



At a Glance – Pentecost 1 2019

At a Glance – Pentecost 1 2019 is also available in the Planning folder.
The personal reflection is also provided separately as a text file in the Planning folder.



Date	June 16, 2019	June 23, 2019	June 30, 2019	July 7, 2019	July 14, 2019	July 21, 2019
Liturgical date	Trinity Sunday	2nd Sunday after Pentecost	3rd Sunday after Pentecost	4th Sunday after Pentecost	5th Sunday after Pentecost	6th Sunday after Pentecost
Title	Wisdom Calls	Deep Down Questions	Take Up the Story	Unexpected Prophets	Compassionate Neighbours	Faithful Listeners
Readings	Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31 Psalm 8 Romans 5:1-5 John 1:6:12-15	1 Kings 19:1-4, (5-7), 8-15a Psalm 42 <i>and</i> 43 Galatians 3:23-29 Luke 8:26-39	2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14 Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20 Galatians 5:1, 13-25 Luke 9:51-62	2 Kings 5:1-14 Psalm 30 Galatians 6:1-6), 7-16 Luke 10:1-11, 16-20	Amos 7:7-17 Psalm 82 Colossians 1:1-14 Luke 10:25-37	Amos 8:1-12 Psalm 52 Colossians 1:15-28 Luke 10:38-42

Emphasis for worship, learning, and serving

On Trinity Sunday we are reminded that God dwells in community as Creator, Wisdom, and Spirit, and we consider how we live as people connected in community with all Creation.

We meet the prophet Elijah and reflect on how God meets us in our deep-down moments, nourishing and sustaining us.

We watch as Elisha picks up the mantle of ministry from Elijah and then listen to the Apostle Paul as he spells out what it means to pick up the mantle of discipleship.

The voice and actions of ordinary people who minister in unexpected ways invite us to notice the wisdom of God where we might not expect to find it and reflect on how we, too, can be voices of unexpected wisdom.

A story about a compassionate neighbour challenges us to consider who are our neighbours, how we love them, and how they love us.

In a story of two sisters, we are encouraged to embody the balance of word and work – going and doing and sitting and listening.

Personal reflection

You might consider sending weekly e-mails to people on your e-mail list throughout Pentecost 1, posting each week to your congregations' social networking site, or adding to your bulletin.

"Daily I was God's delight... delighting in the human race."

In Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31, we meet Wisdom. Wisdom was present with God in the act of creating and continues to be with us, calling us to justice and righteousness.

Wisdom provides many details of God's Creation, reminding us she was there for all of it.

How do you experience God's wisdom in your world today?

"...and after the fire a sound of sheer silence."

Life is noisy. Even when we think there is no noticeable sound around us, we are often surrounded by "white noise" – pervasive sounds of machinery quietly humming in the background, or perhaps traffic that we cannot see but which is not far away. God is present with us in the noisiest of times, yet sometimes it can be helpful to "listen" for God's response to our deep-down questions in the calm and quiet. When we soften our daily living, we provide an undisturbed opportunity for God's presence to be more real for us.

Stop what you are doing – even if just for a moment. Quiet any sounds you can, and then set other ones aside in your mind. Listen to the silence. What might God be saying to you?

"[Elisha] took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen..."

The prophet Elisha seems caught up in denial. He knows Elijah is leaving, but he seems not to want to hear it, as if not saying it might somehow delay it or make it unreal. Yet Elijah leaves, and Elisha finds himself alone. Or does he? Elisha picks up the mantle of Elijah and finds he can continue Elijah's work. It's not that there is any "magic" in that mantle; perhaps Elisha finds it brings the presence of Elijah ever closer. In that he realizes he is strengthened.

When have you found something brings the presence of another closer to you?

"But Naaman became angry and went away..."

Naaman was furious when told to go and bathe in the river. He thought he deserved better treatment than that! After all, the prophet didn't even come out and speak to him directly. Such indignity! Yet, after servants persuade him to give it a try, Naaman discovers his skin is clear. God works in amazing and surprising ways.

Indeed, had Naaman not listened to a foreign slave girl, he would never have received healing.

When have you been tempted to ignore some advice because it seemed trivial? What has happened when you took advice that seemed trivial?

"Who is my neighbour?"

A lawyer asks Jesus how to achieve eternal life and, upon being reminded of the need to love God and his neighbour, he pushes the question one step further: Who is my neighbour? In response, Jesus tells a story that would have shocked his listeners then and should still shock us now. Jesus wants to challenge ideas of who is a "good guy."

Who are the strangers in our midst we might not want to accept as being heroes and healers?

"...a woman named Martha welcomed Jesus into her home."

We may think the story of Martha, Mary, and Jesus is cut and dried. Both women try in their own way to welcome Jesus: Martha by preparing a meal, and Mary by attentively listening to Jesus' teachings.

Neither one seems to be at fault. When we read the story with fresh eyes, we realize Jesus does not put one sister down in order to praise the other. The implication is left that both are to be commended. Sometimes we need to be active and busy, and sometimes we need to sit and listen. Which do you tend to do most? How can you switch to trying the other sometimes?





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Date	July 28, 2019	August 4, 2019	August 11, 2019	August 18, 2019	August 25, 2019
Liturgical date	7th Sunday after Pentecost Proper 12 (17) 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time	8th Sunday after Pentecost Proper 13 (18) 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time	9th Sunday after Pentecost Proper 14 (19) 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time	10th Sunday after Pentecost Proper 15 (20) 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time	11th Sunday after Pentecost Proper 16 (21) 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
Title	Prayerful Disciples	Loving God Back	Faith Is...	Faith Witnesses	Out of the Shadow
Lections <small>(The focus in the age-level materials is in bold.)</small>	Hosea 1:2–10 Psalm 85 Colossians 2:6–15, (16–19) Luke 11:1–13	Hosea 11:1–11 Psalm 107:1–9, 43 Colossians 3:1–11 Luke 12:13–21	Isaiah 1:1, 10–20 Psalm 50:1–8, 22–23 Hebrews 11:1–3, 8–16 Luke 12:32–40	Isaiah 5:1–7 Psalm 80:1–2, 8–19 Hebrews 11:29—12:2 Luke 12:49–56	Jeremiah 1:4–10 Psalm 71:1–6 Hebrews 12:18–29 Luke 13:10–17
Emphasis for worship, learning, and serving	We listen to Jesus' teaching about prayer and the nature of the one to whom we pray, and are encouraged to pray confidently and with persistence.	A parable about a farmer challenges us to look at our lives and consider our attitude towards possessions.	This week we celebrate what faith makes possible and reflect on how faith is expressed in the lives of individuals and communities.	We join together to give thanks for the great cloud of people of faith who journey with us and have guided us in God's realm.	We watch as Jesus calls a woman from out of the shadows and God calls a prophet to step up to the task, and consider how God is breaking into our world, shaking things up and calling us to participate fully in the new life of God's healing reign.
Personal reflection <small>You might consider sending weekly e-mails to people on your e-mail list throughout Pentecost 1, posting each week to your congregation's social networking site, or adding to your bulletin.</small>	In a very celebrated passage, Jesus teaches the disciples a way to pray. But the lectionary text goes beyond that, and we hear Jesus reminding the disciples – including us – of the importance of being persistent in our prayers. It is not prayer when we simply ask once, and then storm off in a huff when we do not get our own way. Instead, we are to ask, and knock, and seek, and trust. God can answer prayer in amazing ways. Try creating a prayer on the model Jesus gives – recognition of who God is, asking for God's reign and sustenance, praying for forgiveness for us and others, and asking not to be led into times of trial.	"[Jesus] said to them, 'when you pray, say...'" Jesus takes a question about inheritance as a lead-in to offering a parable about greed. In recent years of economic struggles for many people and nations, issues such as greed and wealth may be in the forefront of our minds. In that context, we may hear Jesus' teachings a little differently than at other times. The challenge through it all is to be "rich toward God" – to find and celebrate our value not in the inventory of our "stuff" but in the celebration of trying to serve God and God's people. How is greed a stumbling block for you?	"Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." By faith...people have done amazing things. By faith, people have dared to journey into places they would otherwise never have dared to go and to do things that they might not otherwise have dared attempt. Faith in God can sustain us in ways that astound the imagination. It does not mean we always get things right, or somehow that everything turns out the way we might want, but only that we can step forward continually, knowing that we never do that alone, for God is always with us. Think of a time when you have dared to step out "by faith." What was that like?	"Surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight and sin..." We are reminded that we are not alone as we live lives of faith because a huge "cloud of witnesses" – faithful people of all times and places – surround us. It is as if we are in a stadium preparing to run a race, and the crowd is larger than we can imagine, and even larger still, all cheering for us, and encouraging us. We undertake the journey of faith as part of God's endless and timeless community. Who are some of the people who form your "cloud of witnesses?"	"The entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things [Jesus] was doing." Jesus does not hesitate in telling a woman – bent over for a virtual lifetime – that she is free. This angers the religious leaders who thought they knew the "proper" ways of doing things, but it makes such an important point. Part of the purpose of life is to share it with others, and never to hesitate or hide behind rules and propriety. God wants us to enjoy life to the fullest, and Jesus demonstrates that. How can you help share life with others?

