

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

IN



July 19, 2026

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

PARISH OF LANCASTER

Diocese of Fredericton
Anglican Church of Canada

Bishop

Incumbent

Church Wardens

Parish Administrator

Organist & Choir Director

Sexton

Archbishop David Edwards

The Rev'd Christopher Ketch

Paul Desjardins, Chris Titus

Lori Maker

David Mitchell

Larry Totton

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We acknowledge that the land on which
we gather is the traditional unceded
territory of the Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet)
and Mi'kmaq Peoples.

The liturgy is according to *The Book of Alternative Services*.

THE CHURCH GATHERS TO WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome and Opening

Opening Hymn “Blessed Assurance”

- 1 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

*Refrain This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Saviour all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Saviour all the day long.*

- 2 Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels, descending, bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love. *Refrain*

- 3 Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love. *Refrain*

Text Fanny Crosby (1820-1915)

Tune ASSURANCE Phoebe Knapp

Text and Tune in the public domain

Greeting

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Presider

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with you all.

People **And also with you.**

Collect for Purity

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Presider

All Almighty God,
**to you all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hidden.
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

“Glory to God on high” CP 365

- 1 Glory to God on high, and peace to all on earth.
We worship you, we give you thanks, our heavenly king.
We give you praise,
almighty God and Father blessed in glory bright.
- 2 Our Saviour, Jesus Christ,
the Father’s only Son. the sacrificial Lamb,
who saves the world from sin, have mercy Lord.
Beside the Father’s hand enthroned, now hear our prayer.
- 3 You only are the Lord. You only are most high.
You only are the holy one, Lord Jesus Christ.
And now you reign
with Father and with Spirit one in glorious light.

*Text Glory to God; para. Paul Gibson (1932-2022)
Music DARWALL, John Darwall (1731-1789)*

The Collect of the Day

Presider Let us pray.

Presider Almighty God,
your Son has opened for us
a new and living way into your presence.
Give us pure hearts and constant wills
to worship you in spirit and in truth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

THE WORD IS READ AND PROCLAIMED

First Reading Genesis 28:10-19a

A reading from Genesis.

¹⁰ Jacob left Beer-sheba and went towards Haran. ¹¹ He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. ¹² And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. ¹³ And the Lord stood beside him and said, 'I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; ¹⁴ and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. ¹⁵ Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.'

¹⁶ Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, 'Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!' ¹⁷ And he was afraid, and said, 'How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.'

¹⁸ So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. ¹⁹ He called that place Bethel; but the name of the city was Luz at the first. *[NRSV-A]*

Hear God's word for God's people.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 139:1-11, 22-23

- 1 Lord, you have searched me out and known me; *
 you know my sitting down and my rising up;
 you discern my thoughts from afar.
- 2 **You trace my journeys and my resting-places *
 and are acquainted with all my ways.**
- 3 Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, *
 but you, O Lord, know it altogether.
- 4 **You press upon me behind and before ***

- and lay your hand upon me.**
- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; *
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.
- 6 **Where can I go then from your Spirit? ***
where can I flee from your presence?
- 7 If I climb up to heaven, you are there; *
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.
- 8 **If I take the wings of the morning ***
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
- 9 Even there your hand will lead me *
and your right hand hold me fast.
- 10 **If I say, “Surely the darkness will cover me, ***
and the light around me turn to night.”
- 11 Darkness is not dark to you;
the night is as bright as the day; *
darkness and light to you are both alike.
- 22 **Search me out, O God, and know my heart; ***
try me and know my restless thoughts.
- 23 Look well whether there be any wickedness in me *
and lead me in the way that is everlasting.

Second Reading Romans 8:12-25

A reading from Romans.

¹² So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— ¹³ for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, ‘Abba! Father!’ ¹⁶ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; ²⁰ for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; ²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. [NRSV-A]

Hear God's word for God's people.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn *"Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness"*
CP 385

Gospel Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

²⁴ Jesus put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; ²⁵ but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well.

²⁷ And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, "Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?"

²⁸ He answered, "An enemy has done this."

The slaves said to him, "Then do you want us to go and gather them?"

²⁹ But he replied, "No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰ Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn."

³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, 'Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.'

³⁷ He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸ the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels.

⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen! [NRSV-A]

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon Fr Keith Joyce

The Nicene Creed

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The Prayers of the People *as led by the Layreader*

Invitation, Confession, Absolution

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The Peace

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THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparation of the Gifts

Offertory Hymn "O God of Bethel" **CP 555**

Prayer over the Gifts *as given by the presider*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer *as indicated by the presider*

The Lord's Prayer

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The Breaking of the Bread *as directed*

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The Communion – invitation

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Receiving of Communion

While the church receives communion in silence, take the time to reflect or pray or sit quietly and to enable others to do so, and/or at any time to join in the singing of the following music:

"Lamb of God" CP 690

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"Abba Father" MP 3

Abba Father, let me be

Yours and yours alone
May my will for ever be
Evermore Your own.
Never let my heart grow cold,
Never let me go,
Abba Father, let me be
Yours and Yours alone.

Words and Music Dave Bilbrough
© 1977 Kingsway's Thank You Music

“Search Me, O God” MP 587

- 1 Search me, O God,
 and know my heart today;
 try me, O Saviour,
 know my thoughts, I pray.
 See if there be some
 wicked way in me;
 cleanse me from every sin and set me free.
- 2 I praise You, Lord,
 for cleansing me from sin;
 fulfill Your word,
 and make me pure within.
 Fill me with fire;
 where once I burned with shame;
 grant my desire to magnify Your name.
- 3 Lord, take my life,
 For I would live for You;
 fill my poor heart
 with Your great love so true.
 Take all my will,
 my passion, self and pride;
 I now surrender, Lord, in me abide.
- 4 O Holy Spirit,
 revival comes from You;
 send a revival, my own heart renew;
 Your word declares
 You will supply our need;
 for blessings now, O Lord,
 humbly plead.

Text J. Edwin Orr (1912-87) © 1936 Maranatha! Music/CopyCare

Prayer after Communion
Blessing as given by the presider

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THE CHURCH DEPARTS TO WITNESS AND TO SERVE

Dismissal
Closing Hymn “*The Solid Rock*”

page 215

- 1 My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
but wholly trust in Jesus' name.

*On Christ the solid rock I stand -
All other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.*

- 2 When darkness seems to hide his face,
I rest on his unchanging grace.
in every high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil.

- 3 His oath, his covenant, his blood,
support me in the whelming flood.
when all around my soul gives way,
he then is all my hope and stay.

- 4 When he shall come with trumpet sound,
oh may I then in him be found.
dressed in his righteousness alone,
faultless to stand before the throne.

Text Edward Mote, 1834
Music William B. Bradbury, 1863
In the Public Domain

Postlude

Those serving for this church's worship and learning today:

<i>Bulletin preparation</i>	Lori Maker (Parish Office)
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Sherry Desjardins & Marilyn G.
<i>Sunday School</i>	Finished for Summer
<i>Sound system</i>	Chris Titus
<i>Greeter</i>	Pam Boucher
<i>Layreader & First Reader</i>	Joyce Mitchell
<i>Second Reader</i>	Shayne Galbraith
<i>Prayer Leader</i>	Layreader
<i>Organist & Choir Director</i>	David Mitchell
<i>Presider & preacher</i>	Keith Joyce
<i>Counters</i>	Terry Ricketts & Janet Brown
<i>Building care</i>	Shayne Galbraith

*Please see the bulletin board in the Narthex
for who's serving next week.*

FOR OUR WORSHIP AND LEARNING

Notes on Today's Readings

Genesis 28:10-19a Isaac has given Jacob his blessing and has dispatched him to find a wife among his own clan. Like his father, Jacob is expected to marry among his own people, but unlike Isaac, he gets to make the journey himself.

Romans 8:12-25 Paul has told us that Christian experience is dominated by life in the Spirit rather than by the desires of the flesh, or self-centeredness. Christians are still subject to suffering, to bearing crosses and affliction, but not to eternal condemnation. Not being condemned, we have hope.

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 Jesus has told a parable about a man who sowed good seed, only some of which landed in fertile ground. Now he tells one about both wheat and weeds that look like wheat growing together in good soil. © 1996-2025 Chris Haslam

Next Sunday – July 26 Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
Scripture readings Genesis 29:15-28; Psalm 105:1-11; Romans
8:26-39; Matthew 13:31-35, 44-52

NOTICES

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***Happy Birthday this Week to:***



Laura Ketch, July 20

Erin Hyde, Chris Doiron, July 21

***“Remember you are a Child of God through Baptism”***

## Food Bank

Please remember the **West Side Food Bank** with a toonie or a loonie in the can in the Narthex, or a donation in a special envelope marked with your name or number. We aim to support the Food Bank by at least \$ 200/month!

## PRAYER

### **Prayer for folks in nursing or special care homes**

GINNY ABBOTT, FRANCES FINLEY, ANN HOBEN, RUTH NORTHEAST, ARLENE TRASK

### **Prayer for those in hospital or sick at home**

ANDREW AALUND, DIANE BASQUE, MARGARET BOYER, EDITH CHILTON,  
SHELLY CLARK COLLINS, LINDA CUNNINGHAM, JO-ANN DIAMOND,  
BONNIE DEAN, WENDY DEWITT, SHIRLEY DOWNING, ERNEST  
ELLINGWOOD, BARB ELLIS, DEBBIE GREEN, GRENVILLE INGRAHAM, KAYE  
MALLORY, PAM MELANSON, MICHAEL PENCHOFF, SUSAN PENCHOFF, CAROL  
PRICE, MARGARET ANN REID, LOIS SHAW, BOB SHERWOOD, MYKAYLA  
SPINNEY, NORM TOOLE, DENNIS TOTTON, JOE TOTTON, ROBBIE WONG.

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Parish Cycle of Prayer

Week of July 19-25, 2026

Mon: Pam Boucher

Tue: Jeffrey and Jennifer Bower and Family

Wed: Margaret, Tammy Boyer and Chloe

Thur: Judge Alfred and Kathy Brien

Fri: Go-Go Group Summer Program

Please pray for these parishioners and ministry this week.

Saint John Mission to Seafarers Prayer Cycle:

In July, we pray for all Seafarers, and for the Christian Societies that seek to assist seafarers, and the International Christian Maritime Association, the North American Maritime Ministry Association and those who bring the missions together.

Prayer Shawls - if you know someone in our parish who is in great need for prayer and would find comfort in a shawl made with love and care. Contact Ngaire Nelson at 506-672-8666 or the church office at 506-635-8145.

OUR PARISH PRAYER TREE

A team of volunteers is available upon request, to pray for you or your loved one (with their permission) daily, for two weeks. These prayers will be treated with the strictest confidence. Prayer-requests should be short and to the point, and will be passed on verbatim. The Lord knows what we need best! A follow-up of thanks or an update encourages our intercessors in their ministry.

To initiate the prayer-tree ministry please call your request to our “Captain”, Ngaire Nelson 672-8666