

Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost - B October 31, 2021

Key Scripture - Mark 12: 33

- "this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices."

Theme - A Portable Faith

FAITH 2 GO

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 <u>visit the United Church of Canada Website.</u>
- † <u>E-ssentials</u> 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 -
 - <u>trinitysmithsfallshealingpathway@yahoo.com</u>

Something to consider as the season progresses -



Trinity's United Church Women

Christmas Wreath Sale

- Beautiful 18" Balsam
- * Decorated & comes with bow for your hanger.
- * \$25.00 pre paid.
- * Order by Sunday, Oct. 31
- * Call Linda Zieman at 613-283-2728 or email trinitysffundraising@gmail.com
- * Payment options will be discussed when you order.
- * Pickup on 29 November, Monday afternoon.
- * You will be notified about the time closer to the date.

 (Special arrangements can be made).

 Thank you for your continued support,
 especially during this pandemic.

The **Salvation Army Christmas Campaign** appreciates our help. The monies raised through the kettles help stock the Salvation Army food bank for the entire year, aid fire victims, provide hydro assistance, clothing, furniture, weekly lunches and so much more.

Our friends at the Salvation Army are requesting that this year we collect toys for the Angel Tree Program. Last year due to COVID the numbers were down on toys received and the demand for help in this area is still very high. They are also very much in need of kettle volunteers to stand by kettles for 2 hour shifts.

Looking Ahead

- 1 November, 10:00am UCW
- 1 November The book study group, <u>Sensible Shoes: A Story about the</u> <u>Spiritual Journey</u>, will travel to Athens for a labyrinth experience.
- **3 November, 9:30am** Bible Study. <u>Listen Up! Bible study</u> the Gospel of Mark Part 1 Mark 1-8
 - Video call link

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 245 "Praise The Lord With The Sound Of Trumpets"

Praise the Lord in the field and forest, praise the Lord in the city square, praise the Lord anytime and anywhere.

Praise the Lord on a weekday morning, praise the Lord on a Sunday noon, praise the Lord by the light of sun or moon.

Praise the Lord in the peace and quiet, praise the Lord in your work or play, praise the Lord every where in every way!

Call to Worship

Bless the Lord at all times;

God's praise will always be on our lips.

Make great God's name;

We will lift up God's holy name together.

For the Lord is our God.

We will love the Lord with heart, mind, strength and soul, and praise God now and always.

Opening Prayer

God of goodness and purpose, in you we live and move and have our being.

You are the Fountain of Life, and you refresh us. You are the Light of the world, and you show us the way. You are the Spirit of life, and you move in us each new day.

So, we join our voices with the angels and archangels, with the saints and disciples of every time and place, to worship you as Creator, Healer, and Source of our hope and our joy.

Praise be to you, God most holy, ever Three and ever One, world without end. Amen.

Hymn MV 178 "Who Is My Mother"

Who is my mother, who is my brother?

All those who gather round Jesus Christ:
Spirit-blown people born from the Gospel
Sit at the table, round Jesus Christ.

Differently abled, differently labelled,
Widen the circle round Jesus Christ:
Crutches and stigmas, culture's enigmas,
All come together round Jesus Christ.

Bound by one vision, met for one mission
We claim each other, round Jesus Christ:
Here is my mother, here is my brother,
Kindred in Spirit, through Jesus Christ. Amen!

Time With Children

Children's Prayer

Prayer of Confession

God of goodness and mercy,

We confess that we have been indifferent to your will, staying silent when we should have spoken up for justice.

We have heard your call to put our faith into action, but fear holds us back.

There is work to be done in Jesus' name, but we often seek an easier way.

Forgive us, O God, and give us courage and commitment to serve as your saints in this time and this place, whatever the challenges may be.

Words of Assurance

The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save us all.

Know that you are forgiven by God's great mercy, and have the grace to forgive each other, just as you have been forgiven.

Scripture Deuteronomy 6:1-9;

Psalm 119:1-8; Mark 12:28-34

Deuteronomy 6:1-9

Now this is the commandment—the statutes and the ordinances—that the Lord your God charged me to teach you to observe in the land that you are about to cross into and occupy, so that you and your children and your children's children may fear the Lord your God all the days of your life, and keep all his decrees and his commandments that I am commanding you, so that your days may be long. Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe

them diligently, so that it may go well with you, and so that you may multiply greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, as the Lord, the God of your ancestors, has promised you.

Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Psalm 119:1-8 (VU 838 Part One);

Refrain -

Happy are they who follow your law, O God!

Happy are those who live a blameless life, who follow your law, O God.

Happy are those who keep your decrees, who seek you with their whole heart.

They also do no wrong, but walk in your ways.

You have given your precepts for us to keep diligently.

Refrain -

Happy are they who follow your law, O God!

O that my ways might be steadfast in the keeping of your statutes.

Then I will not be put to shame, when I hear all your commandments.

I will truly thank you from the heart, when I learn your righteous decrees.

I will keep your statutes. O do not utterly forsake me.

Refrain -

Happy are they who follow your law, O God!

Mark 12:28-34

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." Then the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that 'he is one, and besides him there is no other'; and 'to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,' and 'to love one's neighbor as oneself,'—this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." After that no one dared to ask him any question.

Meditation "The Lost Chord" (Sullivan)

Reflection A Portable Faith

Hymn MV 79 "Spirit, Open My Heart"

Refrain -

Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.

As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving,

Spirit, open my heart.

God, replace my stony heart with a heart that's kind and tender. All my coldness and fear to your grace I now surrender.

Refrain -

Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.

As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving,

Spirit, open my heart.

Write your love upon my heart as my law, my goal, my story. In each thought, word, and deed, may my living bring you glory.

Refrain -

Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.

As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving,

Spirit, open my heart.

May I weep with those who weep, share the joy of sister, brother. In the welcome of Christ, may we welcome one another.

Refrain -

Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.

As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving,

Spirit, open my heart.

Invitation to the Offering

We give thanks for the lives of saints throughout the centuries who have shown what it costs to follow Jesus. Our offering is one way in which we serve in this generation.

May the example of others, who shared their faith in Christ so that we may believe, inspire our generosity today.

A Moment of Thanksgiving

Offering Prayer

God of all generations, past, present and future, we offer our gifts in gratitude for the inheritance of faithfulness we have received. Bless these gifts so that today's ministries may flourish and provide an inheritance for those who come after us, as you guide them into a future only you can see.

Hymn 384 "The Lone Wild Bird" vs. 1, 2, 5

The lone, wild bird in lofty flight is still with you, nor leaves your sight. And I am yours! I rest in you, Great Spirit, come, rest in me too.

The ends of earth are in your hand, the sea's dark deep and far off land. And I am yours! I rest in you, Great Spirit, come, rest in me too.

O search me, God, my heart reveal, renew my life, my spirit heal; for I am yours, I rest in you, Great Spirit, come, rest in me too.

Prayers of the People

Enduring God,

We thank you for your faithfulness to us and to the tradition that has shaped us as disciples of Jesus.

Thank you for your living Word which continues to reveal him, and for the gift of your Spirit to help us interpret your wisdom in the midst of challenging times.

God of guidance,

Speak into our lives today.

Eternal God,

We give you thanks for people in our lives and across the ages who have shown us your loving kindness through their witness.

Inspire us by their examples and show us how we, too, can live out our faith

in the midst of challenging times.

God of guidance,

Speak into our lives today.

Loving God,

You keep call us to care for those in need and show hospitality to strangers in our midst.

Thank you for your persistent love which continues to comfort and challenge us all.

Open our hearts and eyes so that we can see how to offer that love to others in the midst of challenging times.

God of guidance,

Speak into our lives today.

Living God,

You bring new life to the discouraged and those facing danger and death.

Thank you for signs of hope which break into pressures of the pandemic and its consequences for so many,

in the midst of challenging times.

God of guidance,

Speak into our lives today.

Creating God,

We praise you for the beauty of this world and the rhythms of nature which sustain us

Give us courage to act on behalf of your creation where it is stressed or broken,

and nurture our commitment to act as your stewards within creation in the midst of challenging times.

God of guidance,

Speak into our lives today.

Wise God,

Hear us in this time of silence as lay before you the people and places on our hearts this day -

EOORC Prayer Cycle Pittston United Church

WCC

The Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

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

Canada, United States of America

Breath of the Four Winds

Come from the four winds, O Breath, And breathe upon these slain, that they may live. (Ezekiel 37:9)

Come from the South, O Breath,

blow your life-giving promise of hope

to our sisters in ponchos, Mothers of the Disappeared, political prisoners and exiles.

Come from the South and breathe justice that they may live.

Come from the North, O Breath,

blow your Word, in Spirit and truth,

to our brothers and sisters who have lost their languages in residential schools.

Come from the North and speak freely, so there may be healing.

Come from the East, O Breath,

blow your message of peace

to children in countries shattered by war and division.

Come from the East with morning's promise of a new day.

Come from the West, O Breath,

blow in the tongues of fire in the sky at the setting of the sun.

We are your church, kindled in your Spirit, fired in the mystery of your coming.

Come from the West and pray in us, Holy Spirit, our ending and our beginning.

(Wendy MacLean, United Church of Canada)

And now we pray the words which Jesus gave all his followers -

The Lord's Prayer

Amen.

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.

We Depart to Serve with Joy

Hymn 705 "For All The Saints" vs. 1,3,5,6

For all the saints, who from their labours rest, all who by faith before the world confessed, your name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Hallelujah, hallelujah!

O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
yet all are one within your great design.
Hallelujah, hallelujah!

But lo! there breaks a yet more glorious day the saints triumphant rise in bright array: as God to glory calls them all away. Hallelujah, hallelujah!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast, through gates of pearl streams in the countless host, singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:

Hallelujah, hallelujah!

Benediction

As you leave this place, go with God.

We will go wherever God goes.

As you depart to serve, go with Christ.

We will not turn back from following Jesus.

As you live the coming days, go with the Spirit.

God's people will be our people, and we will share our lives with them.

Choral Amen

Postlude "Tubular Bells" (Oldfield)