

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Smiths Falls, Ontario | Anglican Diocese of Ottawa

Third Sunday after the Epiphany ~ January 24, 2021
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

A SERVICE OF HOLY EUCHARIST IN PANDEMIC

Book of Alternative Services

We acknowledge that we gather at St. John's on the traditional and unceded territory of the Algonquin Nation. Wherever you are worshipping this morning, consider the traditional land you are on and give thanks for the gift of it, praying we may dwell on the land with respect and peace.

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Celebrant 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.

Celebrant 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 Christ our Lord. Amen.

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, "Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

Reader The Word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God.

Canticle: Song of Thanksgiving

Isaiah 12.2-6

Surely, it is God who saves me; * I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defence, * and he will be my Saviour.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing * from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, * Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name;

make his deeds known among the peoples; * see that they remember that his name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, * and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, * for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

Holy Gospel

Mark 1:14-20

Gospeller The Lord be with you

All And also with you.

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

All Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, "Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

Gospeller The Gospel of Christ.

All Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Reflection

Apostles' Creed

Celebrant Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,
**All 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
communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the
resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Intercessions

Litany of the Various Christian Churches

*(Adapted from: Dr. Geoffrey Rowthorn, ed. The Wideness of God's Mercy: Litanies to Enlarge
Our Prayer: An Ecumenical Collection. Church Publishing, 2007, pp. 132-33)*

Let us pray.

Giving thanks for the gifts and graces found within the Christian family, let us pray to the holy and blessed Trinity—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—for the Church and the world saying: *Lord graciously hear us.*

We thank you God, and we pray for the Anglican Church: for its reverent and temperate ways through its Catholic heritage and its Protestant conscience; its yearning over the divisions of Christendom, and its longing to be used as a house of reconciliation. Lord hear us; **Lord graciously hear us.**

We thank you God, and we pray for the Roman Catholic Church: for its glorious traditions; its disciplines of holiness; its worship, rich with the religious passion of the centuries. Lord hear us; **Lord graciously hear us.**

We thank you God, and we pray for the Eastern Orthodox Church: for its secret treasures of mystical experience; its venerable liturgy; its regard for life in community; and its common will as a source of authority. Lord hear us; **Lord graciously hear us.**

We thank you God for the Baptist emphasis on personal regeneration and the conscious relation of the mature soul to the Lord. Lord hear us; **Lord graciously hear us.**

We thank you God for the powerful ability of Methodists and the United Church to awaken the conscience of Christians to social evils, and for their emphasis upon the witness of experience and the fruits of the disciplined life. Lord hear us; **Lord graciously hear us.**

We thank you God for the Presbyterian reverence for the sovereignty of God and their confidence in God's faithfulness to his covenant; for their sense of the moral law, expressing itself in constitutional governance. Lord hear us; **Lord graciously hear us.**

We thank you God for the Quaker witness to the perpetual real presence of the inner light in every human soul, and for their faithful continuance of a free prophetic ministry and Christian nonviolence. Lord hear us; **Lord graciously hear us.**

We thank you God for the Lutheran devotion to the grace of God and the Word of God, enshrined in the ministry of Word and Sacraments. Lord hear us; **Lord graciously hear us.**

We thank you God and pray for the Pentecostal and Evangelical Free Churches, moved by the Spirit to speak the Gospel to those unwelcome or uninspired in other congregations. Lord hear us; **Lord graciously hear us.**

Together with churches throughout the world, we pray to you God, for peace amongst the nations; for healing, comfort and courage to those suffering or in need; and for a right use and care of the creation you have entrusted to us. Lord hear us; **Lord graciously hear us.**

Merciful God, accept these prayers which we have offered aloud, and those offered by your faithful saints everywhere whose great cloud of witness surrounds us, and equip us to strive for the unity and love which was the prayer of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant Beloved, as we are reconciled to God in Christ, so may we be reconciled with one another. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Prayer over the gifts

Wise and gracious God, you spread a table before us; nourish your people with the word of life and the bread of heaven. **Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant It is indeed right that we should praise you, gracious God, for you created all things. You formed us in your own image: male and female you created us.

When we turned away from you in sin, you did not cease to care for us, but opened a path of salvation for all people. You made a covenant with Israel, and through your servants Abraham and Sarah gave the promise of a blessing to all nations. Through Moses you led your people from bondage into freedom; through the prophets you renewed your promise of salvation.

Therefore, with them, and with all your saints who have served you in every age, we give thanks and raise our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.

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

Celebrant Holy God, source of life and goodness, all creation rightly gives you praise. In the fullness of time, you sent your Son Jesus Christ, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He healed the sick and ate and drank with outcasts and sinners; he opened the eyes of the blind and proclaimed the good news of your kingdom to the poor and to those in need. In all things he fulfilled your gracious will.

On the night he freely gave himself to death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Gracious God, his perfect sacrifice destroys the power of sin and death; by raising him to life you give us life for evermore. Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith.

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

Celebrant Recalling his death, proclaiming his resurrection, and looking for his coming again in glory, we offer you, Father, this bread and this cup. Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts, that all who eat and drink at this table may be one body and one holy people, a living sacrifice in Jesus Christ, our Lord. Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

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, forever and ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant "I am the bread of life," says the Lord. "Whoever comes to me will never be hungry; whoever believes in me will never thirst."

All Taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are they who trust in him.

Celebrant The gifts of God are for the people of God.

All Thanks be to God.

Doxology

Celebrant Glory to God

All whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, forever and ever. Amen.

The Blessing & Dismissal

Celebrant The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Celebrant Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.