CHRIST CHURCH ANGLICAN
MEAFORD

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519-538-1330 | office@christchurchanglican.ca | christchurchanglican.ca

Ash Wednesday

March 5, 2025 – Holy Eucharist -- 10:30AM

Presider: The Rev. Brendon Bedford, Rector
Lay Reader: Francis Richardson
Organist: Charlie Strimas

Reader/Greeter: Garry Minielly
Server: Sarah Howard

Our Land Acknowledgement

We at Christ Church are gathered together on the territory of the Saugeen Ojibway Nation and commit ourselves to the hard work of reconciliation.

Our Mission Statement

Christ Church is committed to live in a generous and loving spirit in all its relationships.

Our Contacts

The Rev. Brendon Bedford	Priest & Rector	226-974-5060	brendonbedford@diohuron.org
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Christ Church office hours are Tues, Wed., Thurs., 9:00am to 2:00pm
Ph: 519-538-1330; office@christchurchanglican.ca;
www.christchurchanglican.ca

Please stand, as you are able.

Opening Sentence

Altar party processes during the prelude

Prelude

Gathering of the Community

Presider: The Lord be with you.
People: and also with you.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Please be seated.

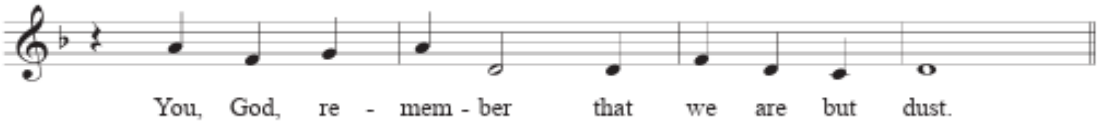
The Proclamation of the Word

THE FIRST READING

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Reader: A reading from the book of Joel
At the end of the reading,
Reader: The word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 103:8-18



(1) O God, you are full of compassion and mercy,
(2) slow to anger and of great kindness.
(3) You will not always accuse us,
(4) nor will you keep your anger for ever**.** **R.**

(1) You have not dealt with us according to our sins,
(2) nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.
(3) For as the heavens are high above the earth,
(4) so is your mercy great upon those who fear you. **R**

(1) As far as the east is from the west,
(2) so far have you removed our sins from us.
(3) As parents care for their children,
(4) so do you care for those who love you**.** **R.**

(1) For you yourself know whereof we are made;
(2) you remember that we are but dust.
(1) Our days are like the grass;
(2) we flourish like a flower of the field;
(3) When the wind goes over it, it is gone,
(4) and its place shall know it no more. **R.**

(1) But your merciful goodness endures for ever on those who fear you,
(2) and your righteousness on children's children;
(3) On those who keep your covenant
(4) and remember your commandments and do them. **R.**

THE SECOND READING

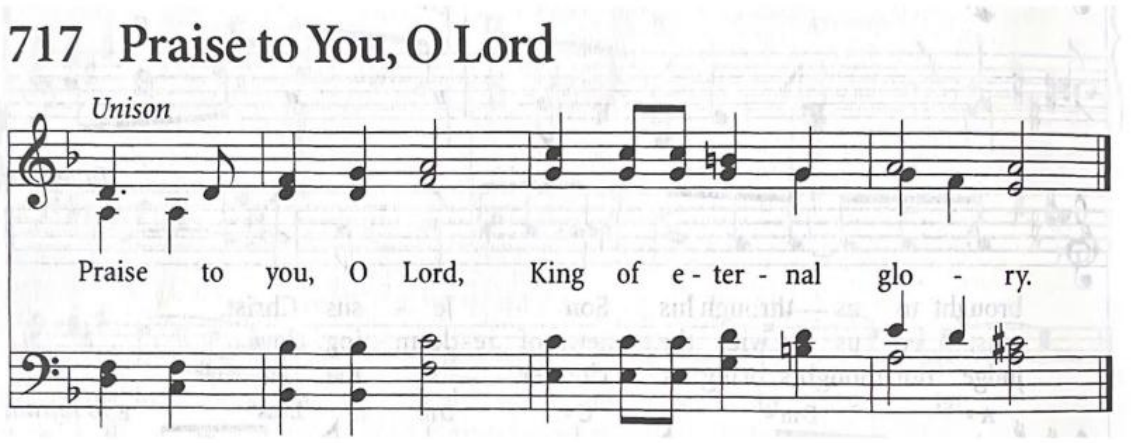
2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

Reader: A Reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

At the end of the reading
Reader: The word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand, as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

#717 *is played once and repeated by congregation two or three times.*

Please turn to face the Gospel reader.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Gospeller: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew
People: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

At the end of the Gospel reading:
Gospeller: The Gospel of Christ.
People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION, *as before the Gospel, repeated by congregation two or three times.*

HOMILY

The Rev. Brendon Bedford
Rector

Please stand as you are able.

THE EXHORTATION

Presider: Dear friends in Christ, every year at the time of the Christian Passover we celebrate our redemption through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Lent is a time to prepare for this celebration and to renew our life in the paschal mystery. We begin this holy season by remembering our need for repentance, and for the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

We begin our journey to Easter with the sign of ashes, an ancient sign, speaking of the frailty and uncertainty of human life, and marking the penitence of the community as a whole.

I invite you therefore, in the name of the Lord, to observe a holy Lent by self-examination, penitence, prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, and by reading and meditating on the word of God.

Let us kneel, as we are able, before our Creator and Redeemer.

Please kneel, as you are able.

A period of silence is kept for reflection.

PSALM 51 – Miserere Mei, Deus

Sung antiphonally by two cantors

1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; * in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

2 Wash me through and through from my wickedness * and cleanse me from my sin.

3 For I know my transgressions, * and my sin is ever before me.

4 Against you only have I sinned * and done what is evil in your sight.

5 And so you are justified when you speak * and upright in your judgement.

6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, * a sinner from my mother's womb.

7 For behold, you look for truth deep within me, * and will make me understand wisdom secretly.

8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; * wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.

9 Make me hear of joy and gladness, * that the body you have broken may rejoice.

10 Hide your face from my sins * and blot out all my iniquities.

11 Create in me a clean heart, O God, * and renew a right spirit within me.

12 Cast me not away from your presence * and take not your holy Spirit from me.

13 Give me the joy of your saving help again * and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

14 I shall teach your ways to the wicked, * and sinners shall return to you.

15 Deliver me from death, O God, * and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness, O God of my salvation.

16 Open my lips, O Lord, * and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

17 Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice, * but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.

18 The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; * a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

19 Be favourable and gracious to Zion, * and rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.

20 Then you will be pleased with the appointed sacrifices, with burnt-offerings and oblations; * then shall they offer young bullocks upon your altar.

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

LITANY OF PENITENCE

Presider: Most holy and merciful Father,

All: **we confess to you, to one another, and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed; by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

Presider: We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.

All: **Have mercy on us, Lord.**

Presider: We have been deaf to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

All: **Have mercy on us, Lord.**

Presider: We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives,

All: **We confess to you, Lord.**

Presider: Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people,

All: We confess to you, Lord.

Presider: Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

All: We confess to you, Lord.

Presider: Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

All: We confess to you, Lord.

Presider: Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

All: We confess to you, Lord.

Presider: Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrongs we have done: for our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

All: Accept our repentance, Lord.

Presider: For all false judgements, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbours, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,

All: Accept our repentance, Lord.

Presider: For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us,

All: Accept our repentance, Lord.

Presider: Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us;

All: Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great.

PRAYER OVER THE ASHES

THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

All come forward to receive the imposition of ashes.

CONCLUSION OF THE CONFESSION

All kneeling, as you are able.

Presider: Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,
People: That we may show forth your glory in the world.

Presider: By the cross and passion of your Son, our Lord,
People: Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

THE ABSOLUTION

Presider: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.
People: Amen.

Please stand, as you are able.

THE PEACE

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People: And also with you.

Members of the congregation greet one another with a sign of peace.
Remain standing, if you are able.

OFFERTORY HYMN Take Up Your Cross, the Saviour Said #431

THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Eucharistic Prayer 3 – BAS page 198

Presider: 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.

Presider:(BAS, p220) Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth, because you bid your faithful …….
……
Therefore we raise our voices to you in praise to proclaim the glory of your name.

THE SANCTUS (HOLY)

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord - **#735** (blue hymn book)

All: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Presider: (BAS, p198) We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation;
…….
Therefore, Father, according to his command,

All: **we remember his death**
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;
……
……
By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

People: **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Presider: And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD (FRACTION RITE)

THE LAMB OF GOD (AGNUS DEI)

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world. Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world. Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world. Grant us peace.

THE COMMUNION

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Please be seated.

All baptized Christians, regardless of denomination, are welcome to receive communion at God's altar.

If you are not baptized, you are very welcome to come forward to the communion rail for a blessing, indicating so by crossing your arms over your chest.

If you are interested in exploring baptism, please speak to the priest after the service.

Gluten free hosts (wafers) are available at the altar rail upon request.

COMMUNION HYMN Lord Jesus, Think on Me #511

Please stand, as you are able.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

THE DOXOLOGY (said)

All: **Glory to God, 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.**

THE FINAL BLESSING

THE DISMISSAL

Presider: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Please be seated.

THE POSTLUDE

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All rights reserved.; Psalm from George Black Psalter, Year C; Lamb of God David Clark Isele.
Psalm 51, Miserere Mei, Deus, from Sing a New Creation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lenten Study Group on Prayer. Join us to learn about different kinds of prayer, and how to practice prayer in your life. This study group is Christian-based and open to anyone who wants to attend. **Wednesdays at 1:30PM, beginning Wed. March 12** at Christ Church **– *come a bit earlier to enjoy a light lunch at 1:00PM*.**

Don't forget to turn your clocks ahead on Saturday night, March 8th.

For Pastoral Care – **From March 10 – 15, please call the Rev. Canon Kevin Bothwell at 905-933-1032 or kevinbothwell@diohuron.org.**
From March 16 on, please contact the Rev. Brendon Bedford at 226-974-5060 or brendonbedford@diohuron.org -- re other concerns, please contact office@christchurchanglican.ca.