

FRIDAY MORNING PRAYER

Gathering

O Lord, open our lips
and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.
Hear our voice, O Lord, according to your faithful love,
according to your judgement give us life. Alleluia

Hymn Christ be our Light/Blessed be your name

Word

Genesis 35.9-15

^{35.9} God appeared to Jacob again when he came from Paddan-aram, and he blessed him. ¹⁰ God said to him, “Your name is Jacob; no longer shall you be called Jacob, but Israel shall be your name.” So he was called Israel. ¹¹ God said to him, “I am God Almighty: be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall come from you, and kings shall spring from you. ¹² The land that I gave to Abraham and Isaac I will give to you, and I will give the land to your offspring after you.” ¹³ Then God went up from him at the place where he had spoken with him. ¹⁴ Jacob set up a pillar in the place where he had spoken with him, a pillar of stone; and he poured out a drink offering on it, and poured oil on it. ¹⁵ So Jacob called the place where God had spoken with him Bethel.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
Thanks be to God.

Table Discussion

This passage highlights a change of name. Jacob, whose name meant “supplanter,” and who had certainly supplanted his older twin Esau when he stole their father’s blessing, is now to be called “Israel.” This new name means “one who strives with God.” It is God who gives him this name. Along with the name comes the promise of a new future: “A nation and a company of nations shall come from you. The land that I gave to Abraham and Isaac I will give to you, and I will give the land to your offspring after you.”

In your table group:

1. What changes of name – of persons, places, or things – can you think of, and what do they signify about a hoped-for future? (For example: Dominion Day/Canada Day; l'Église épiscopale/l'Église anglicane; Keewatin/Mishamikoweesh.)
2. What descriptive name might God wish to confer on our Anglican Church today, and what future would this signify?

Hymn All Hail the Power of Jesus name (selected verses)

Litany

For the one holy catholic and apostolic Church
throughout the world,
God of our ancestors, hear our prayer.

For the mission of the Church,
that in faithful witness it may preach the gospel
to the ends of the earth,
God of our ancestors, hear our prayer.

For those preparing for baptism
and for their teachers and sponsors,
God of our ancestors, hear our prayer.

For peace in the world,
that a spirit of respect and reconciliation
may grow among nations and peoples,
God of our ancestors, hear our prayer.

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick and all who suffer;
for refugees, prisoners and all in danger;
that they may be relieved and protected,
God of our ancestors, hear our prayer.

For all whom we have injured or offended,
God of our ancestors, hear our prayer.

For grace to amend our lives and to further your reign,
God of our ancestors, hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

Trusting in the compassion of God
and gathering our prayers and praises
into the many languages God has given us,
let us pray as our Saviour taught us,

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

or

**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.**

Sending

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.