that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine. All things come of thee and of thine own have we given thee.
Amen.

Intercessions and Prayers

Intercessions

Leader As we gather in God's presence, let us pray to the Lord saying, "Lord, have mercy." For the whole People of God, that each one may be a true and faithful disciple of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For those drawing near to the light of faith, that the Lord will bring them true knowledge of himself, let us pray to the Lord.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For our families and friends, that the Lord will give them joy and satisfaction in all that they do, let us pray to the Lord.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For those who are lonely, sick, hungry, persecuted, or ignored, that the Lord will comfort and sustain them, let us pray to the Lord.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For our country, that the Lord will help us to contribute to its true growth and well being, and that we may labour to heal divisions, let us pray to the Lord.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For the whole human family, that we may live together in justice and peace, let us pray to the Lord.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader We commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray, to the mercy and protection of God. **Amen.**

The Collect

Officiant Let us pray. Almighty God, your Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence. Give us pure hearts and constant wills to worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Officiant And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
All **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.**

Blessing

Officiant 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 the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Hymn *Almighty God, Thy Word is Cast (478)*

ALBANO

Almighty God, thy word is cast like seed into the ground:
now let dew of heaven descend and righteous fruits abound.

Let not the foe of righteousness this holy seed remove:
but give it root in every heart, to bring forth fruits of love.

Let not the world's deceitful cares the rising plant destroy:
but let it yield a hundredfold the fruits of peace and joy.

Oft as the precious seed is sown, thy quickening grace bestow,
that all whose souls the truth receive its saving power may know.

Dismissal

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

Postlude **Excerpt from Fantasia alla Marcia (Denis Bedard)**

Announcements

Tentative re-opening date: Sunday, September 13, 2020

The Diocese of Toronto has indicated that parishes are tentatively expected to be able to re-open on Sunday, September 13, 2020. This is contingent on there being no resurgence of COVID-19. An instruction guide has been issued to parishes with instructions on health and safety protocols. In the coming weeks, the leadership team at St John's will be working to adapt these protocols to our specific parish context. As we resume public worship in September and navigate the challenges of these new protocols, we will appreciate the cooperation and support of parishioners, as well as offers of help.

Break from Pre-Recorded Services and Friday Happy almost-an-Hour

As we prepare for re-opening, we will be taking a break from both our pre-recorded services and our Friday Happy almost-an-Hour sessions. The Sunday morning dial-in services will continue until we are able to gather in-person. Our final pre-recorded service will be Sunday, August 2nd and our final Happy almost-an-Hour will be Friday, July 31st.

Ministries for Children

For children, our Sunday School coordinator Elisabeth Westberg is hosting weekly lessons on Zoom, beginning at 10:00 AM on Sunday mornings. For information about how to connect over Zoom, please email Elisabeth directly at youth@stjohnsnorway.com.

Weekly Happy almost-an-Hour – Fridays at 5PM (Final session – Friday, July 31st)

To join online, follow the link: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/2035813958>. To dial in on the phone, first dial: 647-558-0588. When prompted, enter the meeting ID: 203 581 3958#. Please refer any questions to Fr. Benjamin (curate@stjohnsnorway.com, 647-608-5608). **PASSWORD: 077686.**

Contributing Financially

There are three ways you can contribute financially to the parish:

1. By cheque, made payable to 'St John the Baptist Norway Anglican Church' and mailed to: 470 Woodbine Ave South, Toronto, Ontario, M4E 2H6.
2. Donate online through CanadaHelps.org. A link can be found on the main page of the parish website (stjohnsnorway.com).
3. Pre-authorized Debit (PAD). If you wish to sign-up for automatic monthly withdrawals, please contact the wardens.

Tax receipts are issued for all gifts after year-end.

To Reach Us

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