



SEASON OF CREATION

SEPTEMBER 1- OCTOBER 4

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 27, 2020

We celebrate our relationship with the first peoples of this land and, with gratitude, we acknowledge the territories on which our Church building and community, lives and moves and has its being.

We give thanks for the peoples of the Wendat, the Anishinabee, the Mississauga of the Credit and the Haudenosaunee communities, and we recognize the enduring presence of Indigenous peoples on this land.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

The grace of Jesus the Christ,
and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
be with you all.

And also with you.

The heavens declare the glory of God.
The firmament proclaims God's handiwork.
The plants and trees show God's presence.
Let us join with creation in praising God.

God of all creation, who moves and inspires us through every time and season,

We bless you and praise you for the gift of life in your good created world. Grant to us grace and humility to so order our lives that we may honor you among all peoples and nations, create wholesome and right companionship with our fellow living creatures, and work for the healing of this world that you created.

Teach us to see and hear your power in the winds and waves, mountains and valleys, and rivers, so that we may glorify your goodness to us and live rightly in your creation. We pray to you through Jesus the Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Spirit, Three in One, One in Three, now and forever. Amen.

Please dip your fingers in the water and make the sign of the cross on your body.

COLLECT

Grant, O merciful God,
that your Church,
being gathered by your Holy Spirit into one,
may show forth your power among all peoples,
to the glory of your name;
through Jesus the Christ
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

EXODUS 17:1-7

1 From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink.

2 The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?"

3 But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?"

4 So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me."

5 The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go.

6 I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel.

7 He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

Word of God, Word of Life,
Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

MATTHEW 21:23-32

23 When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?"

24 Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things.

25 Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?'

26 But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet."

27 So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

28 "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.'

29 He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went.

30 The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go.

31 Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you.

32 For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

Word of God, Word of Life,
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

BOB SHANTZ

MUSICAL REFLECTION

DAN GOOCH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Gracious God,
Hear our prayer.

JESUS' PRAYER

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,
O God, our Father and Mother in heaven, hallowed be your name, your reign 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 reign, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Glory to God,
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, forever and ever. Amen.

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be always with you.
And also with you.

Take a moment to share the peace with those in your household and in the comment section of the video.

CELEBRATIONS, NEEDS, AND REFLECTIONS

We respond to the prayers of our friends

God, in your mercy
Hear our prayer

OR

Thanks be to God!
Hallelujah!

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures high and low.

Praise God, in Jesus fully known:

Creator, Word, and Spirit one.

May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead
raise you to new life, fill you with hope,
and turn your mourning into dancing.
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
God and Mother of us all,
bless you now and forever.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Accompanied by our gracious God, go forth with hands and hearts ready to serve.
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE