



July 23, 2023

10:00 AM

8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

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Greeters/Sidespersons: Marilyn D. and Ellen C.

It is a great privilege to gather, share stories of faith and worship God on this beautiful territory, which we now know as Pickering, but which has been the site of human activity – and therefore storytelling and worship – for many thousands of years. We wish to honour the ancestral guardians of this land and its waterways: the Wendat, the Anishinabek Nation, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, the Mississaugas of Scugog, Hiawatha and Alderville First Nations. The treaties that were signed for this particular parcel of land are collectively referred to as the Williams Treaties of 1923. Today many Indigenous peoples, including the Métis Nation, continue to call this land home and act as its stewards, and this responsibility extends to all peoples, to share and care for this land for generations to come.

Celebrant: The Rev. Janet Stephens

Sentence: My word shall accomplish that which I purpose, and prosper in the thing for which I sent it. *Isaiah 55:11*

### THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Celebrant: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
be with you all.

**All: And also with you.**

Celebrant: Almighty God,

**All: to you all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from you no secrets are hidden.  
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,**

**that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **Kyrie Eleison**

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy.

**All: Christ, have mercy.**

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy.

## **The Collect**

Celebrant: 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.

**All: Amen.**

## **THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

**First Reading Genesis 28: 10-19A**

Reader: Alan M.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF GENESIS

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the Lord stood beside him and said, "I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!" And he was afraid, and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of

God, and this is the gate of heaven." So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 139:1-11, 22-23**

Celebrant: Lord, you have searched me out and known me; you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.

**All: You trace my journeys and my resting places and are acquainted with all my ways.**

Celebrant: Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, but you, O Lord, know it altogether.

**All: You press upon me behind and before and lay your hand upon me.**

Celebrant: Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain to it.

**All: Where can I go then from your Spirit? where can I flee from your presence?**

Celebrant: If I climb up to heaven, you are there; if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.

**All: If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,**

Celebrant: Even there your hand will lead me and your right hand hold me fast.

**All: If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, and the light around me turn to night,"**

Celebrant: Darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day; darkness and light to you are both alike.

**All: Search me out, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my restless thoughts.**

Celebrant: Look well whether there be any wickedness in me and lead me in the way that is everlasting.

**Second Reading** Romans 8:12-25

Reader: Wendy L.

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 labour 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.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel**

*Please stand as you are able for the Gospel*

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

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew.

**All: 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!"

Celebrant: The Gospel of Christ.

**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Homily**

The Rev. Janet Stephens

**Moment of Silent Reflection**

### **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

Celebrant: Let us confess the faith of our baptism, 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.**

### **Prayers of the People**

Intercessor: Don H.

### **Confession & Absolution**

Celebrant: Dear friends in Christ,  
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;  
he welcomes sinners  
and invites us to his table.  
Let us confess our sins,  
confident in God's forgiveness.

### *Moment of Silence*

Celebrant: Most merciful God,  
**All: 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.**

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

### **THE PEACE**

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**All: And also with you.**

### **Prayer over the Gifts**

Celebrant: O God,  
accept our praise and thanksgiving.  
Help us in all we do  
to offer ourselves as a true and living sacrifice;  
through Jesus Christ the Lord.

**All: Amen.**

### **THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST**

#### **Eucharistic Prayer 3**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: Blessed are you, gracious God,  
creator of heaven and earth;  
we give you thanks and praise  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who on this first day of the week  
overcame death and the grave,  
and by his glorious resurrection  
opened to us the way of everlasting life.

In our unending joy  
we echo on earth the song of the angels in heaven  
as we raise our voices  
to proclaim the glory of your name

## **Sanctus**

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

**Celebrant:** We give thanks to you, Lord our God,  
for the goodness and love  
you have made known to us in creation;  
in calling Israel to be your people;  
in your Word spoken through the prophets;  
and above all in the Word made flesh,  
Jesus your Son.

For in these last days you sent him  
to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world.  
In him, you have delivered us from evil,  
and made us worthy to stand before you.  
In him, you have brought us  
out of error into truth,  
out of sin into righteousness,  
out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over  
to suffering and death,  
a death he freely accepted,  
our Lord Jesus Christ took bread;



and when he had given thanks to you,  
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples,  
and said, "Take, eat:  
this is my body which is given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine;  
and when he had given thanks,  
he gave it to them,  
and said, "Drink this, all of you:  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
Whenever you drink it,  
do this for the remembrance of me."

**All:** Therefore, Father, according to his command,  
**we remember his death,**  
**we proclaim his resurrection,**  
**we await his coming in glory;**

**Celebrant:** and we offer our sacrifice  
of praise and thanksgiving  
to you, Lord of all;  
presenting to you, from your creation,  
this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God,  
to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts,  
that they may be the sacrament  
of the body of Christ  
and his blood of the new covenant.  
Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice,  
that we, made acceptable in him,  
may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time,  
reconcile all things in Christ,  
and make them new,  
and bring us to that city of light  
where you dwell with all your children;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
the firstborn of all creation,  
the head of the Church,  
and the author of our salvation;  
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father,  
now and for ever.

**All: Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Celebrant: 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.**

### *Moment of Silence*

### **Breaking of the Bread**

Celebrant: We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**All: We, being many, are one body,  
for we all share in the one bread.**

## THE COMMUNION

### Agnus Dei

**All:** Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world;  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world;  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God.

**All:** **Thanks be to God.**

Prayer for Spiritual Communion (*for those who choose not to receive Communion, or are following the service online*)

Celebrant: Those wishing to do so may make their spiritual communion by joining in this prayer with me now:

**All:** **My Jesus, I believe that you are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you, and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.**

### Prayer after Communion

*Please stand as you are able*

Celebrant: O God,  
as we are strengthened in these holy mysteries,  
may our lives be a continual offering,  
holy and acceptable in your sight;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All:** **Amen.**

## **Doxology & Blessing**

Celebrant: Glory to God,

**All: whose power, working in us,  
can do infinitely more  
than we can ask or imagine.  
Glory to God from generation to generation,  
in the Church and in Christ Jesus,  
For ever and ever. Amen.**

Celebrant: 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 the Lord.  
And the blessing of God Almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
remain with you and the ones you love  
now and forevermore.

**All: Amen.**

## **Announcements**

### **Dismissal**

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

*Thank you Rev. Janet for celebrating with us today.*

## **St. Martin's Anglican Church**

**The Rev. Shelly Pollard (she/her), Incumbent**

Honorary Assistant: The Rev. Richard Newland  
Rector's Warden: Rob Mackay  
People's Warden: Moyah Morgan  
Deputy Wardens: Elaine Watters  
Denise Farrugia

Music Director: Edward Moroney  
Sunday School Leader: Janis Lynch  
Youth Leader: Moyah Morgan  
Parish Administrator: Sharon Jones, ODT (she/her)

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