



The Parish of St. Laurence, Coquitlam  
July 4, 2021 at 10 am

## Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

### Gathering of the Community

All are warmly welcomed to our worship.

*"It's hard to remember that Jesus did not come to make us safe, but rather to make us disciples, citizens of God's new age, a kingdom of surprise." <sup>1</sup>*

#### Call to Worship

Presider      Eternal God, Maker of the skies above,  
lowly Christ, Lover of the earth and its people,  
creative Spirit, Giver of gracious gifts

**All              You are present among us.**

Presider      With nature in its power and beauty,  
With rain and wind and sunshine,  
with the ancient rocks and the budding flower,

**All              we gather in praise of God.**

Presider      With believers and seekers the whole world wide,  
with people in every land,  
and speakers of every language,

**All              we gather in praise of God.**

Presider      With the angels and saints in heaven,  
with all who build community here  
and with all who worship at this time

**All              we gather in praise of God.**

Presider With Jesus who promised his presence  
and the Spirit who showers her blessings,  
**All we gather in praise of God.**

Presider Here let heaven and earth embrace;  
here may God's people find a home. **Amen.**<sup>2</sup>

### Gathering Hymn - *Today I Awake*

1.Today I awake and God is before me.  
At night, as I dreamt, he summoned the day;  
For God never sleeps but patterns the morning  
With slithers of gold or glory in gray.

2.Today I arise and Christ is beside me.  
He walked through the dark to scatter new light.  
Yes, Christ is alive, and beckons his people  
To hope and to heal, resist and invite.

3.Today I affirm the Spirit within me  
At worship and work, in struggle and rest.  
The Spirit inspires all life which is changing  
From fearing to faith, from broken to blest.

4.Today I enjoy the Trinity round me,  
Above and beneath, before and behind;  
The Maker, the Son, the Spirit together'  
They called me to life and call me their friend.<sup>3</sup>

Presider The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ  
and the love of God,  
and the community of the Holy Spirit,  
be with you all.

**All And also with you.**

Presider 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.

### Collect of the Day

Presider God of unearthly wisdom,  
we take offence  
at your humanity;  
we lose our faith  
that you can change us:  
come to us  
who are your own;  
convert our inward looking eyes  
and take us on the road  
where all is lost  
and all is gained,  
through Jesus Christ, the prophet.  
Amen. <sup>4</sup>

## Proclamation of the Word

Reading 2 Corinthians 12:2-10

<sup>2</sup>I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. <sup>3</sup>And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows—<sup>4</sup>was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. <sup>5</sup>On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. <sup>6</sup>But if I wish

to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, <sup>7</sup>even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. <sup>8</sup>Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, <sup>9</sup>but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.” So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. <sup>10</sup>Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong. \*

Reader	Here's what the Spirit is saying.
All	<b>Thanks be to God.</b>

## Psalm 48

<sup>1</sup> Our great Lord  
deserves great praise  
in the city of God:

<sup>2</sup> Holy mountain, beautiful height,  
crown of the earth!

<sup>3</sup> Zion, highest of sacred peaks,  
city of the Great King!

<sup>4</sup> God enthroned in its palaces  
becomes our sure defense!

<sup>5</sup> Watch the foreign kings  
massing to attack;

<sup>6</sup> seeing what they face,  
they flee in terror.

<sup>7</sup> Trembling grips them,  
anguish like childbirth,

<sup>8</sup> fury like an east wind  
shattering a merchant fleet.  
<sup>9</sup> What we see  
matches what we were told,  
“This is the city the Lord protects;  
our God is strong for ever.”  
<sup>10</sup> In your temple, Lord,  
we recall your constant love.

<sup>11</sup> Your praise, like your name,  
fills the whole world.  
Your right hand holds the victory.  
<sup>12</sup> Mount Zion and the cities of Judah  
rejoice at your justice.

<sup>13</sup> March around Zion,  
make the circuit,  
count each tower.  
Ponder these walls,  
observe these citadels,

<sup>15</sup> so you may tell your children:  
“Here is God!  
Our God for ever!  
God who leads us  
even against death!”

## Gospel Reading

Reader	The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark
All	<b>Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.</b>

**Gospel**    Mark 6:1-13

6 Jesus left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. <sup>2</sup>On the sabbath he began to teach in the

synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, “Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! <sup>3</sup>Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him. <sup>4</sup>Then Jesus said to them, “Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house.” <sup>5</sup>And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. <sup>6</sup>And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. <sup>7</sup>He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. <sup>8</sup>He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; <sup>9</sup>but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. <sup>10</sup>He said to them, “Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. <sup>11</sup>If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.” <sup>12</sup>So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. <sup>13</sup>They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them. \*

Reader	The Gospel of Christ.
All	<b>Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.</b>

Homily	The Reverend Carla McGhie
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## Prayers of the People

### Prayer over the Gifts

Presider	God our strength and our salvation
All	<b>receive our gifts, our lives and the offering of our joy.</b>
	<b>Awake our souls and inspire us with your life.</b>
	<b>Lead us on the path of wisdom and compassion. Amen.</b>

# Celebration of our Sacred Meal

## Eucharistic Prayer

Presider May God be with you.

**All And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

**All We lift them up to God.**

Presider Let us give thanks to God our Creator.

**All It is right to offer thanks and praise**

Presider Blessed are you, gracious God,  
creator of heaven and earth;  
you are the source of light and life for all your creation,  
you made us in your own image,  
and call us to new life in Jesus Christ our Saviour.  
Therefore we praise you,  
joining our voices to proclaim the glory of your name:

**Sanctus** *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the *highest*.<sup>5</sup>

Presider O God most mighty, O God most merciful,  
O God our rock and our salvation,

**All hear us as we praise you, call us to your table,  
grant us your life.**



Presider When the world was a formless void,  
you formed order and beauty.  
When Abraham and Sarah were barren,  
you sent them a child.  
When the Israelites were enslaved,  
you led them to freedom.  
Ruth faced starvation, David fought Goliath,  
and the psalmists cried out for healing,  
**All and full of compassion,**  
**you granted the people your life.**

Presider You entered our lives and sorrows in Jesus our brother.  
He was born among the poor, he lived under oppression,  
he wept over the city.  
With infinite love, he granted the people your life.  
In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it,  
and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his death, we cry out Amen.  
**All Amen.**

Presider Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen.  
**All Amen.**

Presider Trusting his presence in every time and place,  
we proclaim Amen.  
**All Amen.**

Presider O God, you are Breath:  
**All send your Spirit on this meal.**

Presider O God, you are Bread:  
**All feed us with yourself.**

Presider O God, you are Wine:  
**All warm our hearts and make us one.**

Presider God, you are Fire:  
**All transform us with hope.**

Presider O God most majestic,  
O God most motherly,  
O God our strength and our song,  
you show us a vision of a tree of life  
with fruits for all  
and leaves that heal the nations.  
Grant us such life,  
the life of the Father to the Son,  
the life of the Spirit of our risen Saviour,  
life in you, now and forever.

**All Amen.**

### Lord's Prayer

Presider And now as our saviour has taught us, we are bold to say:

**All 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 for ever. Amen.**

*The Presider breaks the Bread and a period of silence is kept. The silence is broken with these words.*

Presider Come to the banquet for all is now ready.

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

**All Thanks be to God.**

## **Communion**

Prayer after Communion

Presider 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.**

Closing Hymn *Inspired by Love and Anger*

1. Inspired by love and anger,  
disturbed by need and pain,  
informed of God's own bias,  
we ask him once again, "  
How long must some folk suffer?  
How long can few folk mind?  
How long dare vain self-int'rest  
turn prayer and pity blind?"

2. From those forever victims  
of heartless human greed,  
their cruel plight composes  
a litany of need:  
"Where are the fruits of justice?  
Where are the signs of peace?  
When is the day when pris'ners  
and dreams find their release?"

3. From those forever shackled  
to what their wealth can buy,  
the fear of lost advantage  
provokes the bitter cry,  
“Don’t question our position!  
Don’t criticize our wealth!  
Don’t mention those exploited  
by politics and stealth!”
4. To God, who through the prophets  
proclaimed a diff’rent age,  
we offer earth’s indiff’rence,  
its agony and rage:  
“When will the wrong be righted?  
When will the kingdom come?  
When will the world be gen’rous  
to all instead of some?”
5. God asks, “Who will go for me?  
Who will extend my reach?  
And who, when few will listen,  
will prophesy and preach?  
And who, when few will welcome,  
will offer all they know?  
And who, when few will follow,  
will walk the road I show?”
6. Amused in someone’s kitchen,  
asleep in someone’s boat,  
attuned to what the ancients  
exposed, proclaimed, and wrote,  
a savior without safety,  
a tradesman without tools  
has come to tip the balance  
with fishermen and fools.<sup>6</sup>

## The Sending Forth

Presider      For all that God can do within us,  
                    For all that God can do without us,  
All              **Thanks be to God.**

Presider      For all in whom Christ lives before us,  
                    For all in whom Christ lives beside us,  
All              **Thanks be to God.**

Presider      For all the Spirit wants to bring us.  
                    For where the Spirit wants to send us,  
All              **Thanks be to God.**

Presider      Listen, Christ has promised to be with us  
                    in the world as in our worship  
                    Go now and become your prayer.  
All              **We go to serve the Beloved. Amen. <sup>7</sup>**

## Dismissal

Presider      Go to the world with a blessing on your lips and  
                    healing in your hands.  
All              **Thanks be to God, Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## **THE FIRST READING - 2 Samuel 5:1-5,9-10**

David's coronation is based on the conviction that

- ...his role is sacred,
- ...that Jerusalem is a sacred city and
- ...that its people are the People of God.

For us to find the contemporary forms of these ancient assumptions we need -

- ...to regard all political responsibility as having a moral base,
- ...to regard humanity itself as the People of God, and
- ...to regard Planet Earth itself as our sacred city.

Only then can we bring this Biblical passage into our world.

Bit by bit we can see these new assumptions coming to birth in our 21st century - painfully as is all birthing. Sally McFague, a brilliant exponent of environmental theology, wrote that

- ...we need to regard Earth as a living creature of God, as we ourselves are.
- ...to pollute a river should be seen it as polluting the veins of God.
- ...to pollute the atmosphere should be seen as polluting the lungs of God.
- ...to look at the environment through such a lens is to realize our responsibility to be stewards of what we have been given.

Just as with David and his people long ago, we today come to realize that between the creator and all of humanity there is a Covenant forged to the end of time.

## **THE PSALM 48**

“Beautiful and lofty, the joy of all the earth is the hill of Zion.”

Even today, as one stands on the slope of the Mount of Olives, one can capture something of the great pride that we hear in these lines. Roman legions destroyed the city and its Temple about forty years after Jesus crucifixion and resurrection. However, after two long millennia Rome's power has passed away, but Jerusalem, in spite of all its convoluted politics, still stands and fascinates all who come to it.

## THE SECOND READING - 2 Corinthians 12:2-10

Paul is doing something he rarely did. He risks revealing his inner soul to people, some of whom were anything but his friends and had been very critical. He even mentions something - he doesn't define it - that has dogged him all his life.

We can understand. All of us are a mixture of gifts and weaknesses. About all this Paul gives us a magnificent spiritual insight. God says to us that God's grace is sufficient for us. Our human weaknesses force us to know our limitations and our need of a power greater than our own.

## THE HOLY GOSPEL - Mark 6:1-13

In returning to Nazareth Jesus must have hoped for a better reception, but He also must have known He was taking a risk. Many people think of Jesus moving around in a kind of perpetual serenity, always in control, never surprised or taken aback, certainly never hurt. The reality was very different. But what important is how he responded to the poor welcome here. There is no licking of wounds, no withdrawal from his purpose, no recriminations. Instead we see courage, determination and continued resolve.

Herbert O'Driscoll

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1 Stanley Hauerwas: Taken from Religion News Service, "*Book Probes Post-Sept. 11 Spirituality*"

2 Iona Abbey Worship Book page 24

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7 Posted on the *World Council of Churches* website.<http://www.oikoumene.org/en/home.html>

8 *50 Great Prayers from the Iona Community* by Chris Polhill

## **Prayer for the journey...**

Journeying with you, Creator God,  
is to journey in the world,  
full of marvels, and such beauty.  
To glimpse eternity in sky and sea,  
to feel the earth and rock beneath my feet.

Journeying with you, Brother Jesus,  
Is to journey with your friends.  
To meet and travel a while together,  
then part at the crossroads,  
knowing you are with us all.

Journeying with you, Holy Spirit,  
is to journey with the wind.  
To move to your wild music  
then try to sing your song  
so that others may hear. <sup>8</sup>