

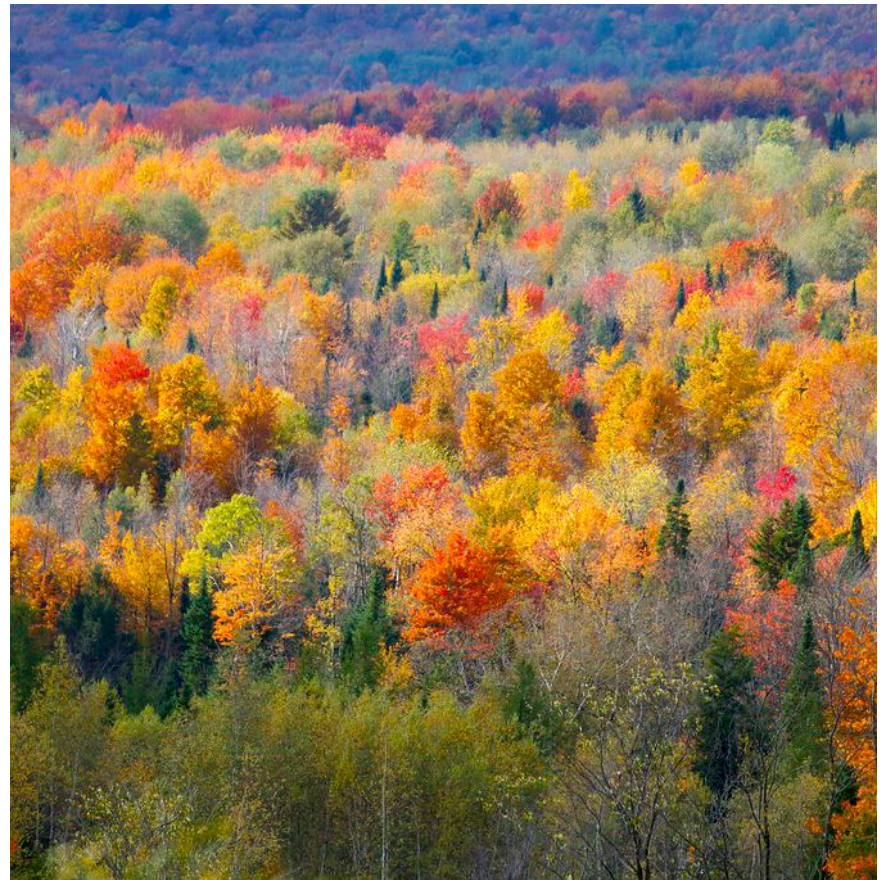
A Digital Project of the Regional Ministries of Brome-Missisquoi & Châteauguay



A Service of Morning Prayer for
The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost (27 September)

A Prayer for Community

Once again, we enter into a virtual gathering place. We worship together in spirit and in truth, though not in person. We pray, sing, and listen to God's Word despite all the fear and darkness that continues to pervade our world. God is with us. The Holy Spirit is among us, blowing with a wind of hope and renewal. Christ is present in our midst.



#322: All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

1. All hail the power of Jesus' name!
Let angels prostrate fall;
bring forth the royal diadem
and crown him, crown him,
crown him, crown him Lord of all.

2. Hail him, the heir of David's line,
whom David Lord did call,
the God incarnate, life divine,
and crown him, crown him,
crown him, crown him Lord of all.

3. Crown him, you martyrs of your God,
who from his altar call;
praise him whose way of pain you trod,
and crown him, crown him,
crown him, crown him Lord of all.

4. Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget
the wormwood and the gall,
go, spread your trophies at his feet,
and crown him, crown him,
crown him, crown him Lord of all.

5. Let every tongue and every tribe,
delivered from the fall,
to Christ all majesty ascribe,
and crown him, crown him,
crown him, crown him Lord of all.

6. O that, with heaven's sacred throng,
we at his feet may fall,
lift high the universal song,
and crown him, crown him,
crown him, crown him Lord of all.

Territorial Acknowledgment

In this holy time and place, we acknowledge with respect that we gather on the traditional, ancestral territories of the Abanaki and Mohawk first peoples.

**May the living Christ lead
us all on pathways of
reconciliation and peace.**



Confession & Absolution

Dear friends in Christ, as we prepare to worship almighty God, let us with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by God's infinite goodness and mercy:

Most merciful God, 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.

May 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. **Amen.**



Opening Responses

Lord, open our lips
**And our mouth shall
proclaim your praise.**

Glory to God, Source of all being,
eternal Word, and Holy Spirit:
**as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be for ever.
Amen.**

The earth is the Lord's for he
made it:
O, come let us worship.



The Venite (Tune: *Old 100th*)

Come, let us sing to God on high,
The Rock of our salvation praise;
Come with thanksgiving
to God's courts
And joyful psalms before Him raise.

For God is Lord above all gods,
The heights and depths are
in His hand;
God made the sea and it is His,
God's hands have molded
the dry land.

Let us bow down and worship God
Who is our maker and our Lord;
We are God's people and His sheep;
Today, then, hearken to God's Word.

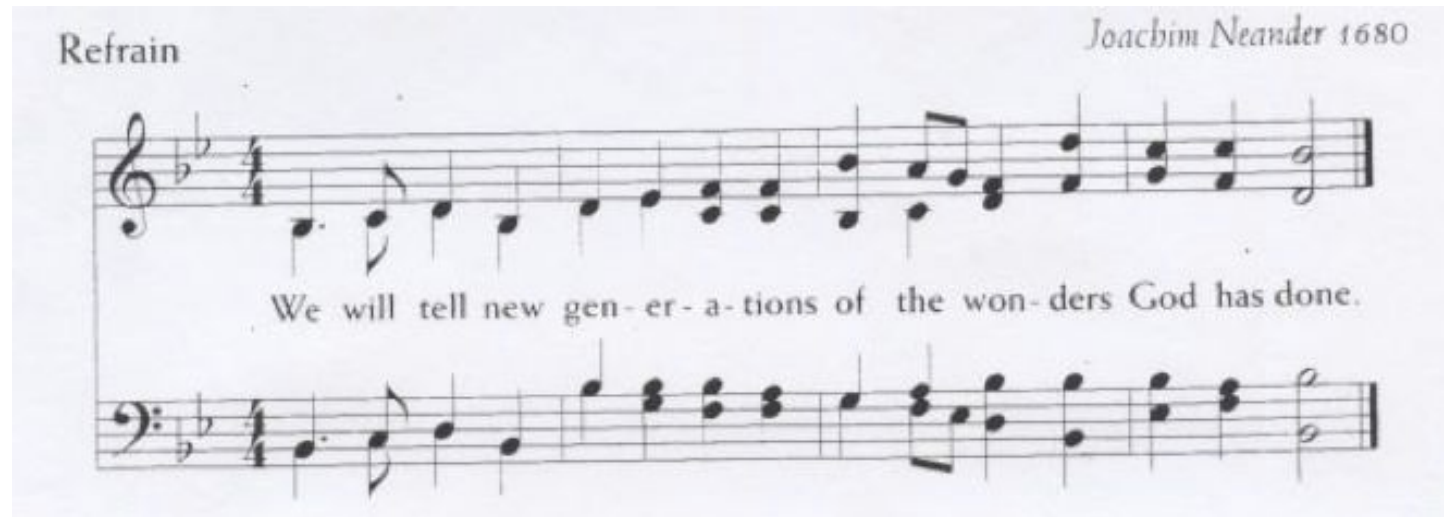


Exodus 17:1-7

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. 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?” 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?” So Moses cried out to the Lord, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” 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. 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. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, “Is the Lord among us or not?”



Psalm 78



Give heed to my teaching, oh my people, turn your ears to the words of my mouth:

I will open my mouth in a parable, I will reveal the hidden meaning of things in the past. *Refrain.*

What we have heard and known, what our parents have told us, we will not hide from their grandchildren;

But declare to the next generation the testimony that you gave to Jacob, and the Law that you appointed in Israel, which you commanded them to teach their children.

That the next generation might know them, children yet unborn, and these in turn should arise and tell their own children,

That they should put their trust in you, and not forget your great deeds, and keep all your commandments. *Refrain.*

Marvellous things you did in the sight of our ancestors in the land of Egypt, in the plain of Zoan:

You divided the sea and let them go through, and made the waters stand up like a wall. *Refrain.*

By day you led with a cloud, and all the night long with a beacon of fire.

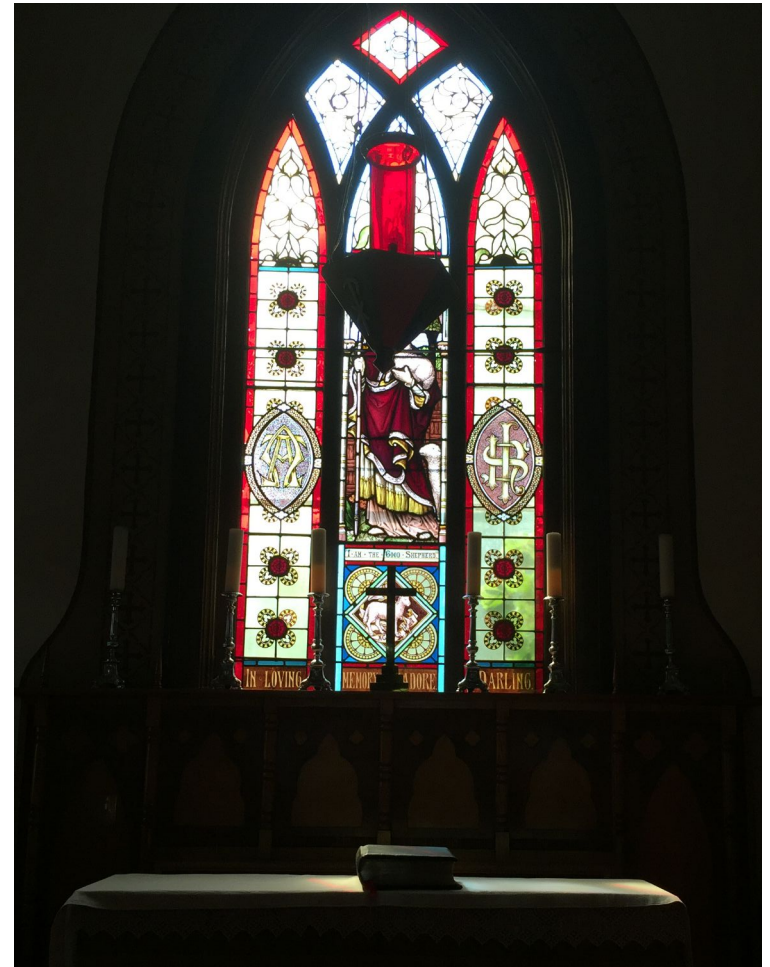
You split rocks in the wilderness, and gave drink in plenty as from the great deep.

You brought streams out of the rock,

And made water run down like rivers. *Refrain.*

Philippians 2:1-13

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death -- even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.



481 May the Grace of Christ Our Saviour

1 May the grace of Christ our Sav - iour, and the Fa - ther's bound-less love,
 2 Thus may we a - bide in un - ion with each oth - er and the Lord,
 3 To the God whose wis - dom made us, to the Son who set us free,

with the Ho - ly Spir - it's fav - our, rest up - on us from a - bove.
 and pos - sess in sweet com - mun - ion joys which earth can - not af - ford.
 to the sanc - ti - fy - ing Spir - it, glo - ry, end - less glo - ry, be!

Text: St. 1–2, John Newton (1725–1807); st. 3, *New English Hymnal*.
 Music: William Boyce (1710–1779), alt.

87 87
 HALTON HOLGATE (SHARON)
 Alt tune OMNI DIE DIC MARIA 74, 657

Matthew 21:23-32

When Jesus 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?” 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. 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?’ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” 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. “What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. 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. 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.

The Sermon

Archdeacon Linda Borden-Taylor



Confession of Faith

Let us declare our faith in God, *singing*...

1. We believe in God the Father, God Almighty by whose plan,
earth and heaven sprang to being, all created things began.
We believe in Christ the Saviour, Son of God in human frame,
virgin-born, the child of Mary, upon whom the Spirit came.
2. Christ, who on the cross forsaken, like a lamb to slaughter led,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, he descended to the dead.
We believe in Jesus risen, heaven's king to rule and reign,
to the Father's side ascended 'till as judge he comes again.
3. We believe in God the Spirit; in one Church, below, above:
Saints of God in one communion, one in holiness and love.
So by faith, our sins forgiven, Christ our Saviour, Lord, and friend,
we shall rise with him in glory to the life that knows no end.

Prayers of the People

Led by Lay Reader George Ryder

(St. George's, Châteauguay)



The Collect of the Day

God of justice,
You reach out in love through
Jesus Christ to save us. Unchain
us from our human greed for
wealth and power, so that we may
release others from the prisons of
poverty, hunger, and oppression.
We ask this through your Son, our
Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.



The Collect for St. Michael and All Angels (29 September)

God of Jacob,
In whose grace heaven is moved
to touch the earth: make us
messengers of your peace,
so that with Michael and the hosts
of heaven, we may end ancient
conflicts and pave the way for
justice, kindness, and humility for
all your people; through Jesus
Christ, the firstborn of all
creation.

Amen.



The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Notre Père, qui es aux cieux, que ton nom soit sanctifié, que ton règne vienne, que ta volonté soit faite sur la terre comme au ciel. Donne-nous aujourd'hui notre pain de ce jour. Pardonne-nous nos offenses, comme nous pardonnons aussi à ceux qui nous ont offensés. Et ne nous laisse pas entrer en tentation mais délivre-nous du mal. Car c'est à Toi qu'appartiennent le règne, la puissance et la gloire, pour les siècles des siècles. Amen.

#675: Will Your Anchor Hold

1. Will your anchor hold in the storms
of life?

When the clouds unfold their wings
of strife,
when the strong tides lift and the
cables strain,
will your anchor drift or firm remain?

Refrain

2. It will surely hold in the straits of fear,
when the breakers tell and the reef is near;
though the tempest rave and the
wild winds blow,
not an angry wave shall our bark o'erflow?

Refrain

3. It will surely hold in the floods
of death,
when the waters cold chill our
latest breath;
on the rising tide you can never fail
while our hopes abide within the veil.

Refrain

4. When our eyes behold, through
the gathering night,
the city of gold, our harbour bright,
we shall anchor fast by the heavenly shore,
with the storms all past for evermore.

Refrain

Refrain:

We have an anchor that keeps the soul
steadfast and sure while the billows roll,
fastened to the Rock which cannot move,
grounded firm and deep in the Saviour's
love!

Blessing and Dismissal

The love of the Lord Jesus draw you to himself; the power of the Lord Jesus strengthen you in his service; the joy of the Lord Jesus fill your hearts; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

