A morning service during the Covid-19 restrictions 4th Sunday after Epiphany – January 30, 2022

Prelude: "Not For Tongues of Heaven's Angels". Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith (1926-). © 1985 Hope Publishing Co. Music: Michael Joncas (1951-). ©1988 G.I.A.Publications Inc. Reprint/Podcast/Streamed with permission under One License #606702-A.

The officiant says to the people,

Dear friends in Christ, as we prepare to worship almighty God, let us with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

The officiant and people say together,

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

The priest says,

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.

The Lord is in his holy temple: O come, let us worship.

Come Down, O Love Divine

Come down, O Love divine, seek thou this soul of mine and visit it with thine own ardour glowing; O Comforter, draw near, within my heart appear, and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn, till earthly passions turn to dust and ashes in its heat consumming; and let thy glorious light shine ever on my sight, and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

Let holy charity mine outward vesture be, and lowliness become mine inner clothing; true lowliness of heart, which takes the humbler part, and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

And so the yearning strong, with which the soul will long, shall far outpass the power of human telling; for none can guess its grace, till they become the place wherein the Holy Spirit finds a dwelling.

Text: Bianco de Sienna (circa 1400) translated by Richard Frederick Littledale (1833-1890), alt. Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). © Oxford University Press. Reprint/Podcast/Streamed with permission granted under One License #606702-A

First Reading: Jeremiah 1:4-10

Psalm 71:1-6

1 In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; *

let me never be ashamed.

2 In your righteousness, deliver me and set me free; *

incline your ear to me and save me.

3 Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe; *

you are my crag and my stronghold.

4 Deliver me, my God, from the hand of the wicked, *

from the clutches of the evildoer and the oppressor.

5 For you are my hope, O Lord God, *

my confidence since I was young.

6 I have been sustained by you ever since I was born; from my mother's womb you have been my strength; *

my praise shall be always of you.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Gospel: Luke 4:21-30 A reflection on the readings (written by the Ven. Glen Miller)

Hear, O Israel

Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one.

Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul,

and move the hills by faith alone if I lack love, I'm nothing.

with all your mind, and with all your strength.

This is the first and the great commandment.

The second is like it:

Love your neighbour as yourself.

There is no commandment greater than these.

Should I Rehearse with Human Voice

Should I rehearse with human voice the words which angels make their choice, devoid of love, my song resounds magnificent but empty.

And should I preach with earnest tone and know whatever can be known

In love is patience always found, for love kind hearts make common ground; from love, conceit and pride take flight and jealousy is banished.

Love keeps no score of what's gone wrong nor sings a pessimistic song nor lets regret or guilt prolong, for love expects tomorrow.

Let strange and startling language cease, let tongues their ecstasy release, let knowledge come and go in peace - these things are not eternal; for all the thought and skill we show are but a stage through which we grow till, face to face with God, we'll know that love which lasts forever.

Text: paraphrase of 1Cor13 by John L. Bell (1949-). Music: Melody Scottish traditional; arr. John L. Bell. Para. and arr. © 1988 WGRG The Iona Community (Scotland) G.I.A. Publications the exclusive agent. Reprint/Podcast/Streamed with permission under One License #606702-A.

The Prayer of the People (see litany below and...)

Parish Prayer cycle: Greg & Audrey Puro (Cameron, Elaine), Daryl & Karen Park.

Our prayers have been requested for: Wendy Thelma, Vivian&Junior, Spruce, Steve, Greg & Sherry. We continue to pray for the front line workers who serve in the midst of this pandemic and our Archbishop, Anne Germond. Parish of West Thunder Bay: St. James', Murillo, St. Mark's, Rosslyn, The Rev. Jonathan Blanchard, The Rev. Canon Paul Carr (Hon.), The Rev. Nancy Ringham (Hon.)

(Let us offer our prayers to the source of all love and all life, saying, "Lord, hear our prayer.")

Merciful Lord, we pray for all who call themselves Christians: that we may become a royal priesthood, a holy nation, to the praise of Christ Jesus our Saviour.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for N our bishop, and for all bishops and other ministers: that they may remain faithful to their calling and rightly proclaim the word of truth.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for Elizabeth our Queen, for the leaders of the nations, and all in authority: that your people may lead quiet and peaceable lives.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for *this city* and those who live here, the poor and the rich, the elderly and the young, men and women: that you will show your goodwill to all.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for the victims of our society and those who minister to them: that you will be their help and defence.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for those preparing for baptism, (for those recently baptized): that they may be strengthened in the faith.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We give thanks for all the saints who have found favour in your sight from earliest times, prophets, apostles, martyrs, and those whose names are known to you alone: and we pray that we too may be counted among your faithful witnesses.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Collect of the day.

Living God,in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Lord's prayer

Lord, You Give The Great Commission Lord, you give the great commission: "Heal the sick and preach the word." Lest the Church neglect its mission and the gospel go unheard, help us witness to your purpose with renewed integrity; with the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.

Lord, you call us to your service: "In my name baptize and teach." That the world may trust your promise, life abundant meant for each, give us all new fervour, draw us closer in community; with the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.

Lord, you make the common holy: "This my body, this my blood." Let your priest, for earth's true glory, daily lift life heavenward, asking that the world around us share your children's liberty; with the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.

Lord, you show us love's true measure; "Father, what they do, forgive." Yet we hoard as private treasure all that you so freely give. May your care and mercy lead us to a just society; with the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.

Lord, you bless with words assuring, "I am with you to the end." Faith and hope and love restoring may we serve as you intend, and, amid the cares that claim us, hold in mind eternity; with the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.

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Final Blessing & Dismissal

Officiant Let us bless the Lord. People Thanks be to God!

Postlude: "Come and Journey With a Saviour". Text Herbert O'Driscoll (1928-) Music: Melody The Sacred Harp 1844 attrib. To Benjamin Franklin White (1800-1879) Harmony. Ronald A. Nelson (1927-) @1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Reprint/Podcast/Streamed permission from One License #606702-A. The text above is taken from the Book of Alternative Service published by the Anglican Church of Canada and used with permission. The words of the Hymns are all in public domain unless otherwise noted.