

Sunday, March 14, 2021: 4th Sunday in Lent

*God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)*



ST. PAUL’S COVID-19 RESPONSE

**Welcome!!** During this unique time in history, services will look a bit different than normal and will likely be different for quite a while. We want to care for the whole parish during this time and one way to care for one another is keeping each other safe. As such, we ask you to follow these guidelines while worshiping with us:

* **Experiencing Cough, Fever, or Other Symptom/s?** Go home immediately andplease stay home for fourteen days following the end of your symptoms.
* **Wear a Mask.** All parishioners must wear a mask to all services (as per City of Edmonton bylaw 19408). Exceptions to this include children under the age of two and those with a medical condition where wearing a mask is not possible. Masks may be removed when taking communion but must be replaced immediately following. If you do not have a mask, we have cloth masks available in the foyer.
* **Maintain Physical Distance.** At all times, please remain a minimum of six feet (three seat spaces) from all other individuals not part of your family unit. You will find tape on the floor six feet apart in multiple locations to help you maintain this distance. Please also maintain physical distance outside.
* **Listen to the Ushers.** There will be ushers inside and outside to help direct these new procedures. Please heed their direction as they are trying to keep everyone safe and healthy.
* **Sign-In Upon Arrival.** Please sign-in with the designated usher when you arrive onsite. This will help us track who is in attendance just in case we do have to notify the parish if someone tests Covid positive following a service.
* **Sanitize Hands Frequently.** Please sanitize your hands upon entry and before taking communion. You may also sanitize as often as you would like during the service. Please also try to refrain from touching surfaces and your face.
* **Refrain from Singing.** At this time, congregational singing is not allowed by the government of Alberta. Please listen to the lyrics being sung by the leader/s and meditate upon them. You may also hum along to the music as long as your mouth remains closed.
* **Recycle Bulletins.** Please do not leave bulletins in the pews. A recycle bin is available at the exit door. You may also take the bulletin home.
* **Use of Washroom.** The only washroom available at this time is located at the back of the Sanctuary (just North of the Main Entry doors). Please wipe down all surfaces (including toilet and handle, counter, and faucet) following use.
* **Parts of Building Closed.** At this time, the only accessible parts of the building are the Sanctuary, Sanctuary washroom, and alley foyer. All other rooms are closed for use including the main washrooms, hall, basement, and chapel. Please do not access any closed section of the building without permission.

**Opening Song: *All People that on Earth Do Dwell***

All people that on earth do dwell  
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice  
Serve him with joy his praises tell  
Come now before him and rejoice

(*Chorus*) O let the earth rejoice  
Lift up your voice

And magnify his holy name  
O let the earth rejoice  
Lift up your voice

And magnify his holy name

O enter then his gates with joy  
Within his courts his praise proclaim  
Let thankful songs your tongues employ  
O bless and magnify his name

(*To Chorus*)

Because the Lord our God is good  
His mercy is forever sure  
His faithfulness at all times stood  
And shall from age to age endure

(*To Chorus*)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise him all creatures here below  
Praise him above ye heavenly host  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost

(*To Chorus*)

**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.

**People: 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.**

Celebrant: Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world, evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**People:** **Amen**.

**The Reading of Scripture**

First Reading: Numbers 21:4-9

*From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.*

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle: Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

*Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, \**

*and his mercy endures for ever.*

*Let all those whom the Lord has redeemed proclaim \**

*that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.*

*He gathered them out of the lands; \**

*from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.*

*Some were fools and took to rebellious ways; \**

*they were afflicted because of their sins.*

*They abhorred all manner of food \**

*and drew near to death’s door.*

*Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, \**

*and he delivered them from their distress.*

*He sent forth his word and healed them \**

*and saved them from the grave.*

*Let them give thanks to the Lord for his mercy \**

*and the wonders he does for his children.*

*Let them offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving \**

*and tell of his acts with shouts of joy.*

*Prayer: O God, the divine seeker, you are light to the lost, bread to the hungry, deliverance to the captive, healing to the sick, eternal vision to the dying, and harbour to every soul in peril. Gather the wanderers from every corner of the world into the*

*community of your mercy and grace, that we may eternally praise you for our salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Second Reading: Ephesians 2:1-10

*You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ – by grace you have been saved – and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God – not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.*

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

**Processional Chorus – *How Deep the Father’s Love for Us***

How deep the Father's love for us  
How vast beyond all measure  
That He should give His only Son  
To make a wretch His treasure

**The Gospel Reading**

Reader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John.

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

Gospel Reading: John 3:14-21

*And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.*

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

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

**Worship Through Song**

***How Deep the Father’s Love for Us***

How deep the Father's love for us  
How vast beyond all measure  
That He should give His only Son  
To make a wretch His treasure  
How great the pain of searing loss  
The Father turns His face away  
As wounds which mar the Chosen One  
Bring many sons to glory

Behold the Man upon a cross  
My sin upon His shoulders  
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice  
Call out among the scoffers  
It was my sin that held Him there  
Until it was accomplished  
His dying breath has brought me life  
I know that it is finished

I will not boast in anything  
No gifts, no power, no wisdom  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ  
His death and resurrection  
Why should I gain from His reward  
I cannot give an answer  
But this I know with all my heart  
His wounds have paid my ransom

***Lord, I Need You***

Lord, I come, I confess  
Bowing here, I find my rest  
And without You I fall apart  
You're the one that guides my heart

(*Chorus*) Lord, I need You, oh, I need You  
Every hour I need You  
My one defense, my righteousness  
Oh God, how I need You

Where sin runs deep Your grace is more  
Where grace is found is where You are  
And where You are, Lord, I am free  
Holiness is Christ in me (*To Chorus*)

So teach my song to rise to You  
When temptation comes my way  
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You  
Jesus You're my hope and stay

(*To Chorus*)

**Listening Time**

**Sermon by the Rev. Dr. Myron B. Penner – Sermon Notes:**

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**Affirmation of Faith – 1 Peter 1:17-25**

**All: Gracious God, you who judge all, we live in reverent awe of you. We have been kidnapped by our own sins, but you paid dearly to set us free – not a ransom of perishable things like silver or gold, but by your precious love, which we see in the blood of Christ. When he died, like an innocent lamb sacrificed for someone else, we saw your willingness to suffer for us. You have had this love for us since the beginning of time; and in Christ, it has now become evident. Through him we have come to trust in you, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory. For you have given us a new birth, through your living and enduring Word. Therefore, our faith and hope are set on you alone. With your love we love one another. The grass withers and fades, but your Word of love endures forever.**

**Prayers of the People**

Leader: With confidence and trust let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy.” For the one holy catholic and apostolic Church throughout the world, we pray to you, Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: Remembering today those in our St. Paul’s Cycle of Prayer: Neil, Laura, and Scott Rogers; Nicholas and Angela Delaney; Kimberley Howard; and Ranji Samuel; as well as all of those in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer. For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For those preparing for baptism and for their teachers and sponsors, we pray to you, Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For peace in the world, that a spirit of respect and reconciliation may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: 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, we pray to you, Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For all whom we have injured or offended, we pray to you, Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For grace to amend our lives and to further the reign of God, we pray to you, Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy. Amen.**

**Confession of Sin**

Celebrant: Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God’s forgiveness.

*Silent Confession*

Celebrant:Have mercy upon us,

**All: most merciful Father; in your compassion, forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life to the honour and glory of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**People:Amen.**

**The Peace**

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People: And also with you.**

**Prayer Over the Gifts**

Celebrant: God of mercy and compassion,

**All: your Word calls us home to faith and love. Accept all we offer you this day, in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.**

**Eucharistic Prayer**

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: We give you thanks and praise, almighty God, through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Redeemer. He is your living Word, through whom you have created all things. By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh of the Virgin Mary and shared our human nature. He lived and died as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. In fulfilment of your will he stretched out his hands in suffering, to bring release to those who place their hope in you; and so he won for you a holy people. He chose to bear our griefs and sorrows, and to give up his life on the cross, that he might shatter the chains of evil and death, and banish the darkness of sin and despair. By his resurrection he brings us into the light of your presence. Now with all creation we raise our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.

**All:** ***(Said)*** **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 and gracious God, accept our praise, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; who on the night he was handed over to suffering and death, took bread and gave you thanks, saying, “Take, and eat: this is my body which is broken for you.” In the same way he took the cup, saying, “This is my blood which is shed for you. When you do this, you do it in memory of me.” Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we offer you this bread and this cup, giving thanks that you have made us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you. We ask you to send your Holy Spirit upon the offering of your holy Church. Gather into one all who share in these sacred mysteries, filling them with the Holy Spirit and confirming their faith in the truth, that together we may praise you and give you glory through your Servant, Jesus Christ. All glory and honour are yours, Father and Son, with the Holy Spirit in the holy Church, now and for ever.

**People: Amen.**

Celebrant: As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,

**All: *(Said)* 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.**

Celebrant: We break this bread,

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

Celebrant: 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 reign with him.**

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**The Communion**

*Please listen carefully to the verbal instructions given. You are welcome to receive communion or come forward for a blessing. Gluten-free wafers are also available. Please sanitize your hands as you approach the front of the church. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please fold your arms over your chest. If you would like to make an offering, please do so after you take the bread.*

**Lamb of God**

*(Said by congregation)* Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world.

Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy on us.

**Communion Music – *Your Mercy***

I once was lost, I walked away  
The road was dark, I could not see  
My hope was gone, the pain was real  
But Your mercy

You saw my steps, You felt my fears  
You heard my cries, You caught my tears  
Arms open wide, You ran to me  
With Your mercy

(*Chorus*) Your mercy, Your mercy  
I stand before my king  
And bow my heart to sing  
You saved me, You raised me  
You died so I could live  
No greater love than this  
Your mercy, Your mercy

You give me life beyond the grave  
My deepest shame is cast away  
You sing a song that covers me  
It's Your mercy (*To Chorus*)

Your loving-kindness  
Leads me to repentance  
Your loving-kindness  
Leads me to repentance  
Lord, let Your kindness  
Lead us to repentance  
Lord, let Your kindness  
Lead us to repentance (*To Chorus*)

**Prayer After Communion**

Celebrant: Giver of life,

**All: you enlighten all who come into the world. Fill our hearts with the splendour of your grace, that we may perfectly love you and worthily praise your holy name, through Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.**

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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Blessing**

**Missionary of the Month Video: Don and Sandi Howell**

**Congregational Announcements *(Rev. Myron)***

**Closing Song: *The King of Love My Shepherd Is***

The king of love my shepherd is  
Whose goodness fails me never  
I nothing lack if I am his  
And he is mine for ever

Where streams of living water flow  
A ransomed soul he leads me  
And where the fertile pastures grow  
With food from heaven feeds me

Perverse and foolish I have strayed  
But in his love he sought me  
And on his shoulder gently laid  
And home rejoicing brought me

In death's dark vale I fear no ill  
With you dear Lord beside me  
Your rod and staff my comfort still  
Your cross before to guide me

And so through all the length of days  
Your goodness fails me never  
Good Shepherd may I sing your praise  
Within your house for ever

**The Dismissal**Celebrant: Let us bless the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**Community Corner for March 14**

Michelle is working on a stay-in-Edmonton church retreat for St Paul’s the weekend of April 22-25. Please save the dates! If you have questions, ideas or would like to collaborate on this event, contact her at [michelle@stpauls-anglican.ca](mailto:michelle@stpauls-anglican.ca).

The Monday evening walking group with Grovenor got off to a great start with five walkers meeting this past Monday evening to enjoy a walk in the river valley. It was beautiful to see the lights of the city from the river valley.  We meet Monday evenings at 6:30 pm in front of Ch. Cafeteria (14802 Stony Plain Rd NW) and head down into the ravine for an evening walk. AHS COVID protocols are followed. Dogs are welcome too. Join anytime!

On March 8, the province eased up on some restrictions as outlined on their website. For all the details, please see <https://www.alberta.ca/enhanced-public-health-measures.aspx>

**Eucharist for Those Unable to Attend In-Person Services**

For individuals who are immunocompromised or otherwise unable to attend Sunday morning services with others in the building, we will offer a eucharist time following the weekly service (at 11:30AM). If you would like to come for this individual eucharist, please contact the office.

**March Missionaries of the Month: Don and Sandi Howell**

Don and Sandi Howell have provided us a short video update about their ministry with OMF. Please check it out on our website by visiting the Blog section and clicking on the “March Missionary of the Month” blog post. The video has also been posted on the St. Paul’s YouTube channel.

**In-Person Sunday Services – Pre-Registration Required**

**WEEKLY PRE-REGISTRATION WILL BE REQUIRED** for those attending in-person services as we can only have a maximum of 40 people in the church. Starting on Tuesday every week, pre-registration will open for the Sunday service and will close at noon on Friday. The link to pre-register will be sent by email and posted on the News section of the website on Tuesday morning of each week.

**Lent Exercise: Examen of Consciousness**

During the season of Lent, Rev. Myron will lead the Lenten Exercise *Examen of Consciousness.* This is basically a daily habit of praying through our day and looking for how God shows up in our daily life. As part of this formation activity, Rev. Myron will lead a Zoom call with all the participants Sunday afternoons at 4:00PM for 1 hour to debrief together from the week, and to pray together. Please let RJ know if you would like to participate as we may send out occasional emails to those involved.   
Zoom details are below:

Meeting ID: 894 0123 5973

Passcode: 515058

**Lenten Series with Dr. Douglas Harink – Tuesday Evenings During Lent**

The theme of justice pervades the Bible from Genesis to Revelation. But readers frequently miss a key source, a writing in which justice is actually the central concern: **the book of Romans**. Please join Rev. Myron Penner as he hosts Dr. Douglas Harink for a series of discussions during the season of Lent. This series more or less follows the text of Romans, aiming to help readers trace the theme of justice throughout Paul’s letter. Each discussion will be live streamed on the St. Paul’s YouTube channel on Tuesday evenings at 7:00PM. An outline of the talks indicating which sections of Romans to read before each session is available on the St. Paul’s website on the Events page. Visit the Events page and click on the *Resurrecting Justice Talks* event for all of the information you will need to join the discussion.



**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:**

Diocese of Ottawa: the Rt. Rev. Shane Parker, Bishop. St. Thomas, Sherwood Park: Stephen London (s. Stephanie), Rector; Stephanie London (s. Stephen), Associate Priest; Judy Purkis, Vocational Deacon; Michael Rolph (s. Cora); Honorary Assistant; Shawna Stirman, Administrative Assistant. The Diocese of Buyé Mothers’ Union: Clotilde Muhimpundu, MU President; Bibiane Nsengiyumva, Chaplain; Josephine Kezakimana and Clementine Ujeneza, Trainers. Frog Lake First Nation.

**Next Week’s Ministry Teams:**

Music: Andrew and Team

Service Team: B and Jackson Teams

Reader/Prayers: Renée J.

**This Week’s Ministry Teams:**

Music: Adele and Team

Service Team: Parker and Heritage

Reader/Prayers: Francis and Jennifer B.

**St. Paul’s Cycle of Prayer:**

Neil, Laura, and Scott Rogers;

Nicholas and Angela Delaney;

Kimberley Howard;

Ranji Samuel

**St. Paul’s Anglican Church**

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Website: www.stpauls-anglican.ca

**Office Hours:**

Monday-Thursday: 9:00AM-12:00PM

Closed: Fri/Sat/Sun and Stat Holidays

facebook.com/stpachurchedmonton

@StEdmonton

**For Care/Concern Team   
or other prayer requests,** **email**:

office@stpauls-anglican.ca

**For urgent prayer requests call**

the church office: (780) 455-0771

**For pastoral emergencies call:**

(587) 334-2130

**St. Paul’s Vestry:**

Paul Dowie, *Rector’s Warden*

Margot Byer, *People’s Warden*

David Heritage, *Treasurer*

Barb Dixon, *Vestry Member*

John Green, *Vestry Member*

David Parker, *Vestry Member*

Connie Pistawka, *Vestry Member*

**St. Paul’s Staff:**

*Rector:* The Rev. Myron B. Penner

*Community Outreach:* Michelle Schurek  
*Youth Leader:* Abigail Harding

*Office Administrator:* RJ Chambers