

**ST Catherines**  
CHURCH



*Photo by Deborah Foster*

**LENT 5**

**MARCH 21, 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:  
Photo by Vivian McGie*

## **Journey Hymn**

*(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.

Not on bread alone  
are we to walk on this journey.  
Speak the words that give life  
to the yearnings of our hearts



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



*Image from Liverpool Anglican Cathedral*

**Presider: Rev. Sharon Smith**

**Music: Siiri Rebane,  
Penny Zuk  
Marc Kaiser(cello)**

**Reader 1: Elizabeth Barrett**

**Reader 2: Gordon Lee**

**Intercessor: Heather Luccock**

**Altar Guild: Bonnie Grundy**

**Sound: Susana Valente**

**Livestream: Armin and Gordon Lee**

## **Opening Hymn:**

### **Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness**

Praise the One who break the darkness  
with a liberating light.

Praise the One who frees the prisoners  
turning blindness into sight.

Praise the One who preached the Gospel  
healing every dread disease.

Calming storms and feeding thousands  
with the very bread of peace.

Praise the One who blessed the children  
with a strong yet gentle word.

Praise the One who drove out demons  
with a piercing two-edged sword.

Praise the one who brings cool water  
to the desert's burning sand.

From this well comes living water  
quenching thirst in every land.

Praise the one true love incarnate:  
Christ who suffered in our place.  
Jesus died and rose for many  
that we may know God by grace.  
Let us sing for joy and gladness  
seeing what our God has done.  
Praise the one redeeming glory,  
praise the One who makes us one.



*Photo by Vivian McGie*

## **Prayer of Purity:**

Ever-present God,  
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

*(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: Compassionate One,

**All: We are afraid, We are holding on, We struggle to let this hard-shelled seed fall into the earth of our being, and to let the newness of life be cultivated. We ask for courage in Jesus name. Amen.**

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



*Image from Jessamy Doman*

## The Proclamation of the Word

### First Reading: Following the path of spirituality

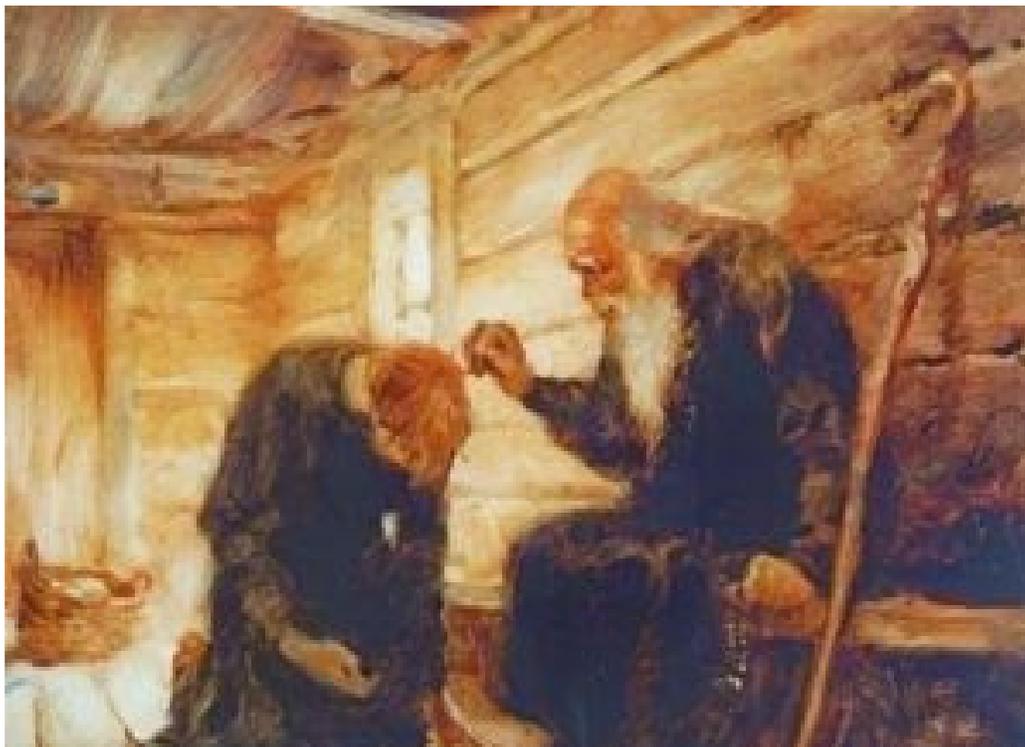
*By John Cassian (4th century monk)*

First, we must renounce our former way of life and move closer to our heart's desire, toward the interior life.

Second, we must do the inner work (of asceticism) by renouncing our mindless thoughts....Third, and finally, we must renounce our own images of God so that we can enter into contemplation of God as God.

Reader: Let us hear what the Spirit is saying.

All: **Thanks be to God.**



*Image from St. Shenouda monastery.*

## **Psalm 51: 1-12** (paraphrase by Nan Merrill)

*The people are led by Elizabeth Barratt*

Presider: Have mercy on me, O Gracious One,  
according to your steadfast love;

**People: According to your abundant kindness  
forgive me where my thoughts and  
deeds have hurt others.**

Presider: Lead me in the paths of justice,  
guide my steps on paths of peace!

**People: Teach me, that I may know my weaknesses,  
the shortcomings that bind me,  
The unloving ways that separate me,  
that keep me from recognizing  
your Life in me;**

Presider: For, I keep company with fear, and  
dwell in the house of ignorance.  
Yet, I was brought forth in love,  
and love is my birthright.

**People: You have placed your truth in the  
inner being;  
therefore, teach me the wisdom  
of the heart.**

**All: Forgive all that binds me in fear,  
that I might radiate love;  
cleans me that your light might  
shine in me.**

***Singing Bowl***

***A moment of Silence***

***Singing Bowl***

**Presider: Fill me with gladness; help me to  
transform weakness into strength.**

**People: Look not on my past mistakes  
but on the aspirations of my heart.**

**All: Create in me a clean heart, O Gracious One,  
and put a new and right spirit within me.  
Restore in me the joy of your saving grace,  
and encourage me with a new spirit. Amen**



*Artist : Adham Badawy*

## Second Reading: Hebrews: 5:5-10

*Using priestly imagery and references to the Old Testament, the author explains how Christ lived in trusting obedience to God, and so God has made Christ the source of our very life.*



*Artist: Laura James*

Reader:

Let us hear what the Spirit is saying.

**All:**

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Hymn: Hymn of Promise**

In the bulb there is a flower;  
In the seed, an apple tree;  
In cocoons, a hidden promise:  
Butterflies will soon be free!  
In the cold and snow of winter  
There's a spring that waits to be,  
Unrevealed until its season,  
Something God alone can see.

There's a song in every silence,  
Seeking word and melody;  
There's a dawn in every darkness  
Bringing hope to you and me.  
From the past will come the future;  
What it holds, a mystery,  
Unrevealed until its season,  
Something God alone can see.

## **Gospel Reading: John 12:20-33**

*Jesus entered Jerusalem for the last time to celebrate the Passover festival. Here Jesus' words about seeds planted in the ground invite us into hope.*

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 from St. Anslem Anglican Church*

Presider:           The Gospel of Christ.

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

## **Gospel Hymn:**

In our end is our beginning;  
In our time, infinity;  
In our doubt there is believing;  
In our life, eternity.  
In our death, a resurrection;  
At the last, a victory,  
Unrevealed until its season,  
Something God alone can see.



*Photo by Melanie Hackett*

## Homily – Rev Sharon Smith

### Affirmation of Faith

Presider: Moses said,

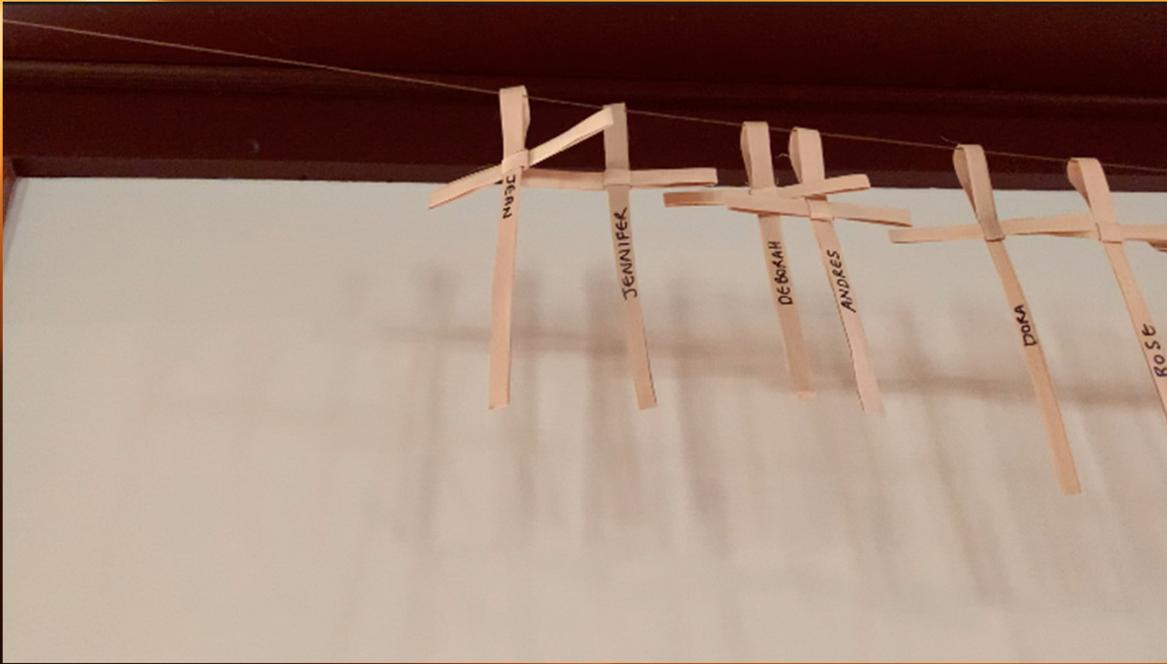
**All: Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one.**

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: Take this Moment

Take this moment, sign and space;  
Take my friends around;  
Here among us make the place  
Where your love is found.

Take the time to call my name,  
Take the time to mend  
Who I am and what I've been,  
All I've failed to tend.

Take the tiredness of my days,  
Take my past regret,  
Letting your forgiveness touch  
All I can't forget

Take the little child in me  
Scared of growing old;  
Help me here to find my worth  
Made in God's own mould.

Take my talents, take my skills,  
Take what's yet to be;  
Let my life be yours, and yet  
Let it still be me.

# **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 Melanie Hackett*

# Announcements

## *Holy Week*

- *Palm Sunday*
- *Mon – Wed of Holy Week*
- *Maundy Thursday*
- *Good Friday*
- *Easter Sunday*



## 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)*



*Artist: Adham Badawy*

## Closing Hymn: He comes to Us one Unknown

He comes to us as one unknown,  
a breath unseen, unheard;  
as though within a heart of stone,  
or shriveled seed in darkness sown,  
a pulse of being stirred,  
a pulse of being stirred

He comes when souls in silence lie  
and thoughts of day depart;  
half-seen upon the inward eye,  
a falling star across the sky  
of night within the heart,  
of night within the heart.

He comes to us in sound of seas,  
the ocean's fume and foam;  
yet small and still upon the breeze,  
a wind that stirs the tops of trees,  
a voice to call us home,  
a voice to call us home.

He comes in love as once he came  
by flesh and blood and birth;  
to bear within our mortal frame  
a life, a death, a saving Name,  
for every child of earth,  
for every child of earth.

He comes in truth when faith is grown;  
believed, obeyed, adored:  
the Christ in all the Scriptures shown,  
as yet unseen, but not unknown,  
our Saviour and our Lord,  
our Saviour and our Lord.

\*All songs not in the hymnal are licensed with:  
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# Dismissal

Presider: Go forth with a patient heart open to letting go.

All: **Thanks be to God.**



*Art from El Salvador Facebook page*

# *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

For assistance:

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

