



ORDER FOR WORSHIP

Third Sunday after Pentecost

June 13, 2021

The mustard seed becomes a great shrub that shelters the birds, recalling ancient images of the tree of life. We'd expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we are grafted through baptism, the true vine that nourishes us with its fruit in the cup we share. It may not appear all that impressive, but while nobody's looking it grows with a power beyond our understanding.

*The Holy Spirit
calls us together
as the people of
God.*

GATHERING

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We wish to acknowledge this land on which St. Philip's Lutheran Church is located. For thousands of years, it has been the traditional land of the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Haudenosaunee, and the Wendat peoples. We are grateful to have the opportunity to meet, worship, and serve on this land.

OPENING

215 Children: The Bishops' Prayer for Kamloops residential school victims

WELCOME

PRAYER

PRELUDE

"I'm Coming Back to the Heart of Worship"

Matt Redman

*God speaks to us
in scripture
reading,
preaching, and
song*

WORD

GOSPEL

Mark 4: 26 - 34

Jesus frequently uses parables to teach ordinary people as they are able to hear and understand. Images of sowing and growing show the vitality of God's kingdom.

²⁶[Jesus] said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,²⁷and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come." ³⁰He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds



of the air can make nests in its shade.”³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it;³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

PLANTING SEEDS

“The Kingdom of God is like a seed”: sewing and growing on a prairie farm.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

ACS 1063

God of the Fertile Fields



1 God of the fer - tile fields, sha - per of
2 We would be stew - ards true, hold - ing in
3 As grows the hid - den seed to fruit that
4 God of the coun - try - side, dear to the



earth that yields our dai - ly bread: forth from your
trust from you all that you give; help us in
serves our need, so your reign grows. Let all our
Christ who died to make us one: we pledge our



boun - teous hand come gifts your love has planned,
love to share, teach us like you to care
toil be used, no gift of yours a - bused,
lives a - new in faith - ful love to you.



that all in ev - 'ry land be clothed and fed.
for peo - ple ev - 'ry - where, that all may live.
no hum - ble task re - fused your love be - stows.
Guide all we say and do. Your will be done.

Text: Georgia Harkness, 1891–1974, alt.

Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796

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THANKSGIVING

*In everything
Give
Thanks.
1 Thessalonians
5:18*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SHARING OF THE PEACE

BIBLE BUNCH

“June Birthdays”

LIVING OUR VISION

“The Good Neighbour Campaign”

OFFERING

HYMN

“O God, Whose Word Well-Planted”, Stephen P. Folkemer (music)

LORD’S PRAYER

SENDING

*God blesses us
and sends us in
mission to the
world.*

BLESSING

SENDING

POSTLUDE



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ST. PHILIP'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

SERVING TODAY

Rev. Tuula Van Gaasbeek	Minister
Chris Ritcey-Conrad	Music Director
Dave Pascoe	Videographer
Sophia	Land Acknowledgement
Deb Goshulak	Reader
Glen Erlandson	Planting Seeds
Rev. Jordan Smith	Prayers of the People
St. Philip's Congregational Council	The Lord's Prayer
Rev. Jordan Smith	Sending
Margaret van Rensburg	Additional Music: Violin

IN OUR PRAYERS

Gus Berndt, Kevin Cartwright, Rodney Erlandson, Al Jacksteit, Mona Kibsey, Mark Kieswetter, Fran Moore, Marion Morningstar, Pat Penney, Julie Potocny, Helen Scollnik, and Elga Smidt.

THE GOOD NEIGHBOUR CAMPAIGN

Your donation to The Good Neighbour Campaign will help us reach neighbours in Etobicoke with an 8-week summer Neighbourhood Table @ Home program for 50 families and 25 seniors. It will include a weekly fresh produce box, a grocery card, recipes, and information for healthy eating.

Make your tax-deductible donation now: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/st-philips-evangelical-lutheran-church/campaign/the-good-neighbour/>

PASS THE OFFERING PLATE PLEASE

Thanks for giving your offering regularly. Even while our doors are closed, our hearts and hands are open and busy. Our ministries need your support. Details for how to give are on stphilipstoronto.com/donate-now/.

WAYS TO BE INVOLVED

While we can't be in the building, there are still ways to stay involved and in community with others. Here are a few:

- Participate in worship services: contact Pastor Tuula.
- Join in the Virtual Coffee Hour @ 11:00 am.
- 50+ connecting in new ways in 2021! Watch for the next event. Contact Doris Pascoe for details.