

Pentecost 24, November 15th, 2020

Land Acknowledgement

Although we are worshipping in virtual space, we know that our feet are on solid ground—land that is the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Abenaki (Abenakiak), Gahnyengehhah /Mohawk and Anishnaabe (Algonquin) First Peoples. We also acknowledge that other Indigenous communities, including Inuit and Métis people, also inhabit the land upon which the Anglican Dioceses of Montreal and Ottawa stand.

It is important for us to acknowledge the land, because whether we were born here, or moved here later in our lives, we are all immigrants: we never heard the beautiful Indigenous names; Indigenous peoples were spoken of in the past tense, and the struggles they face are still spoken of as if they, too, were in the past. It is easier to deny rights if we put struggles into the past or pretend that they do not exist.

Today we recommit ourselves to join struggles against systems of oppression that have dispossessed Indigenous people of their lands and denied them their rights to self-determination .

May the living Christ lead us always on pathways of reconciliation and justice.



Soldiers of Christ, arise,
and put your armor on,
strong in the strength which God supplies
through his eternal Son.
Strong in the Lord of hosts,
and in his mighty power,
who in the strength of Jesus trusts
is more than conqueror.

2 Stand then in his great might,
with all his strength endued;
but take, to arm you for the fight,
the panoply of God.
to keep your armour bright,
attend with constant care,
still walking in your Captain's sight
and watching unto prayer.

3 From strength to strength go on,
wrestle and fight and pray;
tread all the powers of darkness down
and win the well-fought day.
That, having all things done,
and all your conflicts past,
ye may o'ercome through Christ alone,
and stand entire at last.



Opening Sentences

O Lord, open thou our lips;

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise

O God, make speed to save us;

O Lord, make haste to help us.

**Glory be to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.**

Lord, open our hearts to your Word as it comes to us
in song and prayer. May your Spirit breathe new life
into your Church, that we may shine with your love for
all your world. Amen.



Let us remember before God how we have gone wrong,
the things we did that caused hurt, the good we neglected
to do, and the love withheld because of fear:

**Almighty and merciful God,
we have sinned against you,
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with all our heart.
We have not loved others
as our Saviour Christ loves us.
We are truly sorry.
In your mercy forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.**

May Almighty God, who pardons all who truly repent,
forgive your sins, strengthen you by the Holy Spirit,
and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ
our Redeemer. **Amen.**



Venite

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.

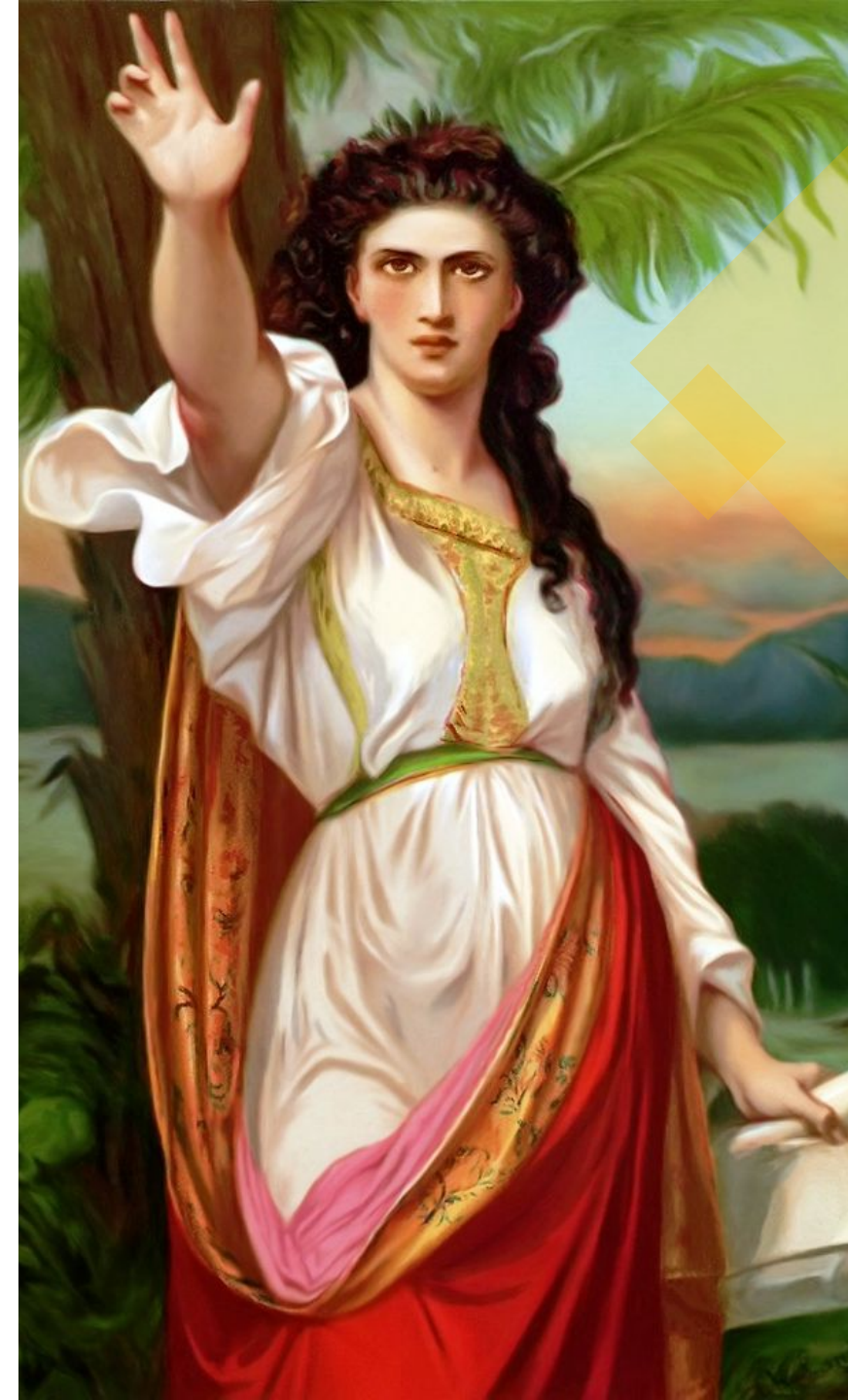
Let us bow down and worship God
who is our maker and our Lord;
we are God's people and His sheep;
today, then, hearken to God's Word.



Judges 4:1-7

The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, after Ehud died. So the Lord sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim. Then the Israelites cried out to the Lord for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron, and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years.

At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgment. She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, “The Lord, the God of Israel, commands you, ‘Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin’s army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand.’”





Isle of Skye, Scotland

Refrain **Psalm 123** *Hughes M. Huffman 1976*

To you, O God, our eyes we raise

un - til your mer - cy we may praise.

Music copyright © 1976 InterVarsity Christian Fellowship of the U.S.A.

To you I lift up my eyes,
to you who are enthroned in the heavens.
As the eyes of servants look to their master's hands,
as the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,
so our eyes look to you, O God,
as we wait till you show us your favour. R

We have had more than enough of contempt.
Too long we have suffered the scorn of the wealthy,
and the contempt of the arrogant. R

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 labor 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.



1 Take my life, and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days,
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

2 Take my hands, and let them move
at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet, and let them be
swift and purposeful for thee.

3 Take my lips, and let them be
filled with messages from thee;
take my intellect, and use
every power as thou shalt choose.

4 Take my will, and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine;
take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.

5 Take my love, my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store.;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.



Matthew 25:14-30

Jesus said, "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.'"

**Sermon by Lay Reader
Randy K. Gates**



Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

**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.**



Prayers of the People





Our Father

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 aux siècles des siècles.

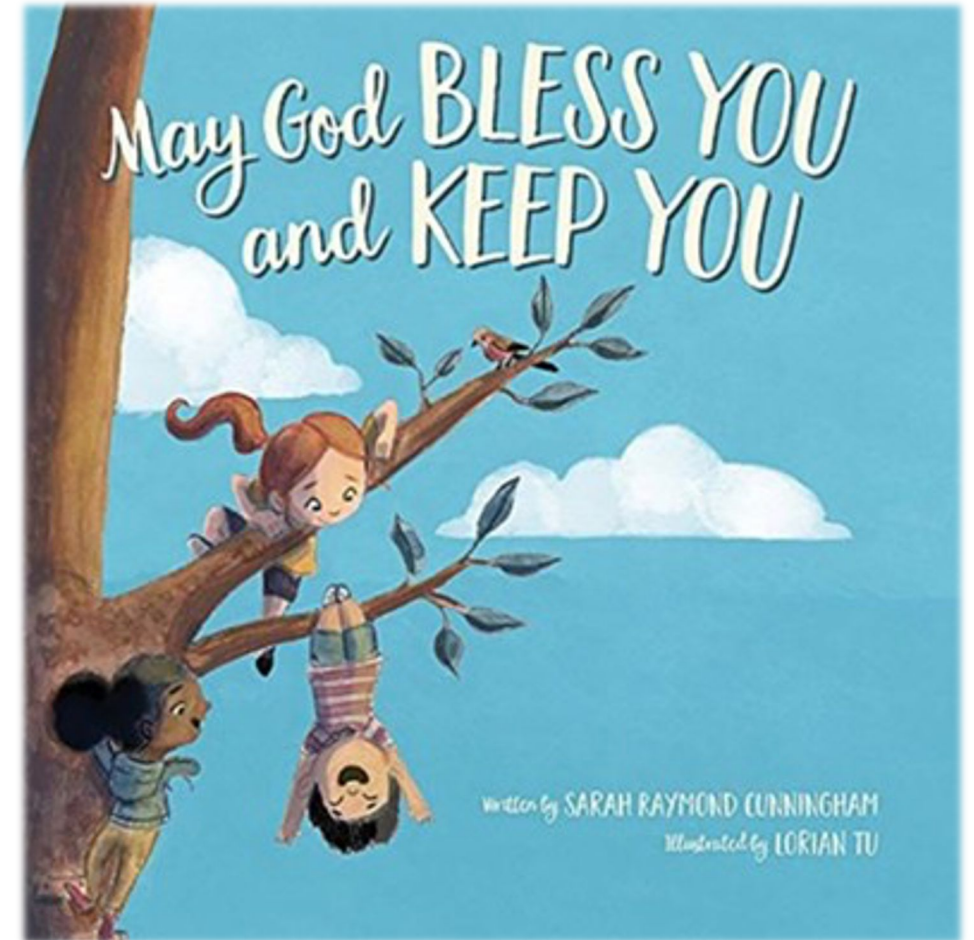
Amen.

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 for ever. 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 our Lord. Amen

May the peace of God which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge
and love of God and of his Son Jesus Christ.
And may the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with you
and remain with you always. Amen.

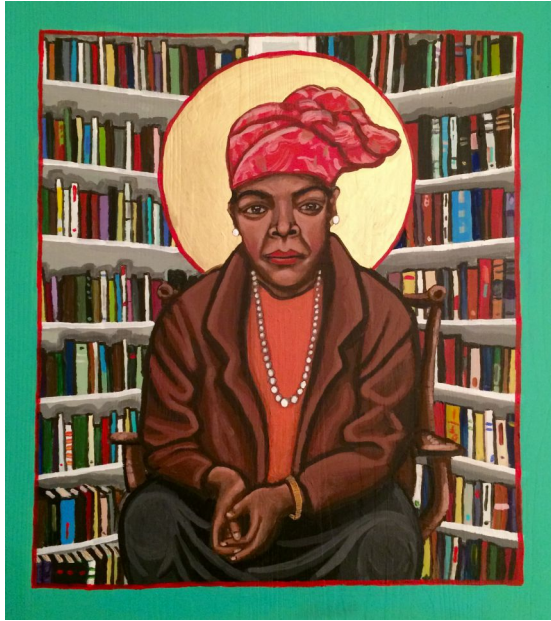
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord/ **Thanks be to God!**



1 God of grace and God of glory,
on your people pour your power;
now fulfil your church's story;
bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.

2 Lo, the hosts of evil round us
scorn your Christ, assail your ways;
fears and doubts too long have bound us;
free our hearts to work and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.

3 Cure your children's warring madness,
bend our pride to your control;
shame our wanton selfish gladness,
rich in goods and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss your kingdom's goal,
lest we miss your kingdom's goal.



Maya Angelou

4 Set our feet on lofty places;
gird our lives that they may be
armoured with all Christ-like graces,
in the fight for liberty.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we fail ourselves and thee,
lest we fail ourselves and thee.



Dietrich Bonhoeffer



The Three Amigos