

**ST Catherines**  
CHURCH



*Image from Gordon Lee*

**LENT 4**

**MARCH 14, 2021**

**FAMILY COMMUNION SERVICE**

## Prelude

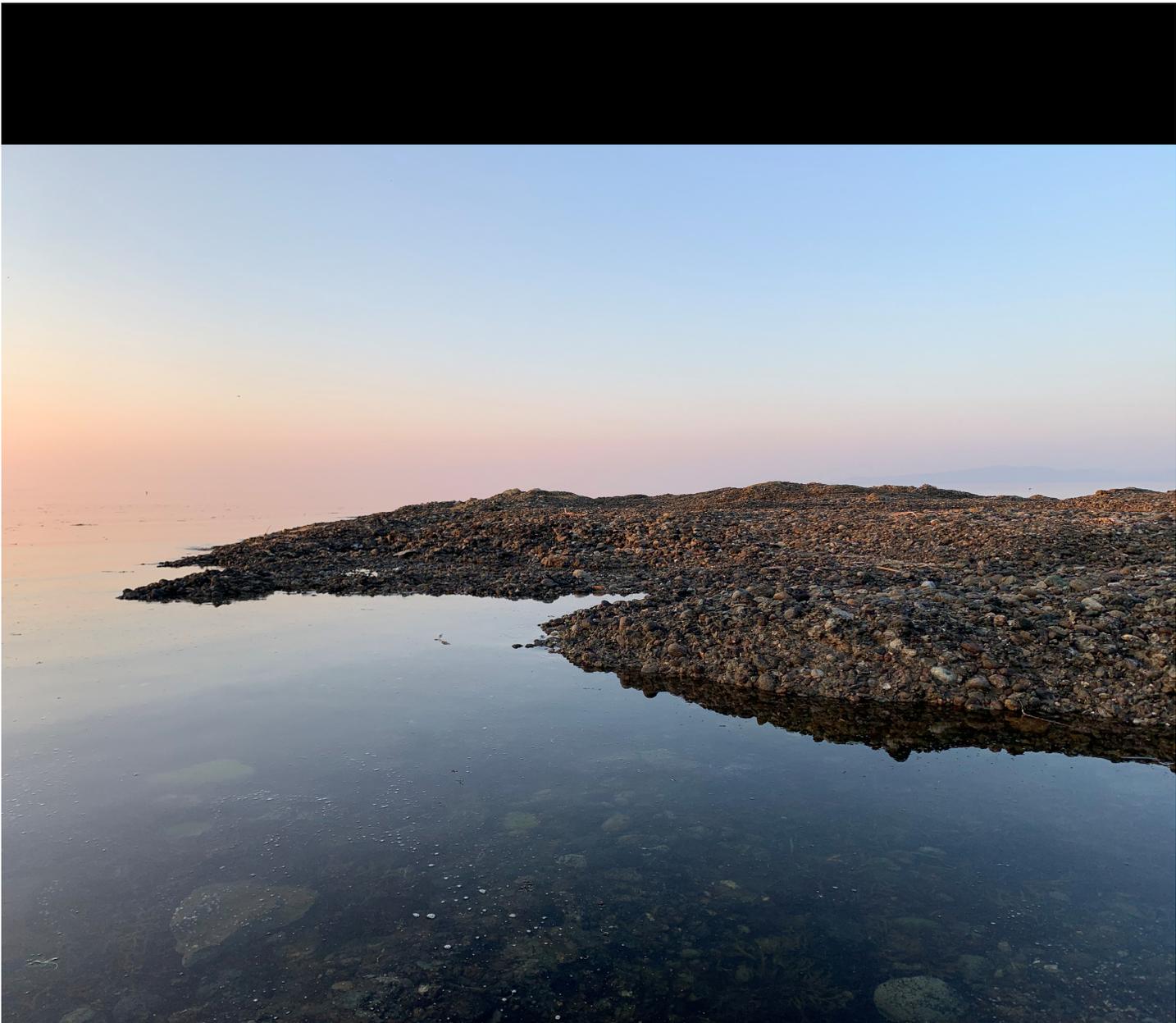
### Land Acknowledgement

Presider: For thousands of years, indigenous people have walked on this land; their relationship with the land is at the centre of their lives and spirituality. We are gathered on the traditional territory of the Squamish and Tsleil Waututh peoples.

**All: We acknowledge their stewardship of this land.**

Presider: We who come from other lands express our gratitude for the blessing of living, working, playing, laughing and loving on this beautiful land.

**All: Thanks to be God**



*Contemplative Photography Practice:  
Image by Melanie Hackett*

# **Processional Hymn: Beyond the Days**

*(with children's video)*

Refrain

Beyond the days of hope and myst'ry  
we see a light of faith renewed,  
and in our longing we thirst for guidance  
to walk with you day by day.

On our Lenten path  
we see the dawn of a new day.  
Be our vision of hope;  
be the promise of our lives.

## **Welcome and Lenten Intentions – Rev Sharon**



*Image from Liverpool Anglican Cathedral*

**Presider: Rev. Sharon Smith**

**Music: Siiri Rebane,  
Heather Peacock  
Vivian McGie**

**Reader 1: Janet Johnston**

**Reader 2: Deborah Foster (recorded)**

**Intercessor: Linda Robertson**

**Altar Guild: Bonnie Grundy**

**Sound: Susana Valente**

**Livestream: Armin and Gordon Lee**

## **Processional Hymn: Before the World Began**

Before the world began one Word was there;  
grounded in God he was, rooted in care;  
by him all things were made;  
in him was love displayed;  
through him God spoke and said, 'I am for you.'

Life found in him its source; death found its end;  
light found in him its course, darkness its friend,  
for neither death nor doubt  
nor darkness can put out  
the glow of God, the shout: 'I am for you.'

The Word was in the world which from him came;  
unrecognized he was, unknown by name;  
one with all humankind,  
with the unloved aligned,  
convincing sight and mind: 'I am for you.'

All who received the Word by God were blessed;  
sisters and brothers they of earth's fond guest.  
So did the Word of Grace  
proclaim in time and space  
and with a human face, 'I am for you.'

## **Prayer of Purity:**

Ever-present God,  
To you all hearts are open  
all desires known,  
and from whom 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

*(Book of Alternative Services)*

## **Confession:**

Presider:                    Let us remember before God our  
selfish ways, the things we have  
done wrong, the sorrows we have  
caused, the love we have not  
shown.

*Silence is kept*

Presider Clear our heart, O God

**All: that we may see you.**

Presider: Clear our heart, O God

**All: that we may truly see ourselves.**

Presider: Clear our heart, O God,

**All: that we may know the sacredness of this moment, and in every moment seek you, serve you, and strengthen you as the Living Presence in every presence.**

Presider: Clear our heart, O God

**All: that we may see.**

**Amen**

*(from Praying with the Earth – John Philip Newell)*

## **Kyrie (sung)**

**Lord have mercy**

**Christ have mercy**

**Lord have mercy**

Presider: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
be with you all.

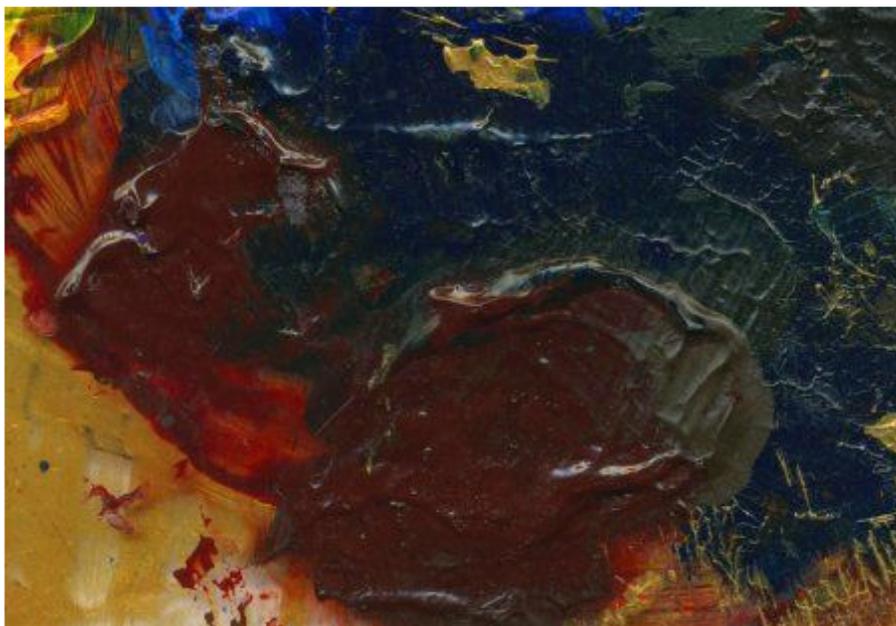
**All: And also with you.**

### **Prayer of the Day (Collect):**

Presider: Infinite Love,

**All: Heart of all life you loved this world  
into being. Your presence does not  
separate but unites; love does not push  
away, but embraces; you do not  
condemn, but save. Open us up to  
trust that we are loved, never rejected.  
In the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.**

*(Adapted from Steve Garnaas-Holmes Unfolding Light)*



*Artist: Jan Richardson*

# The Proclamation of the Word

## First Reading: A reading from Amma Theodora

Amma Theodora also said, “There was a monk, who, because of the great number of his temptations said, ‘I will go away from here.’ As he was putting on his sandals, he saw another man who was also putting on his sandals and this other monk said to him, ‘Is it on my account you are going away? Because I go before you wherever you are going.’”



## **Psalm 107: 1-3, 17-22**

*The people are led by Janet Johnston*

Presider: Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good,  
for God's mercy endures forever.

**People: Let the redeemed of the LORD proclaim  
that God redeemed them from the hand of  
the foe,**

Presider: Gathering them in from the lands;  
from the east and from the west, from the  
north and from the south.

**People: Some were fools and took rebellious paths;  
through their sins they were afflicted.**

Presider: They loathed all manner of food  
and drew near to death's door.

.

**People:** Then in their trouble they cried to the  
LORD  
and you delivered them from their  
distress.

*Singing Bowl*

*A moment of Silence*

*Singing Bowl*

**Presider:** You sent forth your word and healed  
them  
and rescued them from the grave.

**People:** Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for  
your steadfast love and your wonderful  
works for all people.

**All:** Let them offer sacrifices of  
thanksgiving and tell of your deeds  
with shouts of joy. Amen

## Second Reading: Ephesians 2: 1-10

*God acts to make us alive, God gives the gift of grace.. Our actions are a reflection of God's grace at work in our lives.*



*Artist: Grace Millane*

Reader:

Let us hear what the Spirit is saying.

**All:**

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Hymn

Tree of life and awesome mystery,  
In your death we are reborn,  
Though you die in all of history,  
still you rise with every morn,  
Still you rise with every morn.

Seed that dies to rise in glory,  
May we see ourselves in you,  
If we learn to live your story,  
We may die to rise anew,  
we may die to rise anew.

We remember truth one spoken,  
love passed on through act and word,  
Every person, lost and broken  
wears the body of our Lord,  
wears the body of our Lord

# Gospel Reading: John 3:14-21

*Jesus explains the love of God to the religious leader, Nicodemus.*

Presider: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Presider: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

**People: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**



*Image donated by St. Ann Chapel*

Presider: The Gospel of Christ.

**People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## **Gospel Hymn:**

Gentle Jesus, mighty Spirit,  
come inflame our hearts anew,  
We may all your joy inherit,  
if we bear the cross with you,  
if we bear the cross with you.

Christ you lead and we shall follow,  
stumbling though our steps may be,  
One with you in joy and sorrow,  
we the river you the sea,  
we the river you the sea



*Image by Vivian McGie*

## Homily – Rev Sharon Smith

### Affirmation of Faith

Presider: Moses said,

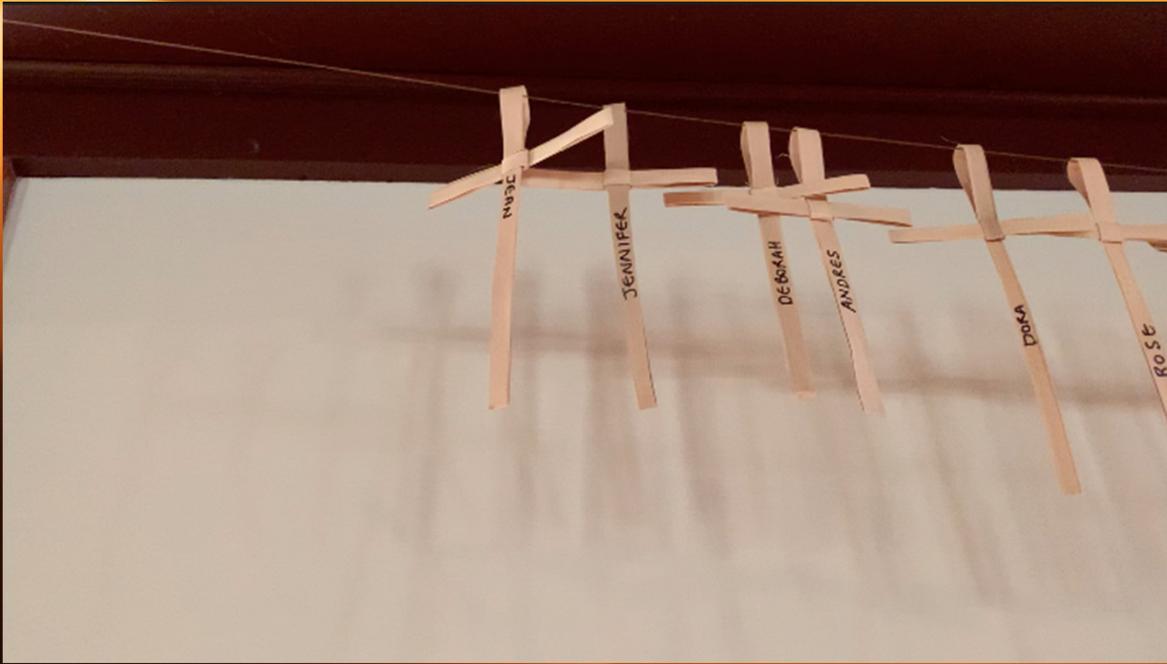
**All: Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one.**

Presider: And Jesus affirmed:

**All: Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, And with all your strength. This is the first and the great commandment, the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.**

**All: Spirit of God, search our hearts.**

### Prayers of the People



## Setting the Table: Mothers of Faith

For our mothers of faith  
For our sisters in Christ  
For the daughters of God we will praise  
For their courage and care  
Their compassion and tears  
For their unending prayers we will praise  
For the women who carried and bore us, now this song we  
raise  
For their wisdom and ways so inspire us, now our God we  
praise  
For courageous midwives  
For the unmarried bride  
And her miracle child come to save  
For the barren of womb  
And the poured out perfume  
Then the watch at the tomb we will praise  
For the women who carried and bore us, now this song we  
raise

## Setting the Table continued

For their wisdom and ways so inspire us, now our  
God we praise  
For the long silent age  
For repression's cruel cage  
For our part in this pain we confess  
For the gifts we've returned  
And the saints we have spurned  
From this blindness we turn and are blessed  
For the women who carried and bore us, now this  
song we raise  
For their wisdom and ways so inspire us, now our  
God we praise

For our mothers of faith  
For our sisters in Christ  
For the daughters of God we will praise

To our Father above  
With a mothering love  
Won't you lead us in freedom and grace

## **The Eucharistic Prayer**

*Preface for Lent (BAS);*

*Eucharistic Prayer (ELCIC VIII)*

Blessed are you, gracious God  
Creator of Heaven and Earth  
Because you call your faithful people to  
cleanse our hearts  
And to prepare with joy with this paschal feast  
That reborn through the waters of baptism  
and renewed in the Eucharistic mystery  
We may be more fervent in prayer  
And more generous in works of love.  
Therefore, we raise our voices to you in praise:

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.  
Hosanna in the highest.

Presider:

God of our weary years,  
God of our silent tears,  
You have brought us this far along the way.

In times of bitterness you did  
not abandon us.

But guided us in the path of  
love and light.

In every age you sent prophets to make  
known your loving will for all humanity.

The cry of the poor has become  
your own cry;  
our hunger and thirst for justice  
is your own desire.

In the fullness of time,  
you sent your chosen servant to preach  
good news to the afflicted,  
to break bread with the outcast  
and despised,  
and to ransom those in bondage to  
prejudice and sin.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
Our Lord Jesus took bread  
and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his  
disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Presider: Again, after supper, Jesus took the cup,  
Gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink,  
saying: This cup is the new covenant in my  
blood, shed for you and all people for the  
forgiveness of sin. Do this for the  
remembrance of me.  
For as often as we eat of this bread and  
drink of this cup we proclaim the Lord's  
death until he comes.

**All: Christ has died.  
Christ has risen.  
Christ will come again.**

Presider: Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate.

**All: To fill the hearts of all who share this  
bread and cup with courage and  
wisdom to pursue love and justice in  
all the world.  
Join our prayers and praise with your  
people of every age, that, rejoicing in  
the hope of the resurrection, we might  
live in freedom.**

Presider: Through him, with him, in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory  
and honour is yours,  
Creator God, now and forever,

**All: Amen.**

## **Lord's Prayer:**

Presider: As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,  
as we sing:

**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 for ever. Amen.**

Presider: We break this bread,

All: **Communion in Christ's body once broken.**

Presider: Let your Church be the wheat which bears its  
fruit in dying.

All: **If we have died with him, we shall live with  
him; if we hold firm, we shall rise with him.**

Presider: The gifts of God for the people of God,

All: **Thanks be to God.**

## **Prayer for those at home:**

Presider: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,

**People: We trust that you grace us in the breaking and eating of bread in community.**

**Since I cannot now receive this sacrament in community, ever-present Spirit fill my heart and sustain me. Amen.**

## **Prayer of communion (Sung):**

God be in my head,  
God be in my heart,  
God be in my mind,  
God be in my soul,  
God be in my eyes,  
so that I may see your face;  
God be on my lips,  
God be in my life.

God be in my work,  
God be in my play,  
God be in my home,  
God be in my prayer,  
God be in my song,  
so that I may sing your praise;  
God be in my night,  
God be in my day.



*Contemplative Photography Practice:  
Image by Laine and Lochlan Holland*

# Announcements

***Contemplative Photography  
Communion following the service***

***Lent Study:***

***Desert Mothers: Tuesdays in  
March 2021***



## Blessing:

Presider: Jesus said: I am with you always

**All:** **May God the Creator bless you**  
**May God the Son walk with you**  
**May the Spirit lead your lives with love**  
**Amen**

*(Iona Abby Worship Book, 2011)*



*Image from: Rabbi Jay Asher LeVine*

## **Closing Hymn: Love Divine**

Love divine, all loves excelling,  
joy of heaven, to earth come down,  
fix in us your humble dwelling,  
all your faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, you are all compassion,  
pure, unbounded love impart;  
visit us with your salvation,  
enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver,  
let us all your grace receive;  
suddenly return, and never,  
never more your temples leave.  
We would always give you blessing,  
serve you as your hosts above,  
pray, and praise you without ceasing,  
glory in your perfect love.

Finish then your new creation;  
pure and spotless let us be;  
let us see your great salvation,  
perfect in eternity:  
Changed from glory into glory  
till in heaven we take our place,  
there to sing salvation's story  
lost in wonder, love, and praise!



*Image donated Rev Ryan Motter*

\*All songs not in the hymnal are licensed with:  
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711268 Onelicense.net

## Dismissal

Presider: Go forth with a patient heart open to receiving infinite love

All: **Thanks be to God.**



*Artist: Grace Hartigan*

# *Coffee Time Follows @ Noon – 12:30pm*

Join Zoom Meeting by  
video: <https://zoom.us/j/93034140745>

Or using your Zoom App by in putting  
the Meeting ID:  
930 3414 0745

Or by phone: (778) 907 2071, with  
the Meeting ID:  
930 3414 0745

**A passcode might be required: 12345**

For assistance:

Please email Natasha at [scadmin@shaw.ca](mailto:scadmin@shaw.ca)

