**ST. LUKE’S ANGLICAN CHURCH, PALERMO**

23rd Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, November 15, 2020 ◊ 10:30 am



The Reverend Garfield Wu – Presider & Preacher

**Welcome to St. Luke’s!**

We are glad to be able to worship with you in person again. Our service will look a little different than usual this week as we take precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Though this time may bring challenges, we know that nothing can separate us from the love of God.

None of us comes to church by accident. No matter what joys, burdens, or problems you bring with you this day, we pray that God’s grace will touch you and fill you with the hope and commitment to live your life with peace, courage, compassion, and love.

**THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY**

**Processional Hymn**

**Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness – CP 629 (v.** **1, 3)**

1. Jesus, thy blood and righteousness

my beauty are, my glorious dress;

'midst flaming worlds, in these arrayed,

with joy shall I lift up my head.

3. Jesus, be endless praise to thee,

whose boundless mercy hath for me –

for me a full atonement made,

an everlasting ransom paid.

**Greeting**

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: Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

All: **And blessed be God's kingdom forever. Amen.**

**Collect for Purity**

Celebrant: Almighty God,

All:**to whom 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.**

**Glory to God**

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| Celebrant: | Glory to God in the highest |
| All: | **and peace to his people on earth.**  **Lord God, heavenly King,**  **almighty God, and Father,**  **we worship you; we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**    **Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,**  **Lord God, Lamb of God,**  **you take away the sin of the world:**  **have mercy on us,**  **you are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.**    **For you alone are the Holy One,**  **you alone are the Lord,**  **you alone are the Most High,**  **Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,**  **in the glory of God, the Father. Amen.** |

**Collect of the Day**

Almighty God, you sent your Son Jesus Christ to be the light of the world. Free us from all that darkens and ensnares us and bring us to eternal light and joy; through the power of him who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

**A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians**

***1 Thessalonians 5:1-11***

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual Hymn**

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty – CP 384 (v.** **1, 6)**

1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty,

the King of creation; O my soul, praise him,

for he is thy health and salvation: all ye who hear,

brothers and sisters draw near,

praise him in glad adoration.

**The Gospel**

**Matthew 25:14-30**

The Lord be with you.

**And also, with you.**

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

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

Jesus said, “For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'”

The Gospel of Christ.

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

6. Praise to the Lord!

O let all that is in me adore him!

All that hath life and breath come now

with praises before him!

Let the Amen sound from his people again:

gladly for aye we adore him.

**The Sermon**

**By the Rev. Garfield Wu**

**Choir Anthem:**

**You Are Mine**

**The Apostle’s Creed**

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| 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.** |

**The Prayers of the People**

**Litany #7 (from BAS p. 116)**

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| Leader: | For the Church of the living God throughout the world, let us ask the riches of his grace. |
| All: | **Lord, hear and have mercy.** |
| Celebrant: | For all who proclaim the word of truth, let us ask the infinite wisdom of Christ. |
| All: | **Lord, hear and have mercy.** |
| Celebrant: | For all who have consecrated their lives to the kingdom of God, and for all struggling to follow the way of Christ, let us ask the gifts of the Spirit. |
| All: | **Lord, hear and have mercy.** |
| Celebrant: | For Elizabeth our Queen, for the Justin the Prime Minister of this country, for Doug the Premier of this Province, for Rob the Mayor of Oakville, and for all who govern the nations, that they may strive for justice and peace, let us ask the strength of God. |
| All: | **Lord, hear and have mercy.** |
| Celebrant: | For scholars and research-workers, that their studies may benefit humanity, let us ask the light of the Lord. |
| All: | **Lord, hear and have mercy.** |
| Celebrant: | For all who have passed from this life in faith and obedience, let us ask the peace of Christ. |
| All: | **Lord, hear and have mercy.** |

**Family Cycle of Prayer:**

Joy Mbabazi; Sherry Messina; Robyn Michell; Jason & Suzette Neil; Ana & Adrian Nettleton; Ifeatu Okafor; Dan Oke; G.O. & Ann Oki; and their families.

**In the Diocese of Niagara:**

We pray for the parish of St. Mark, Orangeville; The Venerable Peter Scott, Rector; The Rev. Canon Lynne Thackwray, Honorary Assistant; The Rev. Richard Beaudoin, Deacon; and the people of that parish.

Let us take a moment to say the names of those we know to be in need, or allow those things are weighing heavy our on our hearts this day to come before the Lord. […]

So, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray to the mercy and protection of our heavenly Father. **Amen**

**Confession and Absolution**

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

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

**THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST**

**Preparation of the Gifts**

**Offertory Hymn**

**Breathe on Me, Breath of God – CP 649**

1. Breathe on me, breath of God;

fill me with life anew,

that I may love what thou dost love,

and do what thou wouldst do.

2. Breathe on me, breath of God,

until my heart is pure,

until my will is one with thine

to do and to endure.

3. Breathe on me, breath of God,

till I am wholly thine,

until this earthly part of me   
glows with thy fire divine.

4. Breathe on me, breath of God:

so shall I never die,

but live with thee the perfect life

of thine eternity.

**The Prayer over the Gifts**

Holy God, in this Eucharist we renew our baptismal covenant. Help us, through our offering this day, to renounce all things that draw us from your love. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer #5)**

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| Celebrant:  People: | The Lord be with you.  **And also, with you.** |
| Celebrant:  People: | Lift up your hearts.  **We lift them to the Lord.** |
| Celebrant:  People: | Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  **It is right to give our thanks and praise.** |
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| Celebrant: | We give you thanks and praise, almighty God, for the gift of a world full of wonder, and for our life which comes from you. By your power you sustain the universe. |
| All: | **Glory to you for ever and ever.** |
| Celebrant: | You created us to love you with all our heart, and to love each other as ourselves,  but we rebel against you by the evil that we do.  In Jesus, your Son, you bring healing to our world and gather us into one great family. Therefore, with all who serve you on earth and in heaven, we praise your wonderful name, as we say, |
|  |  |
| All: | **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.** |
| Celebrant: | We give you thanks and praise, loving Father, because in sending Jesus, your Son, to us you showed us how much you love us. He cares for the poor and the hungry. He suffers with the sick and the rejected. Betrayed and forsaken, he did not strike back but overcame hatred with love.  On the cross he defeated the power of sin and death. By raising him from the dead you show us the power of your love to bring new life to all your people. |
| All: | **Glory to you for ever and ever.** |
| Celebrant: | On the night before he gave up his life for us, Jesus, at supper with his friends, took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, saying,  “Take this, all of you, and eat it: this is my body which is given for you.” After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends, and said, “Drink this, all of you: this is the cup of my blood, the blood of the new and eternal covenant, which is shed for you and for many, so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me.” |
| All: | **Glory to you for ever and ever.** |
| Celebrant: | Gracious God, with this bread and wine  we celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus, and we offer ourselves to you in him.  Send your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts, that we may know the presence of Jesus in the breaking of bread, and share in the life of the family of your children. |
| All: | **Glory to you for ever and ever.** |
| Celebrant: | Father, you call us to be your servants; fill us with the courage and love of Jesus, that all the world may gather in joy at the table of your kingdom.  We sing your praise, almighty Father, through Jesus, our Lord, in the power of the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. |
| All: | **Glory to you for ever and ever. Amen.** |

**The Lord's Prayer**

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| 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,**  **forever and ever. Amen.** |

**The Breaking of the Bread**

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| Celebrant: | Creator of all, you gave us golden fields of wheat, whose many grains we have gathered and made into this one bread. |
| All: | **So may your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.** |

**The Communion**

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| Celebrant:  All: | The gifts of God for the people of God.  **Thanks be to God.** |
| 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.** |

**The Eucharist**

*You are encouraged to receive the Holy Communion, standing or kneeling at the communion rail or at your request in your seat. In accordance with COVID-19 health guidelines, only the host will be distributed. Let us know if you require a gluten-free wafer. If you prefer a blessing only, please indicate so by crossing your arms. If you find it difficult to get to the altar, we will be honoured to bring the Holy Communion to you.*

**Violin Solo** by Alina Zhang

**THE SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

**The Prayer after Communion**

Gracious God, in this sacrament we have shared the body and blood of Christ. May we who have been nourished by holy things bear witness to his light and share in his eternal priesthood; for he is Lord for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**Doxology**

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| 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, forever and ever. Amen.** |

**Blessing**

*The Celebrant blesses the people, and all respond,*

**Amen.**

**Announcements**

**Recessional Hymn**

**I am the Light of the World – SFGP 24 (v.** **1, 2)**

**Refrain:**

*I am the Light of the World!*

*You people come and follow me!  
If you follow and love, you'll learn the mystery  
Of what you were meant to do and be.*

1. When the song of the angels is stilled.

when the star in the sky is gone.

when the kings and the shepherds have found their way home.

the work of Christmas is begun.

**Refrain**

2. To find the lost and lonely one,  
to heal that broken soul with love,  
to feed the hungry children with warmth and good food,  
to feel the earth below the sky above!

**Refrain:**

*I am the Light of the World!*

*You people come and follow me!  
If you follow and love, you'll learn the mystery  
Of what you were meant to do and be.*

**The Dismissal**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord, love others.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

This liturgy is used with the permission of the Bishop of Niagara.

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| **READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY**  **Ephesians 1:15-23; Matthew 25:31-46** |

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**MORNING PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY**

**Wednesdays @ 9:30am**

Our Morning Prayer services have started again! Join us for a nourishing liturgy followed by a short Bible Study each Wednesday morning. This is a fun and friendly time of discussion and learning. No prior knowledge of the Bible is required. Come and check it out!

This week’s readings:

**Malachi 1:1, 6-14; Psalm** **101; Psalm 109:1-4, 20-30;**

**James 3:13-4:12; Matthew 19:27-29**

Contact: **garfield@stlukepalermo.ca**

or **647-878-8650** for details!

**A Note from our Envelope Secretary**

Thank you everyone for continuing to support our parish.

If you write a cheque to us, please make it out to:

**St. Luke’s Anglican Church, Palermo**

This wording is important when depositing cheques at the bank!

Thank you!

**Support St. Luke’s this Fall and Double Your Donation!**

This fall, St. Luke’s is holding a special fundraiser to support our community services! An anonymous donor has offered to match all donations up to $3,000, which means your support will be doubled! Place your donation in an envelope marked “St. Luke’s Fundraiser,” or contact Richard at **treasurer@stlukepalermo.ca** to donate!



**It’s time for…**

**St. Luke’s Palermo**

**2020 Gift Card Sale!**

On now until November 22

It’s time once again for St. Luke’s Gift Card Sale! This easy fundraiser lets you buy gift cards to many popular retailers, and support St. Luke’s, Palermo’s vital ministries and community services at the same time. While you get the full value of your card, a portion of the sale is donated to support our operations.

Visit <https://stlukepalermo.ca/giftcardsale/> to order, or pick up an order form from the church!



Donations are Open to Support Nourishing Neighbours!

The Oakville Community Foundation has approved St. Luke’s Nourishing Neighbours COVID Relief Project for public fundraising in their GIVE Oakville Program! Visit St. Luke’s donation page on the GIVE Oakville website to make a donation, and be sure to share the webpage widely. Every dollar helps us cover the costs of running our fresh food program during the COVID pandemic.

Visit this link today to donate, and share it with others:

**https://ocf.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/create?grant\_id=8572**

**Health and Safety Protocol:**

* Always wear a mask when in the Church.
* Please sanitize your hands as you come into the Church, going up for communion and coming down after communion and when you are leaving the building.
* Please take your bulletin home with you.

**If you have any of the following symptoms, please contact your family doctor.**

Symptoms of COVID-19 can vary from person to person. Symptoms may also vary in different age groups. Some of the more commonly reported symptoms include:

* new or worsening cough
* shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
* temperature equal to or over 38°C
* feeling feverish
* chills
* fatigue or weakness
* muscle or body aches
* new loss of smell or taste
* headache
* gastrointestinal symptoms (abdominal pain, diarrhea, vomiting)
* feeling very unwell

Children have been more commonly reported to have abdominal symptoms and skin changes or rashes.

In severe cases, the infection can lead to death.

Symptoms may take up to 14 days to appear after exposure to COVID-19.

Evidence indicates that the virus can be transmitted to others from someone who is infected but not showing symptoms. This includes people who:

* have not yet developed symptoms (pre-symptomatic)
* never develop symptoms (asymptomatic)

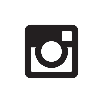
While experts know that these kinds of transmissions are happening among those in close contact or in close physical settings, it is not known to what extent. This means it is extremely important to follow the proven preventative measures.

For more information, please look online at

**https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html**

**Thank you for joining us today.**

**We do hope that you will come again.**

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**Reader:** Kathy Lentz

**Music Director:** Janet Correia

**Duty Warden:** Margie Simms

**Greeter:** Peter Malue