

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

IN



July 12, 2026

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
PARISH OF LANCASTER
Diocese of Fredericton
Anglican Church of Canada

<i>Bishop</i>	Archbishop David Edwards
<i>Incumbent</i>	The Rev'd Christopher Ketch
<i>Church Wardens</i>	Paul Desjardins, Chris Titus
<i>Parish Administrator</i>	Lori Maker
<i>Organist & Choir Director</i>	David Mitchell
<i>Sexton</i>	Larry Totton

668 Manawagonish Rd.,
Saint John, N. B. E2M 3W5
(506) 635-8145 Church Office
e-mail: goodshep@nb.sympatico.ca
www.goodshepherdsj.ca



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

THE GATHERING OF THE CHURCH**Greeting**

Officiant 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.**

Officiant Let us pray.

We thank you, O God, that you have again brought
us together to praise you for your goodness and to
ask your blessing. Give us grace to see your hand
in the week that is past, and your purpose in the
week to come; through Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise “Let Us with a Gladsome Mind” CP 398
Invitation, Confession and Prayer of Forgiveness

Officiant Dear friends in Christ,
as we turn our hearts and minds
to worship almighty God,
let us confess our sins in penitence and faith,
firmly resolved to keep God’s commandments
and to live in love and peace with our neighbour.

All **Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us,
that we may delight in your will,**

**and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Officiant Merciful God,
grant to your faithful people pardon and peace,
that we may be cleansed from all our sins
and serve you with a quiet mind;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace of Christ

Officiant We are the body of Christ; in the one Spirit we were all
baptized into one body. Let us then pursue all that
makes for peace and builds up our common life.

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

We greet one another in the peace of Christ.

The Collect of the Day

Officiant Let us pray.

Almighty God,
you have made us for yourself,
and our hearts are restless
until they find their rest in you.
May we find peace in your service,
and in the world to come, see you face to face;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

Prayer for Illumination

Officiant Thank you, Father,
for making yourself known to us
and showing the way of salvation

through faith in your Son.
We ask you now to teach and encourage us
through your Word,
so that we may be ready to serve you;
for the glory of the One in whose name we pray,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

People

Amen.

(from *A Prayer Book for Australia*,
Anglican Church of Australia 1999)

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading

Genesis 25:19-34

A reading from Genesis.

¹⁹ These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, ²⁰ and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. ²¹ Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife, because she was barren; and the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. ²² The children struggled together within her; and she said, 'If it is to be this way, why do I live?' So she went to inquire of the Lord. ²³ And the Lord said to her,

 'Two nations are in your womb,
 and two peoples born of you shall be divided;
one shall be stronger than the other,
 the elder shall serve the younger.'

²⁴ When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. ²⁵ The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau. ²⁶ Afterwards his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.

²⁷ When the boys grew up, Esau was a skilful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. ²⁸ Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob.

²⁹ Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. ³⁰ Esau said to Jacob, 'Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!' (Therefore he was called Edom.) ³¹ Jacob said, 'First sell me your birthright.' ³² Esau said, 'I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?' ³³ Jacob said, 'Swear to me first.' So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. ³⁴ Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright. [NRSV-A]

Hear God's word for God's people.
Thanks be to God.

Psalms 119:105-112

- 105 Your word is a lantern to my feet *
and a light upon my path.
- 106 **I have sworn and am determined *
to keep your righteous judgements.**
- 107 I am deeply troubled; *
preserve my life, O Lord, according to your word.
- 108 **Accept, O Lord, the willing tribute of my lips, *
and teach me your judgements.**
- 109 My life is always in my hand, *
yet I do not forget your law.
- 110 **The wicked have set a trap for me, *
but I have not strayed from your
commandments.**
- 111 Your decrees are my inheritance for ever; *
truly, they are the joy of my heart.
- 112 **I have applied my heart to fulfil your statutes *
for ever and to the end.**

Second Reading Romans 8:1-11

A reading from Romans.

¹ There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵ For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of

him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you. [NRSV-A]

Hear God's word for God's people.
Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn “*Almighty God, Thy Word Is Cast*” **CP 478**

Gospel Reading Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

A reading from Matthew.

¹ That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. ² Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³ And he told them many things in parables, saying: ‘Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵ Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶ But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷ Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸ Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹ Let anyone with ears listen!’

¹⁸ ‘Hear then the parable of the sower. ¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹ yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²² As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³ But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.’ [NRSV-A]

Hear God's word for God's people.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon Heather Masson

The Apostles' Creed

Officiant
All

Let us confess our faith as we say,
**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.**

Prayers of Intercession

Leader Let us join in prayer with God's faithful people throughout the world, saying "God of love: hear our prayer."

Lord God almighty, we pray for the unity of your church, that our life may reflect the love you have shown us.

People **God of love: hear our prayer.**

Leader We ask your grace for David our bishop, Chris our priest-in-charge, and for all who minister in word and in action, that we may bear faithful witness to your good news.

People **God of love: hear our prayer.**

Leader We seek your peace and justice in our world, our country and our community, that the needy may never be forgotten.

People **God of love: hear our prayer.**

Leader We ask your blessing on our homes, our friends and family,
and on those who live alone, that we may know your presence
ever near us.

People **God of love: hear our prayer.**

Leader We name before you all whom you have given us to pray for
[*especially....*], knowing that you are doing for them better things
than we can ask or imagine.

People **God of love: hear our prayer.**

Leader We commend to you all who have died [*especially....*] that our
trust in you may deepen as you show us the depth of your mercy.

People **God of love: hear our prayer.**

Leader We offer our thanks and praise for all you have done for us,
rejoicing in the knowledge that you are with us always.

People **God of love: hear our prayer.**

Leader We look for your purposes to be accomplished, and ask you to fill
us with the strength and vision to further your reign.

People **God of love: hear our prayer.**

Leader These and all our prayers we offer to you, heavenly Father, in the
name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn for the Offering "*In The Bulb There Is A Flower*"

- 1 In the bulb there is a flower;
 In the seed, an apple tree;
 in cocoons, a hidden promise;
 butterflies will soon be free!
 In the cold and snow of winter
 there's a spring that awaits to be,
 unrevealed until its season,
 something God alone can see.
- 2 There's a song in every silence,
 seeking word and melody;
 There's a dawn in every darkness,
 bringing hope to you and me.
 From the past will come the future;
 what it holds, a mystery,

Unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.

- 3 In our end is our beginning;
in our time, infinity;
In our doubt there is believing;
in our life, eternity,
In our death, a resurrection;
at the last, a victory,
Unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.

*Natalie Sleeth © 1986 Hope Publishing Co.
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Officiant Let us pray.

All **Yours, Lord, is the greatness,
the power, the glory, the splendour,
and the majesty;
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.
All things come from you,
and of your own do we give you.**

Prayer of General Thanksgiving

All **Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all you have
done for us. We thank you for the splendour of the
whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the
wonder of life, and for the mystery of love. We thank
you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the
loving care which surrounds us on every side. We thank
you for setting us tasks which demand our best efforts,
and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy
and delight us. We thank you also for those
disappointments and failures that lead us to
acknowledge our dependence on you alone. Above all,
we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of
his word and the example of his life; for his steadfast
obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his
dying, through which he overcame death; for his rising
to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your
kingdom.**

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know Christ and make him known. And through him, at all times and in all places, may we give thanks to you in all things. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Officiant And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us,
we are bold to say,
All **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.**

Dismissal

Officiant Let us bless the risen and ascended Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Hymn “Wonderful Words of Life” CH 406

1 Sing them over again to me,
Wonderful words of life,
Let me more of their beauty see,
Wonderful words of life;
Words of life and beauty
Teach me faith and duty.

Refrain:

*Beautiful words, wonderful words,
Wonderful words of life;
Beautiful words, wonderful words,
Wonderful words of life.*

- 2 Christ, the blessed One, gives to all
Wonderful words of life;
Sinner, list to the loving call,
Wonderful words of life;
All so freely given,
Wooing us to heaven.
- 3 Sweetly echo the Gospel call,
Wonderful words of life;
Offer pardon and peace to all,
Wonderful words of life;
Jesus, only Savior,
Sanctify forever.

*Philip Bliss, 1874
(Public Domain)*

Postlude

Those serving today's worship and learning:

<i>Bulletin preparation</i>	Lori Maker (Parish Office)
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Bev D. Sharon T. & Carol P.
<i>Sunday School</i>	Finished for Summer
<i>Sound system</i>	Chris Titus
<i>Greeter</i>	Lori McGovern & Carol Patterson
<i>First Reader</i>	Heather Masson
<i>Second Reader</i>	Sherry Desjardins
<i>Prayer Leader</i>	Officiant
<i>Organist & Choir Director</i>	David Mitchell
<i>Officiant & preacher</i>	Heather Masson
<i>Counters</i>	Terry Ricketts & Janet Brown
<i>Building care</i>	Janet Leitch

Who's serving next week is on the Narthex bulletin board.

NEXT WEEK

Next Sunday – June 19 *Eighth Sunday after Pentecost-Fr.*
Keith presiding Scripture readings Genesis 28:10-19a; Psalm 139;
 Romans 8:12-25; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

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**Happy Birthday this Week to:**

Jay Melanson, July 12



Heather Campbell, July 17

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

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Parish Cycle of Prayer for Week of July 12-18

Mon: Doug and Barb Anderson
Tue: Gerald Baldwin
Wed: Canon David and Mrs. Alexandra Barrett
Thur: Sharon Baxter
Fri: The Shepherd’s Cupboard

Please pray for these parishioners and ministry this week.
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**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.

**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.