

# ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Smiths Falls, Ontario | Anglican Diocese of Ottawa

Last Sunday after the Epiphany ~ February 14, 2021

## 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.*

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### 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, on the holy mount you revealed to chosen witnesses your well-beloved Son, wonderfully transfigured: mercifully deliver us from the darkness of this world, and change us into his likeness from glory to glory; 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

2 Kings 2:1-12

When the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent." Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent." Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the

Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

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 9:2-9

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.**

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

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**

Leader Let us pray with confidence to the Lord, saying, "Lord hear our prayer."

O Lord, guard and direct your Church in the way of unity, service, and praise. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Give to all nations an awareness of the unity of the human family. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Cleanse our hearts of prejudice and selfishness, forgive us our sins and offenses, and inspire us to hunger and thirst for what is right. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Teach us to use your creation for your greater praise, that all may share the good things you provide. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Strengthen all who give their energy or skill for the healing of those who are sick in body or in mind. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Bring healing, wholeness and freedom to all who are bound by illness, fear or despair. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Grant a peaceful end to all who are dying, eternal rest to all who have died, and your comfort to those who mourn. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

## **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.**

## **Communion**

### **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.**