



**Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, July 22th, 2018**



***Dangerous Faith
Living beyond the borders
of our own making***

GATHERING

Announcements

Welcome

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Prayer of Preparation

“As Jesus went ashore, he saw a great crowd and was moved by compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.”

Mark 6:34

Hymn: “Come as you are” (TiS 693)

Living in a world of borders (Rev Jeremy Kim)

The Korean experience living with the 38th Parallel North

Hymn: “O day of God, draw near” (TiS 616)

Children leave for SMG

LET’S HEAR THE WORD

Readings

Gospel: Mark 6:30-34, 53-56 (GNT)

Nev Stutchbury

(People come to Jesus seeking healing and guidance. Jesus responds, being there for others.)

The apostles returned and met with Jesus, and told him all they had done and taught. There were so many people coming and going that Jesus and his disciples didn't even have time to eat. So he said to

them, “Let us go off by ourselves to some place where we will be alone and you can rest for a while.” So they started out in a boat by themselves for a lonely place.

Many people, however, saw them leave and knew at once who they were; so they went from all the towns and ran ahead by land and arrived at the place ahead of Jesus and his disciples. When Jesus got out of the boat, he saw this large crowd, and his heart was filled with pity for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began to teach them many things.

(After this they made their way across the lake)

They crossed the lake and came to land at Gennesaret, where they tied up the boat. As they left the boat, people recognized Jesus at once. So they ran throughout the whole region; and wherever they heard he was, they brought to him sick people lying on their mats. And everywhere Jesus went, to villages, towns, or farms, people would take those who were ill to the market places and beg him to let them at least touch the edge of his cloak; and all who touched it were made well.

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you Lord Christ

Epistle: Ephesians 2:11-22 (NIV)

Jane Chorley

(Jew and Gentile are reconciled in Christ)

Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called “uncircumcised” by those who call themselves “the circumcision” (which is done in the body by human hands) — remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Some Thoughts

Walking in the border lands with Jesus: *'When we look beyond the barriers of our own making we discover in Christ the inclusive love of God that reaches out to all humanity.'*

"For Christ himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility"

Ephesians 2: 14 (NIV)

PSALM

Oh, the leaky boundaries of man-made states!
 How many clouds float past them with impunity;
 how much desert sand shifts from one land to another;
 how many mountain pebbles tumble onto foreign soil
 in provocative hops!

Need I mention every single bird that flies in the face of frontiers
 or alights on the roadblock at the border?
 A humble robin – still, its tail resides abroad

while its beak stays home. If that weren't enough, it won't stop bobbing!

Among innumerable insects, I'll single out only the ant between the border guard's left and right boots blithely ignoring the questions "Where from?" and "Where to?"...

And how can we talk of order overall when the very placement of the stars leaves us doubting just what shines for whom?

....Only what is human can truly be foreign. The rest is mixed vegetation, subversive moles, and wind

Wisława Szymborska
'View with a Grain of Sand'

Confession: Called to be a Community of Grace

Gracious and eternal God,
source of life and love,
as we gather this day we confess there are many ways
we have failed to express your love and grace in the world
and our relationships with others.

Where you have loved without condition,
we have placed conditions on our own relationships;
where you have forgiven readily,
we have been slow to forgive and harboured bitterness toward others;

where you have shown compassion,
we have shown indifference;
where you have reached out to welcome,
we have placed borders of acceptability around ourselves;
where you have extended grace to the marginalized,
we have levelled judgement against those who do not conform to our own values or view of the world.

Gracious God,
 in Christ we hear your word of truth
and know your forgiving love.
 In Christ you have brought us together to be a new creation;
a people marked by love, a community of grace.

So strengthen us by your love
that we may worship you in spirit and in truth,
and be your people in the world. Amen

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you.
And also with you

Hymn: “There’s a wideness in God’s mercy” (TiS 136)

Let’s Give Offering

Doxology

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
 praise him, all creatures here below,
 praise him above, ye heavenly host,
 praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.***

Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People

Lawrence Peak

Lord’s Prayer

Closing Hymn: “When Christ was lifted from the earth” (TiS 248)

(Tune: TiS 247)

Blessing and Sending Out

As we go from worship may we be open to the possibility Christ will speak to us in new and unforeseen ways.

May we be open to an encounter with the sacred in the world around us and in the face of our neighbour.

As we face the joys and challenges of life in relationship

may we see not labels but a face, a person and a name.

As we are freely loved, and fully known, by Christ,

so too may we welcome and accept Christ in our neighbour.

In the name of Christ

Amen

Going Out: Father bless us as we go (TiS 781, Kookaburra, Robin Mann)

Musical Postlude

Organist:

Jeanette Steer

