



ORDER FOR WORSHIP

16th Sunday after Pentecost

September 12, 2021

Three weeks ago we heard Peter's confession of faith as told in John's gospel. This week we hear Mark's version, when Peter says, "You are the Messiah." In John, the stumbling block is Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh, given for the life of the world. In Mark too the scandal has to do with Jesus' words about his own coming death, and here Peter himself stumbles over Jesus' words. But Jesus is anointed (the meaning of messiah) in Mark only on the way to the cross (14:3); so we are anointed in baptism with the sign of the cross.

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

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.

WELCOME

GATHERING SONG

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

ELW 834

- 1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise!
- 2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the sake of the gospel we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

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

FIRST READING

Isaiah 50:4-9a

The image of the servant of the Lord is one of the notable motifs in the book of Isaiah. Today's reading describes the mission of the servant, whom early Christians associated with Jesus. Like Jesus, the servant does not strike back at his detractors but trusts in God's steadfast love.

⁴The Lord God has given me
the tongue of a teacher,
that I may know how to sustain
the weary with a word.
Morning by morning he wakens—
wakens my ear
to listen as those who are taught.

⁵The Lord God has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious,
I did not turn backward.

⁶I gave my back to those who struck me,
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;
I did not hide my face
from insult and spitting.

⁷The Lord God helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint,

and I know that I shall not be put to shame;
 ⁸he who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me?
 Let us stand up together.
Who are my adversaries?
 Let them confront me.
^{9a}It is the Lord God who helps me;
 who will declare me guilty?

SONG

Be Not Afraid

ELW 388

Be not afraid, sing out for joy!
Christ is risen, alleluia!
Be not afraid, sing out for joy!
Christ is risen, alleluia!

Text: Matthew 28:5; Taizé Community
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GOSPEL

Mark 8:27-38

This story provides the turning point in Mark's gospel. Peter is the first human being in the narrative to acknowledge Jesus as the Messiah, but he cannot accept that as the Messiah Jesus will have to suffer. Moreover, Jesus issues a strong challenge to all by connecting discipleship and the cross.

²⁷Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" ²⁸And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." ²⁹He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." ³⁰And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

³¹Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and

said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

O Praise the Gracious Power

ELW 651

- 1 Oh, praise the gracious pow'r
that tumbles walls of fear
and gathers in one house of faith
all strangers far and near:

Refrain

We praise you, Christ!
Your cross has made us one!

- 2 Oh, praise persistent truth
that opens fisted minds
and eases from their anxious clutch
the prejudice that blinds: *Refrain*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

SHARING OF PEACE

COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG

O God in Heaven

ELW 748

- 1 O God in heaven, grant to your children
mercy and blessing, songs never ceasing,
grace to invite us, peace to unite us—
O God in heaven, author of love.
- 2 Jesus, redeemer, help us remember
your pain and passion, your resurrection,
your call to follow, your love tomorrow—
Jesus, redeemer, savior, and friend.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood
you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation.
Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy,
bearing witness to the abundance of your love
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

SENDING

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

BLESSING

People of God,
you are Christ's body,
bringing new life to a suffering world.
The holy Trinity, † one God,
bless you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING SONG

Let the Whole Creation Cry

ELW 876

- 1 Let the whole creation cry,
"Glory to the Lord on high!"
Heav'n and earth, awake and sing,
"Praise to our almighty king!"
Praise God, angel hosts above,
ever bright and fair in love;
sun and moon, lift up your voice;
night and stars, in God rejoice.
- 2 Servants striving for the Lord,
prophets burning with the word,
those to whom the arts belong
add their voices to the song.
Pow'rs of knowledge and of law,
to the glorious circle draw;
all who work and all who wait,
sing, "The Lord is good and great!"

DISMISSAL

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SERVING TODAY

The Rev. Tuula Van Gaasbeek	Pastor
Chris Ritcey-Conrad	Music Director
Marcia Powers-Dunlop	Assisting Minister
Council Members	Greeters
Council Members	Ushers
Lauren Voorpostel	Cantor
Meranda Phannenhour,	Readers
Marcia Powers-Dunlop	
Dave Pascoe	Audio Visual

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, Elga Smidt, Juliet and Paul.

PASS THE OFFERING PLATE PLEASE

Thanks for giving your offering regularly. Our ministries need your support. Place your offering on the plate when you enter or leave today. Or find details for other options at stphilipstoronto.com/donate-now/.

ICE CREAM SUNDAY!

Today after worship step up to the ice cream truck and place your order! Enjoy an ice cream treat outside and say (a safe) "Hi" to others as we celebrate being together again.

50+ PICNIC

Thursday, September 16th @ noon on the church lawn. Bring a sandwich – we'll provide drinks and dessert. All health and safety best practices will be followed – bring your mask.



ST. PHILIP'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

OUR VISION

*Freed by the grace of Christ, we seek to connect with God,
neighbour and self.*

VISION STATEMENT:

We are a diverse and inclusive Lutheran faith community freed by the grace of Christ to find God and self as we connect with our neighbours. We **practise hospitality** of open hearts and open arms. We **unite with partners** to make a difference in our neighbourhood. We **nurture** the community of Christ.

VALUES SUPPORTING THE VISION:

Our Lutheran heritage of grace.
Our call to pray, worship and learn as we grow in our Christian faith.
Our need to gather and belong in Christian community.
The call to love our neighbours as Christ loves us.
The acceptance of all people as children of God.
The opportunities to meet God everywhere.

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