



PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

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| <i>Officiant:</i> | The Right Reverend Michael D. Oulton, <i>Bishop of Ontario</i> |
| <i>Preacher:</i> | Bishop Michael Oulton |
| <i>Readers:</i> | |
| <i>Old Testament:</i> | Xenia Kirpatrick |
| <i>Epistle:</i> | Shelley McAlister |
| <i>Psalmist:</i> | Cleone Grasham |
| <i>Prayers of the People:</i> | Janet Dalicandro and Doug Thompson |
| <i>Holy Gospel:</i> | Canon Nancy Beale |
| <i>Organist:</i> | Sally Cowan |
| <i>Parish Historian:</i> | Frank Wright |
| <i>Crucifer:</i> | Brenda Hellyer |

Reception to follow in the Church Hall

A Service of Thanksgiving for the Congregation of St. John's, Waupoos & Deconsecration of the Building

Wednesday August 24, 2022 at 4pm

*The Right Reverend Michael Oulton, Bishop of Ontario
Canon Nancy Beale, Incumbent of the Parish of Marysburgh*

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Opening Hymn: *The Day Thou Gavest* #29

Frank Wright: A Brief History of St. John's – Waupoos

The Bishop greets the community

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

All: And also with you.

Bishop: Almighty God,
All: to you all hearts are open, all desires known
And from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Glory to God

Bishop : Glory to God in the highest,
All: And peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly king,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
Receive our prayer.

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Bishop: Let us pray.

All: Holy God, watchful and caring, our source and our end:
We, with the saints of generations past, have come to praise your name and give you thanks for the gifts of grace received here at St. John's, Waupoos.
Be present, wherever we may be, to guide and to care for us, to inspire and to bless us.
This we ask in the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Old Testament Reading: *Isaiah 44:1-5*

Psalm: *121* (please join in reading from the second stanza)

¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills; *from where is my help to come?

² My help comes from the Lord, *the maker of heaven and earth.

³ He will not let your foot be moved *and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

⁴ Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel *shall neither slumber nor sleep;

⁵ The Lord himself watches over you; *the Lord is your shade at your right hand,

⁶ So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *nor the moon by night.

⁷ The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; *it is he who shall keep you safe.

⁸ The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in, *from this time forth for evermore.

All: Be present, merciful God, and protect us in times of danger, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this life may rest in your eternal changelessness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

New Testament Reading: *Hebrews 3:1-6*

Gradual Hymn: *Amazing Grace* #352

Gospel: *John 13:31-35*

Reader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

All: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

The Creed

Bishop:

All:

Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,
I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen

Prayers of the People

For the church universal, of which this building is a visible symbol,
We thank you, Lord.

For Your presence whenever two or three have gathered in Your name,
We thank you, Lord.

For this place, where we may be still and know that You are God,
We thank you, Lord.

For the fulfilling of our desires and petitions as You see best for us,
We thank you, Lord.

For our past and a vision of the future that lies ahead,
We thank you, Lord.

For the gift of the Holy Spirit and new life in Baptism,
We thank you, Lord.

For the pardon of our sins when we have fallen short of Your glory,
We thank you, Lord.

For the Holy Eucharist in which we have a foretaste of Your eternal kingdom,
We thank you, Lord.

For the blessing of our vows and the crowning of our years with Your goodness,
We thank you, Lord.

For the congregations of St John's Waupoos who have faithfully served You and this community for 145 years, since 1877.
We thank you, Lord.

For the gift of friendship, caring and fellowship blessed by Your love that we have shared as members of St John's Waupoos in more recent years.
We thank you, Lord.

For the faith of those who have gone on before us and for the encouragement by Your perseverance,
We thank you, Lord.

For all the benefactors of this place who have died in the peace of Christ and are at rest,
We thank you, Lord.

For the fellowship of all your saints,
We thank you, Lord.

Bishop: O God, from living and chosen stones you prepare an everlasting dwelling place for your majesty. Grant that in the power of the Holy Spirit those who serve you may always be kept within your presence. This we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen

Confession and Absolution

Bishop: Most merciful God,

All: We confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and be what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name.

Amen

Bishop: Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

The Peace

Bishop: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And also with you.

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Hymn: *What a Friend we Have in Jesus* #532

Prayer over the Gifts

Bishop: God of mercy, accept the worship we offer you this day. Increase, we pray, our faith, deepen our hope, and confirm us in your eternal love. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

All: Amen

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts

All: We lift them to the Lord.

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

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

Celebrant: Holy God, Lover of creation, we give you thanks and praise, for in the ocean of your steadfast love you bear us and place the song of your Spirit in our hearts. When we turn from your love and defile the earth, you do not abandon us. Your Spirit speaks through Huldah and Micah, through prophets, sages, and saints in every age, to confront our sin and reveal the vision of your new creation. Joining in the song of the universe we proclaim your glory saying:

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant: Gracious God, in the fullness of time you sent Jesus the Christ to share our fragile humanity. Through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection you open the path from brokenness to health, from fear to trust, from pride and conceit to reverence for you. Rejected by a world that could not bear the Gospel of life, Jesus knew death was near.

His head anointed for burial by an unknown woman, Jesus gathered together those who loved him. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it and gave it to his friends, saying, "Take and eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, 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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

And now we gather at this table in response to his commandment, to share the bread and cup of Christ's undying love, and to proclaim our faith.

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Celebrant: Breathe your Holy Spirit, the wisdom of the universe, upon these gifts that we bring to you: this bread, this cup, ourselves, our souls and bodies, that we may be signs of your love for all the world and ministers of your transforming purpose.

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, Creator of all, and we bless your holy name for ever.

All: Amen

Celebrant: And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

**For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.
Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Bishop: Creator of all, you gave us golden fields of wheat, whose many grains we have gathered and made into this one bread.

All: So may your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.

The Communion

Bishop: The gifts of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Communion Hymn: *Blest be the Tie that Binds* #507

Prayer after Communion

**All: God of love and compassion, we thank you for feeding us with the holy food of the Body and Blood of your Son, and for uniting us through him in the fellowship of your Holy Spirit. We thank you for the grace that we and our ancestors have known in this church of St. John's, and ask that in the days ahead we may continue to serve you wherever we are trusting in your enduring love and faithfulness.
Amen**

An Act of Thanksgiving

Bishop: We who are gathered here know that this building, which has been consecrated and set apart for the ministry of God's Holy Word and Sacraments, will no longer be used in this way. Let us offer our thanks for God's work through this building.

All: Amen

At the Altar

Bishop: Loving God, here at this table we have gathered together to be fed with the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ. May we who have shared his body, live his risen life; we, whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world. May we who have been fed by Christ be filled with his grace and blessing.

All: Amen

At the Chancel Steps

Bishop: Life-giving Spirit, here you have confirmed your people in their Baptismal vows. Here you have blessed those who have come to be united in marriage. May your Spirit be always with your people that they may know your power and your love.

All: Amen

At the Lectern

Bishop: Almighty God, your eternal Word speaks to us through the words of holy Scripture. Here we have read of your mighty acts and purposes in history, and here we have learned about those whom you have chosen to be agents of your will. May we always seek to hear and follow your Word.

All: Amen

At the Font

Bishop: We thank you, loving God, for the water of baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. May all those who have been baptized in this place ever live as people made new by your Spirit.

All: Amen

The De-Consecration

Bishop: To many of you, this building has been hallowed by cherished memories, and we know that you will suffer a sense of loss. We pray that you will be comforted by the knowledge that the presence of God is not tied to any place or building.

The Bishop's Declaration of Secularization is now read. This declaration is read in the presence of the people.

Bishop: Let us pray:

All: Loving God, in your great goodness you once accepted to your honour and glory this building, now secularized: receive our praise and thanksgiving, for the blessings, help, and comfort which you have given your people in this place. Continue your saving work and help your people to recognize your presence as they move forward in faith. May we always be conscious of your unchanging love for us, in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Blessing

Bishop: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

All: The Maker of heaven and earth.

Bishop: Blessed be the name of the Lord.

All: From this time forth for evermore.

Bishop: May the God of mercy continue to transform you by His grace, and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All: Amen

Closing Hymn: *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* #565

Dismissal

Bishop: Let us go forth, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

All: Thanks be to God!