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## **Tenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**July 28, 2024 — Morning Prayer**

A great prophet has arisen among us! God has visited his people!

Luke 7.16

**Rector: The Rev. Laureta Blondin (Cell: 780 904-9026)**

**Music provided by Companions on the Journey**

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# The Gathering of the Community

♪ Opening Hymn.....TBA

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

*Officiant* O God, make speed to save us.  
*People* **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

*All* **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit ✠: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

## The Invitatory

*Officiant* The Lord is in his holy temple.  
*People* **O come, let us worship.**

## The Venite

*Psalm 95.1-7*

*All* **Come, let us sing to the Lord; \*  
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.  
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*  
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.  
For the Lord is a great God, \*  
and a great king above all gods.  
In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*  
and the heights of the hills are his also.  
The sea is his for he made it, \*  
and his hands have moulded the dry land.  
Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*  
and kneel before the Lord our maker.  
For he is our God,  
and we are the people of his pasture and the**

**sheep of his hand. \***  
**Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!**

*Officiant*     The Lord is in his holy temple.

*People*        **O come, let us worship.**

## **The Proclamation of the Word**

### **First Reading**

**2 Samuel 11.1–15** [NRSV]

*Reader*        A reading from the Second Book of Samuel, beginning in the eleventh chapter at the first verse.

<sup>1</sup>In the spring of the year, the time when kings go out to battle, David sent Joab with his officers and all Israel with him; they ravaged the Ammonites, and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup>It happened, late one afternoon, when David rose from his couch and was walking about on the roof of the king's house, that he saw from the roof a woman bathing; the woman was very beautiful. <sup>3</sup>David sent someone to inquire about the woman. It was reported, 'This is Bathsheba daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite.' <sup>4</sup>So David sent messengers to fetch her, and she came to him, and he lay with her. (Now she was purifying herself after her period.) Then she returned to her house. <sup>5</sup>The woman conceived; and she sent and told David, 'I am pregnant.'

<sup>6</sup>So David sent word to Joab, 'Send me Uriah the Hittite.' And Joab sent Uriah to David. <sup>7</sup>When Uriah came to him, David asked how Joab and the people fared, and how the war was going. <sup>8</sup>Then David said to Uriah, 'Go down to your house, and wash your feet.' Uriah went out of the king's house, and there followed him a present from the king. <sup>9</sup>But Uriah slept at the entrance of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and did not go down to his house. <sup>10</sup>When they told David, 'Uriah did not go down to his house', David said to Uriah, 'You have just come from a journey. Why did you not go down to your house?'

<sup>11</sup>Uriah said to David, 'The ark and Israel and Judah remain in booths;

and my lord Joab and the servants of my lord are camping in the open field; shall I then go to my house, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife? As you live, and as your soul lives, I will not do such a thing.'

<sup>12</sup>Then David said to Uriah, 'Remain here today also, and tomorrow I will send you back.' So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day. On the next day, <sup>13</sup>David invited him to eat and drink in his presence and made him drunk; and in the evening he went out to lie on his couch with the servants of his lord, but he did not go down to his house.

<sup>14</sup>In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab, and sent it by the hand of Uriah. <sup>15</sup>In the letter he wrote, 'Set Uriah in the forefront of the hardest fighting, and then draw back from him, so that he may be struck down and die.'

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*All:* **Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 14**

- 1 The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God." \*  
**All are corrupt and commit abominable acts;  
there is none who does any good.**
- 2 The Lord looks down from heaven upon us all, \*  
**to see if there is any who is wise,  
if there is one who seeks after God.**
- 3 Every one has proved faithless; all alike have turned bad; \*  
**there is none who does good; no, not one.**
- 4 Have they no knowledge, all those evildoers \*  
**who eat up my people like bread and  
do not call upon the Lord?**
- 5 See how they tremble with fear, \*  
**because God is in the company of the righteous.**

6 Their aim is to confound the plans of the afflicted, \*  
**but the Lord is their refuge.**

7 Oh, that Israel's deliverance would come out of Zion! \*  
**when the Lord restores the fortunes of his people,  
Jacob will rejoice and Israel be glad.**

*Officiant* Let us pray.  
*All* **God of wisdom and love, without you neither truth nor holiness can survive. Show your mighty presence among us, and make us glad in proclaiming your deliverance in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Second Reading ..... Ephesians 3.14–21** [NRSV]

*Reader* A reading from Paul's Letter to the Ephesians, beginning in the third chapter at the fourteenth verse.

<sup>14</sup>For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, <sup>15</sup>from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. <sup>16</sup>I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, <sup>17</sup>and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. <sup>18</sup>I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, <sup>19</sup>and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

<sup>20</sup>Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, <sup>21</sup>to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.  
*All:* **Thanks be to God.**

♪ **Gradual Hymn..... TBA**

## **The Gospel .....John 6.1–21 [NRSV]**

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

*All* **And also with you.**

*Officiant* This is the Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

*All* **Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

6After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. <sup>2</sup>A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. <sup>3</sup>Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. <sup>4</sup>Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. <sup>5</sup>When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming towards him, Jesus said to Philip, 'Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?' <sup>6</sup>He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. <sup>7</sup>Philip answered him, 'Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.' <sup>8</sup>One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, <sup>9</sup>'There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?' <sup>10</sup>Jesus said, 'Make the people sit down.' Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. <sup>11</sup>Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. <sup>12</sup>When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, 'Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.' <sup>13</sup>So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. <sup>14</sup>When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, 'This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.'

<sup>15</sup>When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

<sup>16</sup>When evening came, his disciples went down to the lake, <sup>17</sup>got into a boat, and started across the lake to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. <sup>18</sup>The lake became rough because a strong wind was blowing. <sup>19</sup>When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the lake and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. <sup>20</sup>But he said to them, 'It is I; do not be afraid.' <sup>21</sup>Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land towards which they were going.

*Officiant* The Gospel of Christ.

*All:* **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Sermon** ..... The Rev. Laureta Blondin

## **Affirmation of Faith**

### **Apostle's Creed**

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

*All* **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.**



## Invitation to Generosity

*Officiant* Join our ministry of saints as we receive this offering.  
Overflow with the wealth of generosity and feel our own hearts, minds and lives change just as we're helping improve and transform the quality of life for others.

♪ **Offertory Hymn**..... **TBA**

## Stewardship Thought

*All* **Today I heard Jesus teach his disciples an important stewardship lesson — perhaps THE most important of all: God's abundant generosity will be found even when things seem extremely meager!**

## Prayer over the Gifts

*Officiant* God of grace,  
*All* **accept all we offer you this day, as we look toward the glory you have promised. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## Intercessions and Thanksgivings

### The Prayers of the People

Let us pray to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ on behalf of the Church, the world, and one another. Our response to, "Lord in your mercy," is "hear our prayer."

O God, thank you for your steadfast love! Thank you for Jesus, your Word and Love made flesh. Thank you for strengthening us in faith, hope, and love, through the gift of your Holy Spirit (*pause*)! Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the Church throughout the world, especially remembering:

- In the Northern Spirit Regional Council, for the people and the leadership of the Wahstao Pastoral Charge, that includes the Smoky Lake United Church.
- In the worldwide Anglican Communion, for the people and the leadership of The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & the Middle East as well as the people and the leadership of Edmonton's companion diocese, the Diocese of Buyé in Burundi, Africa and their bishop the Most Rev. Sixbert Macumi along with The Diocese of Buyé Mothers' Union and Clotilde Muhimpundu, their President; Bibiane Nsengiyumva, their Chaplain; and Clementine Ujeneza, their Trainer.
- In the Anglican Canadian cycle of prayer, for National Indigenous Anglican Archbishop, the Most Rev. Chris Harper.
- In the Edmonton Diocesan cycle of prayer, for our bishop, the Rt. Rev. Stephen London as well as the people and the lay leadership of St. Andrew, Camrose as they embark on the journey of seeking a new rector. We also pray for their Church Secretary, Bev Shafer.
- In the Vegreville cycle of prayer, for the people and leadership of Vegreville United Church as well as Irene Sabados, their Church Secretary.
- In the Indigenous cycle, for the people and the leadership council of the Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation.
- In our ecumenically shared ministries, for the dean, council, and congregations of the Southern Area of the ELCIC Synod of Alberta and the Territories.

O God, you have rooted and grounded the Church in the life-giving body of your dear Son. May that Church always feed, heal, teach, and draw many souls to Jesus (*pause*). Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Shelter and bless all who suffer for naming Jesus as Lord. By their faithful endurance and charity, soften the hearts of their enemies.

Bring many to repentance and salvation (*pause*). Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Nourish the people of this congregation with the living Bread of heaven. Heal us with your mercy and forgiveness. Make us brave and wise as we strive to share your saving love with those around us (*pause*). Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give upright hearts to those entrusted with leadership in government, education, industry, or the arts. Teach them to love wisdom and righteousness. Help them to use power and authority rightly, so all people are blessed with freedom, justice, and opportunity (*pause*). Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who risk their lives on behalf of ours. Equip them with every virtue they need to do their jobs faithfully and well. Help us to honour their service and sacrifice. Help them use their skills in new ways when their duties are completed (*pause*). Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bestow your Holy Spirit upon all who cry out to you, especially those we lift before you now and name aloud or hold within the silence of our hearts (*long pause*). Along with those for whom no one prays, graciously heal, restore, and strengthen them. Bless everyone who assists them in their time of need. Increase their trust in you, their Strength and their Redeemer. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We joyfully pray for all our brothers and sisters in this community celebrating birthdays, anniversaries and any other life milestones or accomplishments (*pause*). Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God, keep in your tender care all who have died trusting in your promises. Heal our grief, strengthen our faith, and forgive our sins. Nourish us with the Bread of Life and refresh us with your Holy Spirit. Lead us into your heavenly Kingdom, where with all the redeemed, we shall rejoice in your goodness forever (*pause*). Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Hear and graciously answer our prayers, dear Lord, as it is best for us and most glorifies your holy name. **Amen.**

## **Prayer for 69<sup>th</sup> Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton**

O God our Creator, you have always sent out your peoples in every age along unfamiliar paths as witnesses to your mercy and love. Each time you have shown us that it is in our faithful steps of journey into the unexpected where you will meet us afresh and anew. Draw near to us now, your church in synod, and walk closely with us as we prepare to travel this stretch of a shifting and uncertain road. Tell us yet again of your Good News for the strivings and longings of this time and place and cause our hearts to burn within us as we remember our call to become the story we tell. Through Christ, in the Spirit, for the life of the world. **Amen.**

### **Collect Prayer of the Day**

*Celebrant* O God,

*All* **the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy, increase and multiply upon us your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

### **♪ The Lord's Prayer**

*Officiant* Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us,

*All* **Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.**

## **God Moments**

## **Announcements**

♪ **Recessional Hymn** ..... **TBA**

## **The Dismissal**

**Officiant** Let us bless the Lord.

**People** **Thanks be to God.**

**Officiant** The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make his face shine on us and be gracious to us. The Lord look upon us with favour and grant us peace.

**All** **Amen.**

***Thank you for worshipping with us! Fellowship time, with coffee and treats, follows our service in the back of the sanctuary. We hope you will stay and join us.***

## **Announcements: The Life and Work of the Church**

**Donations to the Anglican Church:** To continue the good work of St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church and ensure its ongoing presence in our community, if you are able, your financial support is most appreciated. Annual Tax Receipts are provided for donations totalling \$20 or more per year. If giving cash and you would like a tax receipt, please use one of the envelopes in the church pews or you may request a set of giving envelopes from the Envelope Secretary, Mr. Marvin Topilko. Donations may also be made via e-transfer to: *stmarysvegreville@gmail.com*.

**Donations to the United Church:** To continue the good work of the United Church and ensure its ongoing presence in our community, if you are able, your financial support is most appreciated. Annual Tax Receipts are provided for donations totalling \$20 or more per year. If giving cash and you would like a tax receipt, please use one of the envelopes located in the church pews. You can also e-transfer your donation to *vegucc@telusplanet.net* or if you prefer, cheques can be mailed to:

- Vegreville United Church: 5126-48 Avenue, Vegreville, AB T9C 1M7
- Salem United Church: P.O. Box 336, Vegreville, AB T9C 1R3

**St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church Special Congregational Meeting:** ALL parishioners are invited to a Special Congregational Meeting on **Sunday, September 8, 2024**, following our Sunday morning worship service to discuss our plans for Shared Ministry with the United Church. This is your opportunity to express not just your hopes and excitement, but also any concerns you may have as we move forward. Your voice is important to your vestry, and this will be your chance to share your opinion(s) with your fellow parishioners.

**Summer Joint Ministry Schedule:** To ensure that all our most valuable lay ministers are not overburdened with ministry leadership throughout the summer, please note that for the months of July and August, all worship services will be combined. Services will alternate between the Anglican and United church buildings as follows:

- Aug. 4<sup>th</sup> Vegreville United Church — a communion service with Rev. Laureta and followed by a potluck lunch.
- Aug. 11<sup>th</sup> St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church — with Rev. Laureta
- Aug. 18<sup>th</sup> Vegreville United Church — a lay-lead service.
- Aug. 25<sup>th</sup> St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church — a lay-lead service.
- Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> Vegreville United Church — a communion service with Rev. Laureta and followed by a potluck lunch.

**Drawing the Circle Wider Ministries:** The Rev. Laureta will be presiding and preaching at St Thomas-Wainwright and St Mary-Edgerton on August 25<sup>th</sup> & at St. Saviour's-Vermilion August 18<sup>th</sup>, and at St. Matthew's-Viking (worship is in the Vialta Lodge) on August 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Shut-In Senior's Visits:** Do you know a local senior shut in who would like a visit by the Rev. Laureta Blondin? Rev. Laureta will be pleased to visit home-bound seniors and take them communion if they would like to receive it. Please call Irene Sabados in the Vegreville United Church office (780) 632-2338 to arrange and advise if there are any special needs!

**Prayers of the People:** While you are always encouraged to name aloud those you are praying for during the Prayers of the People, some people find this a difficult task when they are in a stance of prayer. To add a name to the prayers for the sick (only first name will be read out) or those who have died (full name will be read out): Please email Irene Sabados in the Vegreville United Church office, [vegucc@telusplanet.net](mailto:vegucc@telusplanet.net) or give her a call (780) 632-2338. Rev. Laureta or the prayer leader will include their names during the Prayers of the People at worship. Names will stay on the prayer list for a total of three weeks unless a longer period is specifically requested.

**OMG (Obeying My God)**  
**Summer Day Camp (9 AM – 3 PM)**  
**Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday: August 20, 21, 22**

Inviting all elementary (K-6) children to Vegreville United Church for a fun time of exploring scriptures through song, stories, crafts and games. Children must pre-register and will be required to bring a bagged lunch each day. Spaces are limited, so reserve yours early by calling (780) 632-2338 or emailing [vegucc@telusplanet.net](mailto:vegucc@telusplanet.net). This is a free program offered by the church, but donations are always appreciated to help with the costs of materials.

**Hot Dog Fundraiser at Vegreville & District Co-op – August 30<sup>th</sup>:**  
Come out to Vegreville & District Co-op (4914-51 Avenue) and support the ongoing work of Vegreville United Church by picking up a hotdog or hamburger with all the fixings. There will be chips and water for purchase as well. All funds going into the United Church General Operating Account.

*Please contact Irene Sabados via email in the Vegreville United Church office, [vegucc@telusplanet.net](mailto:vegucc@telusplanet.net) or by calling (780) 632-2338. for questions, bulletin submissions or to add a name to the prayers for the sick and deceased.*