

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST ANGLICAN CHURCH

Smiths Falls, Ontario | Anglican Diocese of Ottawa

Second Sunday in Lent ~ February 28, 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.

A PENITENTIAL ORDER

Adapted from the Gathering Rites for the Paschal Cycle, approved for use by General Synod 2019, in which the recollection of all the questions from our baptismal covenant with congregational response acts as a form of confession. See www.anglican.ca

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 Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People His mercy endures forever.

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.

Confession & Absolution

Celebrant Dear Friends in Christ, as we prepare for the Paschal Feast, let us make ready our hearts to renew the covenant of our baptism. Let us kneel before our Creator and Redeemer.

Pause and silence is kept

Let us ask God to bring to light the things now hidden in darkness, and to disclose to us the secret purposes of our hearts.

How faithfully have we continued in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers? (silence)

Lord, have mercy, **and complete your work in us.**

How faithfully have we persevered in resisting evil, and whenever we fell into sin, repented and returned to the Lord? (silence)

Lord, have mercy, **and complete your work in us.**

How faithfully have we proclaimed by word and example the good news of God in Christ? (silence)

Lord, have mercy, **and complete your work in us.**

How faithfully have we sought and served Christ in all persons, loving our neighbours as ourselves? (silence)
Lord, have mercy, **and complete your work in us.**

How faithfully have we striven for justice and peace among all people, respecting the dignity of every human being? (silence)
Lord, have mercy, **and complete your work in us.**

How faithfully have we striven to safeguard the integrity of God's creation, respecting, sustaining and renewing the life of the earth? (silence) Lord, have mercy, **and complete your work in us.**

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. **Amen.**

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross, give us faith to perceive his glory, that being strengthened by his grace we may be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

Reader The Word of the Lord
All Thanks be to God.

Psalm 22:22-30

Praise the Lord, you that fear him; * stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel; all you of Jacob's line, give glory.

For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither does he hide his face from them; * but when they cry to him he hears them.

My praise is of him in the great assembly; * I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: * "May your heart live for ever!"

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, * and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

For kingship belongs to the Lord; * he rules over the nations. To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust fall before him.

My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; * they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.

They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn * the saving deeds that he has done.

Holy Gospel

Mark 8:31-38

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.

Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

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 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, for Shane our bishop and all clergy and lay people, we pray to you, Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

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. **Lord, have mercy.**

For those preparing for baptism in these pandemic days and for their teachers and sponsors, we pray to you, Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For peace in the world, that a spirit of respect and reconciliation may grow among nations and peoples, and for peace in Jerusalem, we pray to you, Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor, the persecuted, the homeless, the sick, the anxious and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Celebrant Blessed are you, O Lord our God, the shepherd of Israel, their pillar of cloud by day, their pillar of fire by night. In these forty days you lead us into the desert of repentance that in this pilgrimage of prayer we might learn to be your people once more. In fasting and service you bring us back to your heart. You open our eyes to your presence in the world and you free our hands to lead others to the radiant splendour of your mercy. Be with us in these journey days

for without you we are lost and will perish. To you alone be dominion and glory, for ever and ever. **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 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 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. **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 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 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 Be transformed by the mercy of God's grace, and the blessing of God the Father, God the Son and God 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.**