

**Pentecost 18**  
**October 4th 2020**



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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**

I chose you and appointed you, says the Lord, that you should go and bear fruit, fruit that will last.  
*John 15.16*

**Collect**

Almighty God, you have built your Church on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone. Join us together in unity of spirit by their teaching, that we may become a holy temple, acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Readings**

**EXODUS 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20;**

**PSALM 19;**

**PHILIPPIANS 3:4B-14;**

**MATTHEW 21:33-46**

**Click on the link below to open the readings for this week**

<https://lectionary.anglican.ca/nrsv/?date=2020-10-04&submit=show+new+date>

## **Reflection October 4th**

I want to focus the reflection this week on the 1st reading from the book Exodus. I think that reading can help us better understand our relationship with God by seeing again some things I think we may have forgotten or have begun to take for granted.

In the opening line, God tells us who we are and who God is for us. We are a people who are sometimes lost, sometimes bound up by forces or circumstances we don't always understand and often can't seem to control. (The Corona virus is as good a metaphor as any to think about – it's our 'Egypt').

Historically, God led the Israelites – a small insignificant nomadic group of slaves in Egypt – out of slavery, through a desert, into a land populated by strong and fierce tribes and enabled the Hebrew people, against all odds, to settle in that land and create a stable home.

It was God who rescued them, led them and established them in a home. God didn't do all that single handily but in a cooperative enterprise. To rephrase Desmond Toto's famous phrase: without God, they could not, without them, God would not.

That opening line, reminds the Jewish people of that cooperative relationship. It has been for them the constant reminder of that irreplaceable relationship. Which brings me to the question for this morning: Can you name one or more instances or circumstances in your life where God has 'rescued' you when you couldn't do it yourself?

Let me give you one example from my own life. (but for your own sake, don't take this one example and skip your own personal reflection, looking for your own experience – because, when the chips are down, and your back is to the wall, nobody else's experiences will ever substitute for your own.)

My own experience was my move from Hamilton to Brantford. It was undoubtedly one of the most challenging experience, one of the most draining experience I think I ever undertook. I may have shared with you that there were moments I really wasn't sure I was going to make it. And one Sunday morning at a Eucharist at St Marks in Brantford, I had a very vivid experience that reminded me that I was never alone in that journey.

Which brings me to a second reminder from this reading from Exodus. Keeping the Sabbath (or Sunday for us) holy is not just a 'religious rule'. It's meant to be a part of the fabric of our lives, a part of the rhythm of our lives where we look consciously for the presence, the activity of God in our lives over the past week. If we really do that, week after week, again, when the chips are down, we'll know how to do it. And trust me, it can make all the difference in the world!

So even in this covid journey, remember we are never alone, remember who's leading us, and, if we allow that to happen, what the outcome can be.

Journey well this week!

Jack Cox <[revjackcox@gmail.com](mailto:revjackcox@gmail.com)>

As the last Sunday in the Season of Creation:



We give you all our thanks and praise, O God, for you have made us your own, through Christ Jesus, and given us a new righteousness based on faith.

You created the entire universe: the sky tells of your glory, day and night reveal the genius of your ways. You brought your people out of slavery and gave them your laws and commandments, that they might be rich in Spirit and clear in vision.

Though we repeatedly rejected your ways and destroyed your messengers, you sent your Son to us to renew heaven's call.

Though the crowds recognised him as a prophet, those who coveted his inheritance seized and killed him. But you raised him from the dead, and now through the power of his resurrection he stands as the cornerstone of righteousness, the first fruits of the kingdom, and the incomparable prize towards which we press.

Through faithfully following your Son guide and direct us to prepare for a better future. Teach us to contemplate You in the beauty of the universe, for all things speak of You. Give us the grace to recognise, respect and protect all You have created, using wisely all that you have entrusted to us.

Holy Spirit, who first hovered over the dawn of creation and drew order out of the chaos help us to build your kingdom of justice, love, peace and beauty where the poor of the earth are crying out.

Therefore, with our hearts lifted high, we offer you thanks and praise at all times through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



We pray for those who are sick in need or any kind of trouble especially:

Rick our interim Rector, Todd our Bishop, Anne our Metropolitan, Linda our Primate, Mark National Indigenous Archbishop, and Marinez Bishop of Amazonia. We pray also for the people of the Parish of Long Point Bay and all lay and clergy.

We pray also for **Ven. Dr. Timothy Dobbin**, the **Rev. John Ogilvie**, the **Rev. Jack Cox**, the **Rev. Canon Bob Schroeder**, the **Rev. Margaret Shortell** and the people of **St. Mark's, Brantford**.

As well as 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., Kathleen C-S., Bill MC., Dwayne M. and Andrea B., Susan A., Olivia H., Karen M., Delores B., Dale F, Rose G. and anyone known to all who following these prayers

We pray for our shut-ins at home, hospital and in local nursing homes. We especially remember: June, Shirley, Iris, Julie, David, John, Anna.

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](mailto:lpbparishsecretary@gmail.com) or AD Rick at [rickplus@gmail.com](mailto:rickplus@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.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

### **Indoor Services to resume in a limited fashion.**

The Diocese of Huron has instituted a “reopening” program called “Loving Our Neighbour”, this can be accessed on the Diocesan website. We are currently in the AMBER stage of this programme. This means that we can host indoor services and events like weddings and funerals. We have very strict protocols for indoor services that include, screening, masks and strict seating and social distancing rules. This has resulted in drastically reducing the numbers of people that can safely meet inside the church. Unfortunately, we are not permitted to sing in the church but we can have communion in a creative way without needing to move from our seats.

Your congregation will be sending out an email prior to their first indoor service with a description of what to expect. Note that not every church will be holding a service every week as in the past. It will be as it was before, with Holy Communion every second week but the Morning Prayer services in between have been cancelled. This allows us to safely monitor the health of our congregations over two-week periods. Not all parishes or congregations are required to offer indoor services but it has become an option that we are exploring carefully. Your safety is our paramount concern, we know this pandemic is not over.

### Services:

There will be indoor Eucharist services today at:

Memorial Pt. Ryerse at 9:30 and St. John’s Woodhouse at 11 am on Sunday October 4th.

Then there will be the following services:

Pt Rowan October 11 at 9:30

Pt Ryerse at 9:30 and Woodhouse 11am October 18



## **VIDEO OFFERINGS THIS WEEK:**

**Your Long Point Bay Regular Service can be found here:  
Please click on the link to watch this week's video**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eZmD6JrNSVo&feature=youtu.be>

## **CONTACT INFORMATION:**

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

**Archdeacon Rick Jones can be contacted by email [rickplus@gmail.com](mailto:rickplus@gmail.com) or  
by phone @ 905 537 0324**

**Our parish assistant Anne Halls can be contacted by email at [lpbparishsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:lpbparishsecretary@gmail.com) or  
by phone @ 519-586-7034**

**Please visit our website [parishoflongpointbay.com](http://parishoflongpointbay.com) and Facebook page**