

**52B**

**19 August 2018**

*The church is fitted with a hearing loop which covers the body of the church.  
Hearing aid wearers are advised to switch their aid to T-setting.*

**THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD**

ORGAN PRELUDE

*The people are invited to stand for the entrance of the Bible.*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

On this winter's morning, it is good to be together!

Drawn by the warmth of faces familiar and new,  
to the welcoming space of this sacred place.

It is good to be here because God is here - lovingly blessing us as we gather.

It is good to be here because Christ is here

- whenever two or three meet in his name.

It is good to be here because the Spirit is here,

- leading us into the only truth that really matters. *(Bruce Prewer)*

In this safe place let us open ourselves

to new understanding, reassurance, and hope

For this is a place where truth, love, and challenge meet. *BCheatham/adapt.*

**May our spirits be renewed.**

**May our minds be open to new truth.**

**May we give thanks for this life we are blessed to share.**

Let us worship God!

HYMN

**GREETING AND WELCOME**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of God's Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Add in words for pass the peace

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

As we open ourselves to the values of your reign, O God,  
we discover a new way of seeing ourselves:  
to know ourselves as beloved and called to a new way.  
By your invitation of grace, we lay down the burdens we carry,  
the suffering we endure, the issues with which we wrestle,  
and the memories of past wrongs, hurts, shame and failures.  
We confess our wrongs.  
*A time of silence as we reflect on these words for ourselves*

### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear the words of Jesus: 'Go, and sin no more'. We may take heart, knowing that we will not be put to shame by our faults, shortcomings or doubts. God forgives us and accepts us. May God have mercy upon you, grant you forgiveness, time for the amendment of life, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit.  
**Thanks be to God. Amen**

### THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

#### ANTHEM

*The children are invited to come forward for the baptism*

#### BAPTISM OF AUSTIN WAYNE SHEGOG

*After the baptism there will be quiet activities for the children in the western chapel.*

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God, source of all light by your Word, you give light to the soul. Pour out on us the spirit of wisdom and understanding, that our hearts and minds may be opened to know your truth and your way. Amen.

FIRST READING                      1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14

In this is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

#### PSALM 111

insert

*Please stand and sing the concluding Gloria*

**Glory be to the Father, and / to the / Son:  
and / to the / Holy Spirit;  
As it was in the beginning, is now and / ever /shall be  
world without / end. / A / men**

SECOND READING                      Ephesians 5: 15-20

In this is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

#### ANTHEM

Awake us, Lord, and hasten

J.S. Bach 1685-1750

**\*\* Discuss with Peter re leaving out the second anthem**

*Please stand for the gospel*

A reading from the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to John.

**Glory to you, Lord**

GOSPEL READING                      John 6:51-58

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

HYMN

SERMON

### **THE RESPONSE TO GOD IN WORD AND ACTION**

HYMN

*During the singing of this hymn our offering will be received.*

*Please remain standing for the dedication prayer.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

To bless these gifts, we remember gifts we have received through the generosity of others.

*Silence for reflection*

As we have received, we now give, asking God to bless us as well as the gifts so that, together, we become good news to the world. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Open our hearts to the wider world, gracious and loving God  
in whom there are no distinctions between peoples, only your children.

We pray for those whose life is marred or diminished by prejudice or poverty. May we know and feel the pain and suffering of others; guide us to all that we can do to help. Help us to live as the children of God, sisters and brothers who, with the eyes of faith, see all people as bearers of God's image, temples in which the Sacred dwells.

May we be at peace with ourselves, live in a spirit of humility, and deal with others, even those who oppose us, with gentleness, honesty and respect. Teach us dialogue, not conflict.

We pray for our leaders. Grant them wisdom, that they may seek justice in all things, compassion, that they help those suffering from disease, and justice, helping the most vulnerable.

We pray for all peacemakers, for peoples and lands divided, for families – and children – suffering because of war. May there be a spirit of compromise, an abandonment of ego and a setting aside of a lust for power and domination. Help all embroiled in conflict to see and cherish the humanity of others, see the Divine spark in the eyes of others. We ask a special blessing upon the Holy Land, for an end to violence and a new day, a new dawn, on the soil that Jesus walked.

God of grace and love, we pray for those whose life is blighted by loneliness, for those who are facing possible bad news, for those who are anxious or hurting, unable to sleep, who find little comfort, for those who are dying, and for the bereaved.

We give thanks and pray for our loved ones departed, for those who inspired us and shaped our life.

*We offer silent prayers for our own hurts, hopes, fears and longings and those we love....*

These prayers we offer in Jesus' Name, and in his words we would sum up all our prayers, saying.....

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(printed inside cover of hymn book)*

## THE SENDING FORTH OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

### HYMN

*The white baptismal candle is lit from the Christ candle and presented to Stella's parents:  
Austin, you belong to Christ, the light of the world. Walk always as a child of the light.*

### BENEDICTION

We are now sent from here in the name of Jesus Christ, to serve the God who cherishes us, and to trust the Spirit who nurtures us, and to walk always as a child of the light.

And as we go:

May the God of love who shared love strengthen us in our love for others.

May the Son who shared his life grant us grace that we might share our life.

And may the Holy Spirit indwelling in us empower us to be only and always for others.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **In the name of Christ. Amen!**

***You are invited to be seated for the playing of the postlude,  
or to leave at this point without disturbing those who wish to listen.***

### POSTLUDE

*Please stand as the Bible is taken from the church.*

Presiding Minister

Rev Sandy Boyce

Scripture Reader

Organist & Choir Director

Peter Kelsall

The Choir of Pilgrim Church

Copyright material © ST5772

***Please join us for tea or coffee and fellowship in the Lounge  
after the service.***