



Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost - B
September 26, 2021

Key Scripture - Mark 9: 41

For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

Theme - The Company You Keep



Orange Shirt Day National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

On September 30, people all across Canada will wear orange shirts to remember and honour Indigenous children who were taken from their communities and families to residential schools.

The summer of 2021 was a summer of orange shirts as Indigenous communities across the country shared the truth they have always known: that many of the children who never returned from residential schools remain on the grounds of those institutions in unmarked burial sites. These communities are now seeking to honour the missing children.

This Orange Shirt Day is also the first observance of a National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. This is a time when we can reflect on our ongoing responsibility to seek reconciliation and justice.

Why orange? Because of Phyllis Jack Webstad who went to St. Joseph Mission Residential School. On her first day of school, Phyllis wore an orange shirt that her grandmother had given her. It was immediately taken away, and that marked the beginning of Phyllis's long separation from her family and community, a separation caused by actions of the church and federal government.

Orange Shirt Day is a time for us all to remember those events, their ongoing impact, and just as importantly the continuing strength and resilience of Indigenous peoples.

Canadian Police and Peace Officers' Memorial

A formal, national Memorial Day gives Canadians an opportunity each year to formally express appreciation for the dedication of police and peace officers, who make the ultimate, tragic sacrifice to keep our communities safe.

Welcome and Announcements

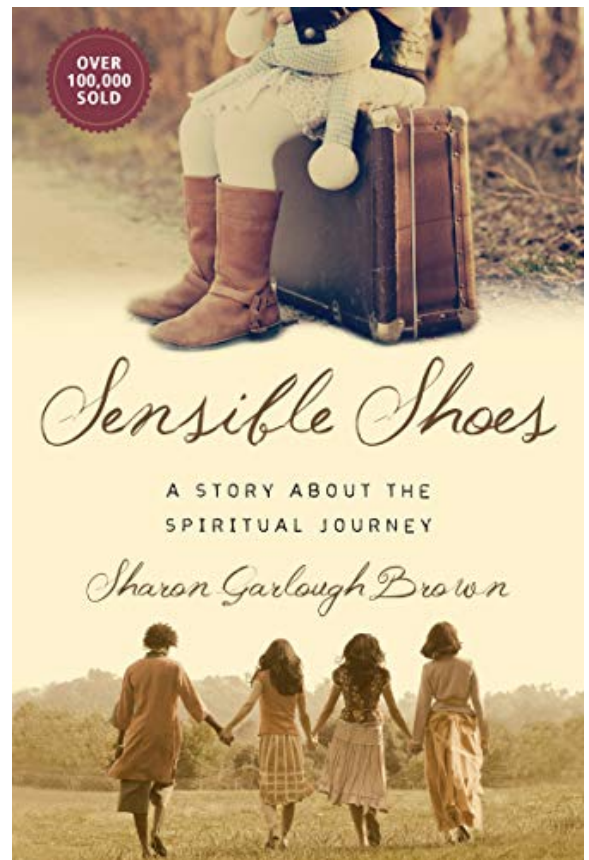
- † Newcomers please sign our guestbook
- † Trinity is Welcoming, Open, Inclusive and Accessible.
 - Trinity is an Affirming Congregation
- † We continue to pray for those who were impacted by the legacy of Indian Residential Schools.
- † If you do not already track news and events in our larger Church Community, you may wish to [visit the United Church of Canada Website.](#)
- † [E-ssentials](#) is a helpful NewsLetter you may wish to consider.
- † **The Healing Pathway Ministry** is a form of prayer which recognizes that we are all One in the Source of Life. We open to the Sacred Spirit and to allow the Healing energy of the Spirit to flow.
 - If you wish to have a conversation and / or book an individual healing session, email -
 - trinitysmithsfallshealingpathway@yahoo.com

We have a new security system. If you regularly require access to the building after hours and require additional information, please contact the office.

Looking Ahead

27 September, 1:00pm - The Spiritual Leadership Team is hosting a book study, **Sensible Shoes: A Story about the Spiritual Journey.**

- [Video call link](#)
- Sharon Garlough Brown tells the moving story of four strangers as they embark together on a journey of spiritual formation:
 - Hannah, a pastor who doesn't realize how exhausted she is.
 - Meg, a widow and recent empty-nester who is haunted by her past.
 - Mara, a woman who has experienced a lifetime of rejection and is now trying to navigate a difficult marriage.
 - Charissa, a hard-working graduate student who wants to get things right.
- You're invited to join these four women as they reluctantly arrive at a retreat center and find themselves drawn out of their separate stories of isolation and struggle and into a collective journey of spiritual practice, mutual support and personal revelation.
- Along the way, readers will be taken into a new understanding of key spiritual practices and find tangible support for the deeper life with God.



29 September, 9:30am - Bible Study. [Listen Up! Bible study](#) - the Gospel of Mark Part 1 - Mark 1-8

- [Video call link](#)

17 October, 10:30am - A Service of Remembrance and Reunion

- The Christian Community Team hopes to host a form of Memorial Service for folk whom we lost during COVID and could not properly acknowledge as a congregation. We will remember in word, in prayer and fellowship.
- We will monitor COVID limitations closely and adjust if necessary.

Acknowledging Traditional Territory

Smiths Falls is located on the traditional territory of the Algonquin peoples dating back countless generations. We are grateful for our neighbours and recognize the opportunity to exercise the Ministry of Reconciliation

Interlude MV 62 "There is Room For All"

There is room for all in the shadow of God's wing;
there is room for all, sheltered in God's love.

And I rejoice and sing, "My refuge and my rock, in whom I trust."

There is room for all, there is room for all!

Call to Worship

Our help is in the name of the Lord our God,
the maker of heaven and earth.

God our Maker is present with us at all times,
loving and gracious to all.

So, we come to worship God as we follow in the way of truth.

We offer our prayers and praise to the One who is freedom and life.

Opening Prayer

Holy One, Spirit of Love,
You are perfect in wisdom.
You are faithful in love.
You are relentless in seeking reconciliation.

When we feel alone, you offer community.
When we face pain, you give healing.
When danger surrounds us, you give us courage.
When we work against each another, you urge peace.

Holy One, you are the wellspring of grace and goodness.
We come to worship you in gratitude for all you offer
through Jesus in the power of the Spirit.
Receive our praise this day,
and renew us to serve you in the world you love.

Hymn MV 157 "I Am A Child Of God"

I am a child of God, I am a glimpse of God's new creation.
I am a child of God, I am a child of God.

I am an endless prayer, I am a yearning for contemplation,
I am an endless prayer, I am an endless prayer.

I am an angry voice, I am compassion and consternation,
I am an angry voice, I am an angry voice.

I am a cry for peace, I am commitment and dedication,
I am a cry for peace, I am a cry for peace.

I am a song of joy, I am the moment of jubilation,
I am a song of joy, I am a song of joy.

Time With Children

Children's Prayer

Prayer of Confession

Holy One,

Your generous mercy became flesh in Jesus.

We confess that we sometimes hold grudges and cling to the past.

We turn a blind eye to what we know is evil

and fail to act for what we know to be good.

By your generous mercy,

strengthen our commitment to follow Jesus' example day by day.

Words of Assurance

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ—and Christ died for us; Christ rose for us; Christ reigns in power for us; Christ prays for us. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made new by God's generous grace.

Scripture

Psalm 19: 1-10 (VU 740);

James 5:13-20;

Mark 9:38-50

Psalm 19: 1-10 (VU 740)

Refrain -

The precepts of our God give joy to the heart.

The heavens declare the glory of God;
and the vault of the sky reveals God's handiwork.

**One day speaks to another,
and night shares its knowledge with night,**

And this without speech or language;
their voices are not heard.

**But their sound goes out to all the lands,
their words to the ends of the earth.**

Refrain -

The precepts of our God give joy to the heart.

In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun
which comes out like a bridegroom from under the canopy,
like an athlete eager to run the race.

**Its rising is at one end of the sky,
it runs its course to the other,
and there is nothing that is hidden from its heat.**

Refrain -

The precepts of our God give joy to the heart.

God's law is perfect, refreshing the soul;
**God's instruction is sure,
giving wisdom to the simple;**
God's precepts are right, rejoicing the heart;

**God's commandment is pure
giving light to the eyes;**

God's fear is clean, enduring forever;
God's judgements are true,
every one of them righteous;
more desirable than gold, even much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey,
pure honey from the comb.

Refrain -

The precepts of our God give joy to the heart.

James 5:13-20

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Mark 9:38-50

John said to him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not

against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

“For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

Meditation "Hill Street Blues" (Post)

Reflection The Company You Keep

Hymn "For Everyone Born" vs. 1,3,5

For everyone born, a place at the table,
For everyone born, clean water and bread;
A shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,
For everyone born, a star overhead.

Refrain -

***And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy,
Compassion and peace:***

***Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice,
Justice and joy.***

For woman and man, a place at the table,
Revising the roles, deciding the share;
With wisdom and grace, dividing the power,
For woman and man, a system that's fair.

Refrain -

***And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy,
Compassion and peace:***

***Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice,
Justice and joy.***

For young and for old, a place at the table,
A voice to be heard, a part in the song,
The hands of a child, in hands that are wrinkled,
For young and for old, the right to belong.

Refrain -

***And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy,
Compassion and peace:***

***Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice,
Justice and joy.***

For gay and for straight, a place at the table,
Transgender and queer, in one single tree,
Engaging each gift, and blessing each cov'nant,
For gay and for straight, a new way to be.

Refrain -

***And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy,
Compassion and peace:***

***Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice,
Justice and joy.***

For everyone born, a place at the table,
To live without fear, and simply to be,
To work, to speak out, to witness and worship,
For everyone born, the right to be free.

Refrain -

***And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy,
Compassion and peace:***

***Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice,
Justice and joy.***

Invitation to the Offering

Through our offering, we join in an outreach of creative and compassionate service. Our gifts combine with those of many others to build up the mission of healing and wholeness in Jesus' name.

Offering Prayer

God of goodness and loving kindness, we offer our gifts in gratitude for what you have given us in creation. Bless these gifts and multiply them through what others share this day, so that your goodness and loving kindness will touch many in need, for the sake of Jesus our Friend. Amen.

Hymn 271 "There's A Wideness in God's Mercy" vs. 1,4,5

There's a wideness in God's mercy like the wideness of the sea;
There's a kindness in God's justice which is more than liberty.

Troubled souls, why will you scatter like a crowd of frightened sheep?
Foolish hearts, why will you wander from a love so true and deep?

For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind,
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.

Prayers of the People

Gracious God,

You have called us together to become the church that bears Jesus' name.

Thank you for joining us in fellowship and giving us opportunities to make a difference.

Bless our congregation and our denomination, so that we are united in mission and purpose, wherever and however we serve.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Creator God,

You made all things and called them good.

May the earth be held in reverence by all people.

May its resources be used wisely,

and the fragile balance between all species respected.

Be with those whose lives have been disrupted by wildfire, storm and drought,

and bring healing to creatures and communities struggling for life.

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Comforting God,

Your Son became a refugee with no place to call his own.

Look with mercy on all those who are fleeing from danger,
and find themselves homeless and hungry.

Bless and protect those who work to bring relief;
and inspire generosity and compassion in hearts that have
resources to share.

Guide the nations to work together to bring an end to conflict so that
little children may grow up safe and happy in their own homes.

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Eternal Ruler,

All nations rise and fall in your sight.

Hear our prayers for those who rule in countries around the world,
that they may act with integrity, establish justice for all citizens,
and seek the ways of peace.

Give guidance to the new government elected this week,
to offer just legislation
to govern with humility,
to address the needs of the most vulnerable, and
to lead recovery from the pandemic in prudent and generous
ways.

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

God of hope,

We bring before you the names of people and places on our hearts
this day,

seeking the right gift only you can give them:

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Ever faithful God,

You have knit together your people from all times and places
into the body of Christ through his resurrecting love.

Keep us in communion with all your saints,

those we have known and loved, as well as those known best to
you.

Inspire us to learn from the examples of their faith in action,

and bring us together in the joy we will know in your presence.

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Merciful God,

accept our prayers, spoken and unspoken,
and strengthen us to do your will.

A Prayer for Orange Shirt Day

Today we wear orange

to remember and honour all the Indigenous children who went to
residential schools.

Today we wear orange and we pray

for the residential school and intergenerational survivors who are still struggling.

Today we wear orange and we are thankful
for those who speak the truth, and who work to shine a light on injustice.

Today we wear orange in the name of compassion and the spirit of truth and reconciliation.

Help us, God, to remember and act on this this every day.

**This prayer was inspired by Honarine Scott's Orange Shirt Day blog.*

[EOORC Prayer Cycle](#)

Gananoque - Grace Pastoral Charge

As a community of faith, we seek to be rooted in the garden of God's love, nurtured by Christian worship, study and fellowship, and blossoming into service by the transforming power of God's Spirit

WCC

[The Ecumenical Prayer Cycle](#)

A year-long prayer journey through every region of the world

Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Peru

We are thankful for:

- the distinctive rhythms, music, dance, food and natural medicine in this area
- the beauty of the region, forests, mountains, rivers, lakes, and ocean coastlines, and especially indigenous peoples' relationship with, and care for, the natural environment

- churches who witness and work both ecumenically and with those of other faiths to build relationships of trust and commitment amid ongoing injustice and oppression
- the diversity of languages and cultures flourishing in the region despite disruptions that have occurred through colonization, and political and economic turmoil.

We pray for:

- Christians to have the courage, imagination and energy to build bridges of peace and understanding against conflict and division, and to pursue justice for the poor, marginalized and dispossessed
- an end of corruption in all levels of the society, including economic exploitation which impoverishes and hinders economic growth from benefitting all.
- immigrants and refugees seeking a new home, and those who accompany and support them
- coca farmers to find sustainable incomes from other crops, for an end to drug trafficking, and effective assistance for those who are addicted.

Prayers

A Mapuche* Blessing

God of life, Mother of all, you renew creation.

Bring us peace and justice, 'balance' in the Mapuche sense:

balance and harmony for the earth,

balance and harmony for the peoples of the world,

balance and harmony for men and women,

balance and harmony between nature and ourselves and God.

Prayers conclude with:

We experience God in a relationship from which we draw strength, courage and encouragement.

The ways of knowing God - as Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer; Father, Mother, Friend; may be expressed in the prayer Jesus taught us -

The Lord's Prayer

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.

We Depart to Serve with Joy

Hymn 270 "Dear Mother God"

Dear Mother God, your wings are warm around us,
we are enfolded in your love and care;
safe in the dark, your heartbeat's pulse surrounds us,
you call to us, for you are always there.

You call to us, for we are in your image.

We wait on you, the nest is cold and bare;
high overhead your wing-beats call us onward.
filled with your power, we ride the empty air.

Let not our freedom scorn the needs of others --
we climb the clouds until our strong heart sings;
may we enfold our sisters and our brothers,
till all are strong, till all have eagles' wings.

Benediction

Creation explodes with the colours of the rainbow

God's people reveal the beauty of diversity

Celebrate the hope and joy of every child

Tell the stories of justice that make us stronger

Build the bonds of solidarity to ensure "never again"

In the name of the one who was child among us

Choral Amen

Postlude "We Are Circling" (Buffy Sainte-Marie)