

6th Sunday after Pentecost
July 4th 2021



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Opening

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

And also with you.

Sentence

The Lord has anointed me to preach good news to the poor and release to the captives.

Luke 4.18

Collect

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ has taught us that what we do for the least of your children we do also for him. Give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all, who gave up his life and died for us, but lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings

2 SAMUEL 5:1-5, 9-10;

PSALM 48;

2 CORINTHIANS 12:2-10;

MARK 6:1-13

Reflection for Sunday July 4th - The Rev'd Dr. Justin Comber

There's a long tradition in our scriptures of God choosing and sending people who were entirely inadequate to the task. Moses, for example, was sent to persuade a pharaoh to release a nation of captives and lead them across the desert to the promised land. Moses, of course was adamant. He could not do it He was probably right. God sent him anyway. Israel did it cross the desert and did make it to the promised land. It took 40 years, but along the way they learned a few very important lessons. From manna – bread from the sky - to water from stones. From clouds to protect them from the heat of the day, to lights to guide them at night. Moses' inadequacies were meaningless. It was God who brought them through.

Very rarely do we seem to have everything we need. We are called to mission, certainly. We are called to witness to the goodness of God. We are called to worship. Both our mission and the means by which that mission is accomplished are gifts of God. What we can do is important. But what we cannot do is very important. Because God can. We are citizens of the kingdom of God, we are the recipients of grace, the beneficiaries of mercy, and those who God loves. Our very identity is rooted in God's gifts. It only makes sense that the sharing of this gospel is best accomplished by the work of the spirit in us.

As you might expect, that is exactly the message that we hear from today's readings. In our Gospel, Jesus sends his disciples to do remarkable things. They are to do the very same things that Jesus himself has been doing. He gave them authority over unclean spirits. They cast out many demons and anointed many who were sick and they were healed. But he didn't let them go without attaching a caveat. He made it very difficult to do what he'd asked them to do on their own. "Take nothing for your journey," he said, "except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money." Don't even take a second shirt. They could not provide for themselves. They could not feed themselves. They could not cloth themselves. Their entire ministry was made dependent on the hospitality of the places they went.

All of this was to remind them that they themselves, their ministry, and their work depended entirely on God's work in them.

There could be no mission without others providing feeding and clothing. There could be no miracles without God's healing, God's delivering.

St. Paul felt the same limitation. He complained to God about a thorn in his flesh. We have no idea what it was. I assume it was metaphorical. The point seems to be that Paul struggled, and was offered no real relief. In answer to his prayer, God spoke to him. "My grace is sufficient for you", said the Lord to St. Paul, "for power is made perfect in weakness." And so, Paul learned to boast of his weaknesses, speak freely of his limitations, and trust entirely in the work of Christ.

This is Christ's Church. Our mission, as we have said so many times before, is Christ's mission. I pray often that we will be given exactly what we need to be effective witnesses to God's goodness. The answer is often the same. The grace of God was sufficient for Moses, for the disciples, for Saint Paul, and it will be sufficient for all of us. I pray that we, like them, would come to Lord in our weaknesses and that we would each be blessed in seeing the good work of God accomplished through us. And I pray that we, like Moses, the disciples, and St. Paul before us, would come to expect that God's strength will be perfect in our weakness.

The Rev'd Dr. Justin Comber
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Prayers of the people from Juanita Kynoch - bjkynoch@hotmail.com

Gracious and loving God, we come to you with hearts that need to be opened to your word and your love. There is so much around us that tears at us and causes us to tremble. Keep us ever mindful of your presence and the hope that you have given us in your Son Jesus Christ.

Guide us, we pray, as your church, struggling to spread the good news. Keep us focused on the mission and ministry to which you have called us and lead us forward. We know, Lord, that there will often be bumps and holes in the road along the way. Save us from dwelling on them and make us secure in the goals you have placed before us.

Hear our prayers for all who need your tender touch of healing in their lives- those we name before you each day, and those who are known only to you in the depths of our hearts. Be with those who mourn. May we all remember the love and grace that your faithful people have brought to our world.

We pray for all your creation, always at odds with one another. Guide our leaders and those of other nations that this world might truly be as you created it to be – a world of peace, hope and love.

These are our prayers, together with those that lie on the hearts of all your faithful people., which we offer to you in the spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ, who said “not my will, but thine be done.”

Posted on Life in Liturgy.

We pray for Todd our Bishop, Anne our Metropolitan, Linda our Primate, Mark National Indigenous Archbishop, Marinez Bishop of Amazonia. AD Rick Jones, Rev. Enrique Martinez, Rev. Jack Cox

For the week beginning 4 July, 2021 we will be praying for the **Rev. Jason Postma** and the people of **St. James', Paris**.

Remembering our shut-ins at home, hospital and in local nursing homes.
June, Shirley, Iris, Julie, John, Sheila, Sylvia, Anna and Jack B.

We pray for the ones who have asked for your healing touch upon their lives: Betty F., Don G., Franz and Elaine Z., Steven K., Rebecca M., Trista P., Bill MC., Dwayne M. and Andrea B., Susan A., Olivia H., Karen M., Delores B., Dale & David F, Rose G, Julie, Janice S., Barbara S., Ian M. Carol M., Elaine B., George F., and family and anyone known to you.



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It is important that we keep the prayer list and shut-in list up to date. If you know of any changes to these lists, can you please email Anne at lpbparishsecretary@gmail.com or Enrique at enrique6921@gmail.com

If you know of anyone that has asked you to pray for them during this pandemic, we will put on the prayer list for a month.

Prayer of Confession

Search us O God and know our hearts today
Try us and know our anxious thoughts,
see if there are any hurtful ways in us
and lead us in your loving and life-giving Way

Words of Assurance

God knows our secret fears, ignorance & selfish ways.
God forgives, forgive yourself, forgive others
Amen

Closing Prayer

God our strength and salvation, receive all we offer you today, and grant that we who have confessed your name, and received new life in baptism, may live in the joy of the resurrection, through Jesus Christ the Lord, Amen

Doxology

Glory to God, whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.
Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Please click on the link to watch this week's Parish Video

<https://youtu.be/sx0JgGxA388>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you have anything you would like to contribute or comment on, regarding the newsletter, please do not hesitate to let Rev Enrique or myself know.

Any birthdays/anniversaries/special occasions in July – Let me know for the newspaper. We can celebrate you and add some facts that happened on that day in history. I don't need your year of birth, just the month and date. Of course, if you have a special age birthday and want to celebrate it just let me know. If you are interested in this special occasion section, please send me details.

Sing along to this morning's hymns

Hymn Texts – Sunday, July 4, 2021

430 – Will You Come and Follow Me

1. Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?
2. Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?
3. Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean and do such as this unseen,
And admit to what I mean in you and you in me?
4. Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
Through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?
5. Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

#565 – Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

1. Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty; hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more,
Feed me till I want no more.
2. Open now the crystal fountain whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shile,
Be thou still my strength and shield.
3. When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's destructions, land me safe on Canaan's side:
Songs of praises, songs of praises, I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

At this extraordinary time if you wish a telephone visit, please call Enrique. If you have any other announcements or news contact Anne Halls at the contacts below.

Enrique Martinez can be contacted by email at enrique6921@hotmail.com or by phone at 519 586 3401 – Please note that Enrique’s day off will be Fridays

Our parish assistant Anne Halls can be contacted by email at lpparishsecretary@gmail.com or by phone @ 519-586-7034

Please visit our website parishoflongpointbay.com and Facebook page