



Family of faith,
as you come to this place
—as you leave this place—
may God grant you
the curiosity to counter assumptions,
the vulnerability to befriend,
the bravery to speak your truth,
the wisdom to listen,
the strength to ask for help,
the resiliency to choose love,
(even when it's hard),
and the awareness of the Holy Spirit
who is always beside you.
In the name of the Great Connector—Love itself.

st. John's

July 30, 2023

WELCOME

We are so happy you are with us. Please add your voice and heart to the prayers. Help others find a place and greet the person next to you as we prepare to worship together. Please stand and sit as you are comfortable.

I've been meaning to ask ...

Some of the best conversations start with good questions—questions we've been meaning to ask, questions that keep us curious, and questions that lead us deeper into courage and connection. On August 23 we begin a series around four guiding questions: *"I've been meaning to ask...Where are you from? Where does it hurt? What do you need? Where do we go from here?"*

These questions aren't surface level; they invite us to tell our stories, share our pain, care for one another, and dream about a new way forward together.

Week 2: Where does it hurt?

This week's question implies that all of us have known pain and suffering. In order to cultivate connection, we must first get curious about the pain others carry and the pain we carry ourselves. Before we can act, we must first acknowledge and believe the pain is real, for bearing witness to each other's pain helps us cultivate compassion.

In 1 Samuel, Hannah's pain is ignored, diminished, and mocked. Yet, Hannah vulnerably and courageously bears all of herself before God, which transforms Eli's perspective. She finds release by being fully seen and known by God. In the dual healing story of the hemorrhaging woman and Jairus' daughter, we acknowledge those who suffer chronically and in isolation. By telling these women's stories, we hope to bear witness to the particular and very common struggles related to fertility and reproductive health.

Additionally, we must confess the harm done in neglecting the emotional, physical, individual, historical, and systemic wounds that exist among us. Yet also in these next weeks, **we wish to avoid glorifying a false sense of unity** that glosses over or ignores inequities and real harm done – we come from the garden, but it isn't a rose garden. We acknowledge how marginalized groups and individuals who've survived trauma are often urged to forgive and forget without accountability or repair; we want to avoid perpetuating this pattern. We trust you will be mindful of this dynamic during this series.

ministers

Sound	Scott Larsen
Greeter	Martha Moewes
Greeter	Megan Nickles
Worship Leader	Steve Nickles
Reader	Marlynn Riker
Reader	Doug Ramier
Preacher	Diana Anderson
Intercessor	Katy Lytle
Presider	Susan McEvoy
Communion Server	Debora Smith
Communion Server	Carra Wetzel
Communion Bread	Charlotte Patrick
Coffee Hour	Mary and Kim Dillivan

prayer concerns

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Our Partner Dioceses—Leicester (U.K.), Kiteto and Mt. Kilimanjaro (Tanzania) and Trichy-Tanjore (India)
Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Anglican Church in Central America

Hugh B. & Marge; Lee & Kelly;
Hunter & Charlotte; Shirley & Deb;
Richard & Jennifer; Tim & Lynnae;
Robin & Mark; Margie & Josey;
Bobbi & Bentley; Bob & Charlotte;
Ann & Martha; Brandon & Diedre;
Rob R., Kathy E., Nelson, Tammy,
Rob K., Bobby B., Larry, Alex, Irene,
Nancy, Alan, Katy, Marlynn, Sue, Kahli,
Ron and Jane

Justin, Jacob, Patrick, Reece,
Coleman, Bryce and Nathan who
are serving in the military.
Bennett who is living and
studying in Japan.
Josephine and Don who reside in
care centers.

celebrations

August Birthdays: Susan McEvoy—1st, Laurel McKeen—3rd, Nate Urbach—5th,
Tammy Legerski—5th, Herli Pattinama Barclay—5th
August Anniversary: Hidee & Nate Urbach—3rd

prelude

"You've Got a Friend," The O'Neill Brothers Group.

hymn *Verses 1, 2, 5*



1. O Christ, the heal - er, we have come To
2. From ev - 'ry ail - ment flesh en - dures Our
3. How strong, O Lord, are our de - sires, How
4. In con - flicts that de - stroy our health We
5. Grant that we all, made one in faith, In
pray for health, to plead for friends. How can we fail to
bod - ies clam - or to be freed; Yet in our hearts we
weak our knowl - edge of our - selves! Re - lease in us those
rec - og - nize the world's dis - ease; Our com - mon life de -
your com - mun - i - ty may find The whole - ness that, en -
be re - stored, When reached by love that nev - er ends?
would con - fess That whole - ness is our deep - est need.
heal - ing truths Un - con - scious pride re - sists or shelves.
clares our ills: Is there no cure, O Christ, for these?
rich - ing us, Shall reach the whole of hu - man - kind.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000, © 1969, Hope Publishing Co.
Tune: ERHALT UNS HERR, LM; Klug's *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543; harm. by J.S. Bach, 1685-1750

gathering

Praise God, Creator, Redeemer, Spirit.

It is good and pleasant to offer praise.

Praise the One who heals our broken hearts,
bandages our wounds, and shares our pain.

**Praise the one who is close to all
who have suffered disappointment
and who are discouraged.**

God will fully protect them.

Today we are together.

Holy God, gather us in.

confession

Holy God, the people we know have known hurt—
people who have carried shame,
who have lived with grief and chronic illness,
who have felt alone and ignored,
who have seen the depths of suffering.

I have been meaning to ask...

How are you? What has your year been like?
Did you know that I have been thinking of you?

I have been meaning to ask...

Is your mom okay? Did your sister find a job?
Did you ever think we'd still be here?

I have been meaning to ask...

Did it get easier? Did the grief subside?
Were you ever able to sleep at night?

I have been meaning to ask but I haven't—

Because it's difficult.

Because we want to say the right thing.

Because we are not sure what you need.

I have been meaning to ask. Forgive my silence.

Forgive us.

Let's start again.

Trusting that God hears all things, we say together:

Amen. Amen.

scripture readings

We sit.

It is good and pleasant when all God's people live in unity.

--Ps. 133:1

Loving God, draw near to us and join us together, that we may be one in you.

Help us to hear and carry forward your message of hospitality and healing.

A reading from ____.

After the reading

Word of God, word of promise.

Thanks be to God.

sermon

hymn *We sing twice*

*Refrain



Love one an - oth - er as I have loved you. Care for each
oth - er. I have cared for you. Bear each oth - er's bur - dens.
Bind each oth - er's wounds; and so you will know my re - turn.

*Verses available in accompaniment books.

Text based on John 14–16; 1 Corinthians 13. Text and music © 1987, Robert J. Dufford, SJ.
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prayers

Holy God, you are the God of hospital rooms and graveside services. You are the God who felt a touch in a crowd and who sees and knows all pain-- the pain of infertility, of illness, of despair and death. You are the God of the hurt and the healing. You are the God of hope and joy.

So, with open hearts and open palms, gracious God, we come to you in this space, lifting up to you our hurt and our joy in prayer, saying Holy God, **hear us.**

We stand, kneel or sit. The intercessor continues, closing with

Holy God, we know you hear our prayers. Be among us. Hold our hurt. Heal our wounds. Relieve us of our burdens. Draw us closer to one another and closer to you. We ask all this in the name of the One who calls us to love.

Amen.

peace

We stand.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

We greet one another in the name of God.

offertory

Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

--Romans 12:10

MUSIC

“How Can I Keep from Singing,” Pete Seeger.

great thanksgiving

We stand.

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right for us to give thanks.

Wondrous and merciful God, we thank and praise you
because we did not choose you, you chose us.

You destined us to become your friends
from before the foundation of the world.

You showed steadfast love and faithfulness to your covenant people
and remembered your promises in every generation.

Greater love has no one than you; in Christ you laid down your life
and turned us from servants into friends, and by your Spirit you raise us up
to be your beloved companions forever.

And so we gladly thank you, with angels and all who sit at your right hand in
heaven, singing the hymn of your unending praise:

Holy, holy, holy is the God of hosts.

The whole earth is filled with God’s glory. Praise God!

Welcome the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Tender God, in Jesus you fully shared our humanity
as you expressed and embodied your full divinity.
Send your Holy Spirit on your people,
that impulse may turn to forbearing faithfulness,
need may become humble gentleness,
and good intentions may be fulfilled in sacrificial kindness.
By that same Spirit, bless these gifts of friend and neighbor that they may
become your church, and these offerings of bread and wine may be for
us the body and blood of your son Jesus Christ;
who at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks,
broke the bread and gave it to them, saying,

“Take, eat This is my body which is given for you
Do this to remember me.”

After supper he took the cup.

Again, he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying,

“Drink this all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, to remember me.”

Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Generous God, in Christ you show us what it means to love.

Bless your children with patience and kindness.

Dispel envy and pride, self seeking and anger. Turn our memory from the
wrongs of others into wonder at your forgiving mercy.

Protect us, empower us, inspire us, persevere with us,

that we may each find our vocation in the mission of your church,

and your church may discover its purpose in witness and service to your world,

and your world may enter its destiny as a unity of love,

until the day when prophecies, tongues, and knowledge cease,

and we see you face to face, and find love in you forever,

Creator, Redeemer, Spirit.

AMEN.

Lord's prayer

We pray together.

Our Father in heaven,

we pray that your name will always be kept holy.

We pray that your kingdom will come—

**that what you want will be done here on earth,
the same as in heaven.**

Give us the food we need for today.

Forgive our sins,

just as we have forgiven those who did wrong to us.

Don't let us be tempted,

but save us from the Evil One.

**For the kingdom and the power and the glory belong to you
forever and forever.**

Amen.

breaking bread

We break this bread

to share in the Body of Christ.

**We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.**

These are God's gifts for the journey.

We share them with our companions on the way.

COMMUNION

Please come to the table, whether you are single, married or divorced, drinking, using or sober, abled, disabled, or ill, gay, straight, or discovering, wealthy, getting by or in debt. Christ meets us all.

Approach the rail from the left aisle and take a cup; used cups go on the tray on the right. You may receive only bread or only wine. Our Eucharistic bread is handmade and robust. If you prefer a wafer, please tell your server.

MUSIC

“Your Hands,” JJ Heller.

“Just a Closer Walk With Thee,” Paul Zach (feat. Page Cxvi).

Gratitude

We stand.

Let us pray.

Good and loving God,

**We thank you for drawing us together,
uniting us at one table.**

**We thank you for the sustaining grace you offer us,
again and again.**

**We thank you for making yourself known to us
and revealing your love for us through this encounter.**

**We ask that you open our hearts ever wider
to you and to our neighbors.**

**We ask that our community be drawn together;
that we may be one with each other and with you.**

**We ask that we take forth from this table
the courage to ask the hard questions
that lead us deeper into communion,
that guide our efforts,
and that reveal where your Spirit is already at work.
Amen.**

hymn



1. Lord of all hope-ful-ness, Lord of all joy, Whose
2. Lord of all ea-ger-ness, Lord of all faith, Whose
3. Lord of all kind-li-ness, Lord of all grace, Your
4. Lord of all gen-tle-ness, Lord of all calm, Whose



1. trust, ev-er child-like, no cares can de-stroy, Be
2. strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe, Be
3. hands swift to wel-come, your arms to em-brace, Be
4. voice is con-tent-ment, whose pres-ence is balm, Be



1. there at our wak-ing, and give us, we pray, Your
2. there at our la-bors, and give us, we pray, Your
3. there at our hom-ing, and give us, we pray, Your
4. there at our sleep-ing, and give us, we pray, Your



1. bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
2. strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
3. love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
4. peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Text: 10 11 11 12; 'Lord of all hopefulness', words by Jan Struther, 1901–1953; fr. Enlarged Songs of Praise, 1931.
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Music: Trad. Irish melody; adapt. fr. The Church Hymnary, 1927.

sending

Jesus said to his friends,

“This is my command: Love each other.”

We go with the love of God.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

postlude

“If I Didn't Have You,” Randy Newman.

SOURCES

This service and its themes come from Rev. Sarah Are, A Sanctified Art LLC, sanctifiedart.org with the following exceptions:

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