L’Église presbytérienne

au Canada

The Presbyterian Church

in Canada

**Worship Planner**

**13th Sunday After Pentecost**

**August 18th, 2024**

**Year B**

**Colour** *Green*

**Scripture Readings**

1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14 and Psalm 111

OR

Proverbs 9:1-6 and Psalm 34:9-14

Ephesians 5:15-20

John 6:51-58

**Hymns**

666 – Living God, your joyful Spirit Alternate tune 699

73 – Praise to the Lord

190 – You thirsty ones

18 – Through all the changing scenes of life – Psalm 34

776 – Jesus, life of all the world

723 – Lord, in this broken world

764 – There’s a spirit in the air

412 – Come, let us sing

**Call to Worship**

Praise God! Give thanks to God from your heart!

**Great are the works of our God and we delight in them.**

Yes, the works of God’s hands are faithful and just;

**Holy and awesome is God’s name.**

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom.

**So we honour God’s name, so that God’s praise may endure forever.**

**Prayers of Adoration** **and Confession**

Creator, Christ, and Spirit,

when our souls hunger for fulfillment,

you give us the Bread of Life.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit,

when our souls thirst for communion with you,

you refresh us with living water.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit,

when we long for what is authentic,

you show us the Way, the Truth and the Life.

And so we come to worship you,

Creator, Christ, and Spirit.

Receive our praise and gratitude, Living God,

for you are the source of all that matters,

and the strength to live out your purposes,

now and evermore. Amen

**God of all that matters,**

**Forgive us when we forget what matters to you.**

**Forgive the sins we have tried to hide,**

**and those we were once proud to commit.**

**Forgive the sins we have done to please ourselves,**

**and the sins we have done to please others.**

**By your grace, forgive us,**

**and bless what we can become through your faithfulness to us.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

In Christ, all things are made new. Know that you are forgiven by his great mercy. Trust in God’s mercy and have the courage to forgive each other in Jesus’ name.

**Prayer for Understanding**

God of all wisdom, quiet all that distracts us and prepare us to listen for your Word speaking through the Scriptures. May we learn how best to follow you, in the example of Christ, your Living Word. Amen.

**Invitation to the Offering**

The Psalms urge us to give thanks to God at all times, for everything God has provided. In gratitude, we offer God a portion of what God has given us. Trust that God will bless and multiply our gifts to serve God’s good purposes here and in places of deepest need.

**Prayer of Dedication**

Loving God, we offer you our gifts with thanksgiving, grateful for all we have received in Christ and in creation. Bless our gifts and our lives, so that we may live to bring you glory, and share your love with the world. Amen.

**Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession**

Gracious God,

we are grateful for your presence with us in all things,

especially in times of challenge and change.

We thank you for times of rest and reunion this summer,

for opportunities to see people we miss

and places that inspire us with wonder.

Yet we know this summer holds deep challenges for many,

and so we bring before you people and places on our minds and hearts.

We pray for the families and communities facing fire, flood or storms,

worrying about what will remain of their homes and hometowns.

Protect those who fight fires or conduct rescues in dangerous circumstances.

Open our hearts in generosity to do what we can to assist recovery.

God, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayers.**

We pray for the earth,

for the land and the seas suffering as the climate warms,

and for the creatures being displaced by disaster and disruption.

Protect all that is precious to you in creation,

and open our hearts to live more responsibly

within the balance of life you created.

God, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayers.**

We pray for people facing hatred and discrimination,

and those coming to terms with historic injustice and injury.

Guide the relations between indigenous peoples and other Canadians

to correct misunderstandings,

and create justice for all communities.

Open our hearts to discover what we share as your peoples,

and appreciate the gifts we have to offer to each other.

God, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayers.**

We pray for all those who are suffering this summer:

those who face pain or illness,

those who are dying or who know bereavement,

all who are anxious about what lies ahead,

and any who do not have enough to make ends meet.

Bring courage and comfort to those who are struggling,

and open our hearts to offer companionship to ease their journey.

God, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayers.**

In silence we hold before you those near and dear to us.

Speak to us the truth we need to hear and guide us in our relationships:

*(Silence for 30 seconds)*

Receive our prayers, spoken and unspoken, O God,

as we offer the words Jesus taught us:

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Commissioning and Benediction**

Go in gratitude, relying on the presence of Christ as bread for your journey.

And may the God who made us,

the Christ who mends us,

and the Spirit who gives us life

bless you with peace and purpose every day. Amen.

**PRAYER PARTNERSHIP**

**MISSION MOMENT: Sunday, August 18**

On World Humanitarian Day, we recognize and celebrate the efforts of humanitarian workers who provide life-saving assistance to millions of people affected by conflicts, natural disasters and other emergencies. We give thanks for PWS&D partners, who work tirelessly to ensure that essential food aid gets delivered, devastated communities are rebuilt, and access to life-saving resources is within reach. Humanitarian workers play a crucial role in ensuring the welfare of the vulnerable. Through collaborative efforts, we are working to build a sustainable, compassionate and just world. Let us take a moment this World Humanitarian Day to honour these advocates and offer an unwavering commitment to supporting their vital efforts.

**DAILY PRAYERS**

**Sunday, August 18** We pray for congregations navigating difficult and contentious issues, and that the Committee on Church Doctrine’s paper, “On Unity and Diversity,” may help bring insight into how these two concepts work together.

**Monday, August 19** We pray for PWS&D partners in Gaza who are providing essential food aid, health care, and psycho-social support to those living in conflict. May they find renewed energy every day to continue serving those in desperate need.

**Tuesday, August 20** We pray for church musicians, ministers and all those who plan and lead worship as they prepare for the fall.

**Wednesday, August 21** We pray for the congregations of Knox and St. Andrew’s in Guelph, ON, as they work through the PCC’s New Beginnings Renewal Program to discern their next steps in ministry.

**Thursday, August 22** We pray for ministers who are serving, and for interim moderators at vacant congregations. May the Holy Spirit strengthen and guide them in their ministry.

**Friday, August 23** We celebrate stewardship committees that help people in congregations across Canada discover the joy of sharing their gifts to participate in God’s mission.

**Saturday, August 24** We pray for people who work in communications in the church using their skills to help articulate the work of the church in the world.