

## **Morning Prayer**

*Sunday, July 26, 2020 – Eighth Sunday after Pentecost*

**Officiant: The Rev'd Fr. Benjamin Gillard**

**Preacher: The Rev'd Fr. Jeffry Kennedy**

**Organist & Cantor: Damien Macedo**

**Prelude Allegretto, mov. 4 from 6 Short Preludes and Intermezzos (Heinrich Schroeder)**

### **The Gathering of the Community**

*Officiant* Lord, open our lips.  
*People* **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

*Officiant* O God, make speed to save us.  
*People* **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

*All* **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. Alleluia!**

**Venite** *Psalm 95.1-7*  
*Officiant* The Lord is our refuge and strength:  
*People* **O come, let us worship.**

*Officiant* Come, let us sing to the Lord;  
*All* **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!**

*Officiant* The Lord is our refuge and strength:  
*People* **O come, let us worship.**

**Hymn** *Stand Up and Bless the Lord (350)* ST. THOMAS

Stand up and bless the Lord, you people of God's choice;  
stand up and bless the Lord of hosts with heart and soul and voice.

Though high above all praise, above all blessing high,  
who would not fear God's holy name, and laud and magnify?

O for the living flame from God's own altar brought,  
to touch our lips, our minds inspire, and wing to heaven our thought!

God is our strength and song, who makes salvation ours;  
then be God's love in Christ proclaimed with all our ransomed powers.

Stand up and bless the Lord; the Lord your God adore;  
stand up and bless the glorious name henceforth for evermore.

## The Liturgy of the Word

### First Reading: 1 Kings 3:5-12

*Reader* A reading from the First Book of Kings.

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?"

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.

*Reader* The word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 119:129-136

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

<sup>129</sup> Your decrees are wonderful;

therefore I obey them with all my heart.

<sup>130</sup> **When your word goes forth it gives light;**

**it gives understanding to the simple.**

<sup>131</sup> I open my mouth and pant;

I long for your commandments.

<sup>132</sup> **Turn to me in mercy,**

**as you always do to those who love your name.**

<sup>133</sup> Steady my footsteps in your word;

let no iniquity have dominion over me.

<sup>134</sup> **Rescue me from those who oppress me,**

**and I will keep your commandments.**

<sup>135</sup> Let your countenance shine upon your servant

and teach me your statutes.

<sup>136</sup> My eyes shed streams of tears,

because people do not keep your law.

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 8:26-39**

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

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long;

we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

*Reader* The word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

**Canticle A Song from Ezekiel**

*Officiant* I will take you from the nations,  
*All* **and gather you from every country,  
and bring you home to your own land.**

**I will pour clean water upon you,  
purify you from all defilement,  
and cleanse you from all your idols.**

**A new heart I will give you,  
and put a new spirit within you;  
I will take from your body the heart of stone  
and give you a heart of flesh.**

**I will put my spirit within you,  
make you walk in my ways  
and observe my decrees.**

**You shall dwell in the land  
I gave to your forebears;  
you shall be my people  
and I will be your God.**

**Gospel Reading: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52**

*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.**

He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened. The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

*Reader* The Gospel of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Homily**

The Rev'd Fr. Jeffry Kennedy

**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* In peace, we pray to you Lord God. For all people in their daily life and work;  
*All* **For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for all those who are alone.**

*Leader* For this community, our country, and the world;  
*All* **For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

*Leader* For the just and proper use of your creation;  
*All* **For victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

*Leader* For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;  
*All* **For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

*Leader* For the peace and unity of the Church of God;  
*All* **For all who proclaim the gospel, and all who seek the truth.**

*Leader* For Andrew and Kevin our bishops; for Jeffrey, Harold, and Benjamin our priests;  
and for all bishops, priests, and deacons.  
*All* **For all who serve God in his Church.**

*Leader* We commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray, to the mercy and protection of God, remembering them now by name either silently or aloud.  
*All* **Hear us, Lord; for your mercy is great.**

*Leader* We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. We will exalt you, O God our king;  
*All* **And praise your name for ever and ever.**

### The Collect

*Officiant* Let us pray. O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy, increase and multiply upon us your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, one God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

*Officiant*  
*All*

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.**

## 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

*Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken (388)*

AUSTRIA

Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God;  
he whose word cannot be broken formed thee for his own abode.  
On the rock of ages founded, who can shake thy sure repose?  
With salvation's walls surrounded, thou mayest smile at all thy foes.

See! The streams of living waters, springing from eternal love,  
well supply thy sons and daughters and all fear of want remove.  
Who can faint, when such a river ever flows their thirst to assuage?  
Grace, which like the Lord, the giver, never fails from age to age.

Round each habitation hovering, see the cloud and fire appear  
for a glory and a covering—showing that the Lord is near.  
Thus they march, the pillar leading, light by night and shade by day;  
daily on the manna feeding which God gives them when they pray.

Saviour, if of Zion's city I through grace a member am,  
let the world deride or pity, I will glory in thy name.  
Fading is the world's best pleasure, all its boasted pomp and show:  
solid joys and lasting treasure none but Zion's children know.

## Dismissal

*Officiant*  
*People*

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

## Postlude

**Poco Vivace, mov. 6 from 6 Short Preludes and Intermezzos  
(Heinrich Schroeder)**

## 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and our final Happy almost-an-Hour will be Friday, July 31<sup>st</sup>.

### **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](mailto:youth@stjohnsnorway.com).

### **Weekly Happy almost-an-Hour – Fridays at 5PM (Final session – Friday, July 31<sup>st</sup>)**

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](mailto: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](https://CanadaHelps.org). A link can be found on the main page of the parish website ([stjohnsnorway.com](http://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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