



St. James  
Anglican | Dundas

# Season of Creation



## September 2023

[www.stjamesdundas.ca](http://www.stjamesdundas.ca)

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Rector

Honorary Assistants

Parish Deacon

Director of Music

Parish Administrator

Wardens

Rev. Canon Leslie Gerlofs

Rev. Canon Peter Davison

Rev. Carol Overing

Rev. Deacon Ann Vander Berg

Richard Hansen

Nyle Armstrong

Terese Herron, O.N.

Barry Shimmons

Janet Cannon

Christine Aiken

## Welcome to this time of worship!

Thank you for joining St. James today. It is good that you are here! If you are visiting or looking for your spiritual home, please make yourself known to us. We welcome your presence with us.

During our worship today please remember:

During this time of pandemic worship, we are pausing our mask mandate for the time being. Masks are highly encouraged but the choice of wearing a mask in the church building is based on personal circumstances and tolerance for risk. During the sharing of the peace some people may not feel comfortable with close contact.

Children are welcome here at Saint James! Children can gather in 'The Prayer Ground' at the beginning of the service. If this is your first time here, please go with your child to meet the leader and inform them of any allergies or special needs. For those not wanting to leave their parents, the prayer-ground is available throughout the service.

An offering plate is located at the entrance to the church sanctuary. If you wish to make a gratitude offering for the blessings from God in your life, simply place the offering on the plate before the time of the offertory hymn. Your gift will be used to support the varied ministries of St. James. Take a moment to give thanks to God for the blessings in your life today.

The service is being livestreamed and is taped for viewing online.

The congregation responses are in **bold** type.

***Prelude (see insert for this week's selection)***

## Welcome & Announcements

### Territorial Acknowledgement

*(Please stand as you are able)*

One We gather on the territory traditionally inhabited by the Haudenosaunee and the Anishinaabe nations acknowledged in the Dish with One Spoon wampum belt.

**All We commit ourselves to the work of truth and reconciliation with the Original Peoples of this land in a relationship of honour and mutual respect.**

**Processional Hymn** *(We remain standing as we are able. See blue hymn book for words)*

Sept 3	CP 466	How Clear is Our Vocation, Lord
Sept 10	CP 486	Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
Sept 17	CP 42	Crashing Waters at Creation (Stuttgart)
Sept 24	CP 388	Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

## The Gathering of the Community

One: We gather in the name of God,  
Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer of the Earth  
and all creatures!

Greetings in the name of God who is good:

**All: whose love endures forever.**

One: Greetings to you, sun and moon,  
you stars of the southern sky.

**All: We give to God our thanks and praise.**

One: Sunrise and sunset, night and day,

**All: we give to God our thanks and praise.**

*(adapted from Hildegard of Bingen, 13th Century)*

## The Collect of the Day

One: God of life,  
through whom all beauty and wonder come into being,  
we thank you for this Earth, our home,  
for the diversity of creation,  
and the blessings of earth, air and water.

**All: Grant us your grace  
that we may exercise wise stewardship of this Earth,  
tread lightly upon it  
and cherish its resources.**

One: Help us to move towards behaviors that are healthy,  
to leave behind our consumer demand for plastics  
and our wasteful practices,  
to act now for the good of future generations  
and all of life.

**All: Give us the will and courage  
to simplify the way we live,  
to reduce the energy we use,  
to share the resources you provide,  
and to bear the cost of change for the better.**

One: As climate change confronts us  
may we commit to the changes that need to be made.

**All: Help us to be instruments of a new creation,  
founded on the covenant of your love.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Saviour. Amen**

~ adapted from Climate Justice Niagara

## Proclamation of the Word *(please be seated)*

**Reading** *(see end of bulletin for readings)*

Sept 3	Exodus 3:1-15
Sept 10	Exodus 12:1-14

Sept 17	Exodus 14:19-31
Sept 24	Exodus 16:2-15

*At conclusion of the reading:*

One: Holy Word, Holy Wisdom.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### **Reading** *(see end of bulletin for readings)*

Sept 3	Romans 12:9-12
Sept 10	Romans 13:8-14
Sept 17	Romans 14:1-12
Sept 24	Philippians 1:21-30

*At conclusion of the reading:*

One: Holy Word, Holy Wisdom.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### **Gradual Hymn**

Sept 3	CP 450	You Call Us, Lord, to Be
Sept 10	CP 494	Not for Tongues of Heaven's Angels
Sept 17	CP 497	Eternal Ruler of the Ceaseless Round
Sept 24		Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness <i>(see insert for words)</i>

### **The Gospel** *(see insert for readings)*

One: God is with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: The holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**All: Glory to you, O Jesus Christ.**

Sept 3	Matthew 16:21-28
Sept 10	Matthew 18:15-20
Sept 17	Matthew 18:21-35
Sept 24	Matthew 20:1-16

*At conclusion of the reading:*

One: The Gospel of the Christ.

All: Praise to you, O Jesus Christ.

## Homily

### New Zealand Creed

**You, O God, are supreme and holy,  
you create our world and give us life.  
Your purpose overarches everything we do.  
You have always been with us.  
You are God.**

**You, O God, are infinitely generous,  
good beyond all measure.  
You came to us before we came to you.  
You have revealed and proved  
your love for us in Jesus Christ,  
who lived and died and rose again.  
You are with us now.  
You are God.**

**You, O God, are Holy Spirit.  
You empower us to be your gospel in the world.  
You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.  
You are our God. We worship you.**

## Prayers of the People

### Confession: Stewardship of Creation

One: Holy God, Creator and Lover of all that is,

All: **we confess to you that we have sinned.**

**We have failed in our care for the land and its creatures,  
we have been greedy, destructive, and wasteful  
of the resources you entrusted to us.**

**Polluted air and water,  
eroded soil and salty earth,  
birds and animals deprived of habitat,  
and neighbours left hungry and thirsty by our selfishness:  
all these cry out against us.**

**We do not know how to restore what we have damaged,  
and we repent in sorrow and distress.**

**Forgive us, we pray, and have mercy.**

**Give us grace to change our ways,  
to make amends,**

**and to work together for the healing of the world,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### Absolution: Restoration of Creation

One: Our Saviour died and rose again  
so that for all who live in him  
there is a new creation.

Therefore it is declared to us:  
our sins are forgiven,  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.  
Amen.

All: **Send out your Spirit, O God.  
Renew the hearts of your people.  
Renew the face of the earth.**

## Sharing of the Peace

One: If we are in Christ, we are becoming a new creation.  
We see God around us. We see God within us.  
We give thanks to our Creator God.  
Let us show the caring nature God has instilled within us  
by greeting each other with a sign of God's peace, love,  
forgiveness and grace.

The peace of our Creator be with you in all things.

**All: And also with you.**

*You are invited to care and share peace with your neighbor, and the creatures who share this common home. (adapted from Celebrating Creation: Honoring Indigenous People, Kelly Sherman-Conroy, ELCA)*

## Offertory Hymn

Sept 3	CP 414	God of the Sparrow
Sept 10	CP 309	Praise the Lord With the Sound of Trumpet
Sept 17		Water Flowing From the Mountains <i>(see insert for words)</i>
Sept 24	CP 401	My Life Flows On in Endless Song

## Prayer over the Gifts

One: Generous God,  
In this meal you offer your very self.  
We give thanks for these gifts of the earth.

One: In the breaking of this bread

**All: reveal to us the Risen One.**

One: In the pouring of this wine

**All: pour us out in service to the world;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**



# The Great Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you

**All: and also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

One: Blessed are you, O God, our light and our salvation,  
to you be glory and praise for ever.

From the beginning you have created all things  
and all your works echo the silent music of your praise.

In the fullness of time you made us in your image,  
the crown of all creation.

You give us breath and speech,  
that with angels and archangels,  
and all the powers of heaven

we may find a voice to sing your praise:

**All: O holy, holy, holy God,**

**Kingsfold**

**O God of time and space.**

**All earth and sea and sky above bear witness  
to your grace.**

**Hosanna in the highest heav'n, creation sings your praise.**

**And blessed is the one who comes  
and bears your name always!**

One: How wonderful the work of your hands, O God.

As a mother tenderly gathers her children,  
you embraced a people as your own.

When they turned away and rebelled  
your love remained steadfast.

From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary,  
to be the living bread,  
in whom all our hungers are satisfied.

He offered his life for sinners,  
and with a love stronger than death  
he opened wide his arms on the cross.  
On the night before he died,  
he came to supper with his friends and,  
taking bread, he gave you thanks.  
He broke it and gave it to them, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,  
he gave you thanks, and said:  
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, in remembrance of me.

**Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again!  
Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again!**

Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you  
these gifts of your creation;  
may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.  
As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence,  
form us in the likeness of Christ,  
and build us into a living temple to your glory,  
through Jesus Christ, our Saviour,  
by whom, with whom, and in whom,  
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,  
we worship you, Creator God,  
in songs of everlasting praise:

**All: Amen, amen, O Holy One! Hosanna and Amen!  
Amen, amen, O Holy One! Hosanna and Amen!**

## The Lord's Prayer (Aotearoa/New Zealand):

**All: Eternal Spirit,  
Earth-Maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,  
source of all that is and that shall be,  
Father and Mother of us all.  
Loving God, in whom is heaven.  
The hallowing of your name  
echoes through the universe!  
The way of your justice  
be followed by the peoples of the earth!  
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!  
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom  
sustain our hope and come on earth.  
With the bread we need for today, feed us.  
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.  
In times of temptation and test, spare us.  
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.  
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,  
now and forever. Amen.**

### Breaking of Bread

**One:** Come and know Christ,  
broken and poured out for you.

**One:** Alleluia! The gifts of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

*All are welcome at God's table.*

*Gluten-free wafers are available on request.*

### Communion Hymn

Sept 3	CP 61	As We Gather
Sept 10	CP 84	Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendour
Sept 17	CP 553	Ubi Caritas et Amor
Sept 24	CP 72	Bread of Heaven, On Thee We Feed

## Prayer after Communion

*(Please stand as you are able)*

One: God of all creation,

**All: we have received bread and wine,  
fruits of the earth and tokens of salvation.  
With joy we celebrate your goodness  
and commit ourselves to serve you on this sacred earth,  
through Jesus Christ our rock and our Redeemer. Amen.**

## Blessing

One: God bless us with wonder at creation's glory.  
God bless us with fury at creation's spoiling.  
God bless us with courage at this critical hour.  
In the name of the Creator and the Redeemer and the  
Sustainer. **Amen.**

## Recessional Hymn

Sept 3		O God, Who Called Your People (Tune: Thornbury CP 444)
Sept 10	CP 425	Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee
Sept 17	CP 403	Let All Things Now Living
Sept 24	CP 575	Let Streams of Living Justice

## Dismissal

One: God who established the dance of creation,  
Who marvelled at the lilies of the field,  
Who transforms chaos to order,  
send us out to reflect God's glory in creation.

**All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

*(adapted from the CTBI Eco-Congregation Programme)*

**September 17, 2023.**

**Pentecost 16**

*Prelude: Matins*

*Healy Willan*

**First Reading**

*Exodus 14:19-31*

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, 'Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt.'

Then the LORD said to Moses, 'Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers.' So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

## **Second Reading**

*Romans 14:1-12*

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgement on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgement on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honour of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honour of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgement on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God. For it is written, 'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.' So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

## **The Gospel Reading**

*Matthew 18:21-35*

Then Peter came and said to him, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

'For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord

ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

## **Water Flowing from the Mountains**

Water flowing from the mountains. Water flowing o'er the earth.  
Water comes to us, so precious. Living water gives us birth.  
Drink deep this source of life. Drink deep and know.  
For living water sings, and living water brings the love that makes  
our spirit grow.

Water rushing down the rivers. Water rushing to the sea.  
Water comes to us, so precious. Living water makes us free.  
Drink deep this source of life. Drink deep and know.  
For living water sings, and living water brings the love that makes  
our spirit grow.

Water springing from the dry place. Water springing in the sun.  
Water comes to us, so precious. Living water for each one.

Drink deep this source of life. Drink deep and know.  
For living water sings, and living water brings the love that makes  
our spirit grow.

**Voluntary:** *Finale Jubilante*

*Willan*

## **Cycle of Prayer**

**ACC/ ELCIC** The Provincial Synod of the Ecclesiastical Province of  
British Columbia and Yukon and The dean, council, and  
congregations of the Southern Interior Region of the British  
Columbia Synod

**In the Niagara Diocese:** St. Albyn the Martyr, Acton; the Reverend  
Michael Mernagh, Priest-in-Charge, and the people of that parish.

**Parish/** Diana Sneath, Jan Southall, Mick and Lil Stewart

## **Today's Ministry Team**

Presiding	The Rev. Canon Leslie Gerlofs
Preaching	The Rev. Canon Peter Davison
Eucharistic Assistant	Tom Atterton
Server	Christine Aiken
Readers	Terese Herron Jed Gardner
Organist/Choir Director	Richard Hansen
Greeters	Anne Washington Terese Herron Judith May
Warden on Duty	Terese Herron

## **COMING EVENTS**

Sept 1 – Oct 4	Season of Creation
Sept 22-24	Women's Weekend
Sept 30	Dundas Studio Tour
Sept 30	TRC (Truth & Reconciliation Day)
Oct 1	Sundae Sunday and Blessing Backpacks
Oct 4	Pet Blessing on Front Lawn