

Welcome!
to
***St. John the Evangelist
Anglican Church***

Liturgy for the Season of Lent



Sunday, March 1, 2026 – 11:00 am
Second Sunday in Lent – Holy Eucharist

Prelude

Welcome to Worship at St. John's

*May you sense God's presence and pleasure
as you worship with us today!*

The Gathering of the Community

Gathering Hymn *The God of Abraham Praise*
As you are able, please stand.

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The Greeting

Priest Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you.

All **And also with you.**

In this time and place, we gather on the ancestral and
unceded lands of the Neutral, the Mississauga and
Haudenosaunee peoples.

All **From many places and peoples we come to this
house of prayer.**

Prayer of Preparation

All **Almighty 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.**

Kyrie

(Tune: Dvorak)

Kyrie, Kyrie, eleison (2x)

Christe, Christe, eleison (2x)

Kyrie, Kyrie, eleison (2X)

The Collect of the Day

Priest Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

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.

All **Amen.**

Please be seated for the readings.

The Liturgy of the Word

The Readings

Genesis 12:1-4a

¹Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ²I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

⁴So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm 121

*The leader will read to the diamond ♦,
the people will respond with the words that follow.*

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; ♦
from where is my help to come?
- 2 My help comes from the Lord, ♦
the maker of heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not let your foot be moved; ♦
he who watches over you will not sleep.
- 4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel ♦
shall neither slumber nor sleep.
- 5 The Lord himself watches over you; ♦
the Lord is your shade at your right hand,
- 6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, ♦
nor the moon by night.
- 7 The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; ♦
it is he who shall keep your soul.
- 8 The Lord shall watch over your going out
and your coming in, ♦
from this time forth for evermore.

**All Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now**

And shall be forever. Amen

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

¹What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? ²For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." ⁴Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. ⁵But to one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

¹³For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression.

¹⁶For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations"), in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

*As you are able, please stand and remain standing
for the reading of the Gospel.*

Gradual Hymn

To Abraham and Sarah

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The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Matthew.

All **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

John 3:1-17

¹Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person." ³Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." ⁴Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" ⁵Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' ⁸The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." ⁹Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

¹¹"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent

in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶ “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.

¹⁷ “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.”

The Gospel of Christ.

All **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon **Rev. Allison Courey**

After the Sermon, silence is kept for reflection.

Swahili Hymn *Sioni haya kwa Bwana*
(I Am Not Ashamed of the Lord)

1. Sioni haya kwa Bwana
Kwake nitang'ara!
Mti wake sitakana,
Ni neno imara!

Msalaba ndio asili ya mema,
Nikatua mzigo hapo;
Nina uzima, furaha daima,
Njoni kafurahini papo.

2. Kama kiti chake vivyo
Ni yake ahadi,
Alivyowekewa navyo
Kamwe havirudi.

3. *Bwana wangu, tena Mungu
Ndilo lake jina!
Hataacha roho yangu
Wala kunikana.*

4. *Atakiri langu jina,
Mbele za Babaye,
Anipe pahali tena
Mbinguni nikae.*

The Apostles' Creed

As you are able, please stand for the Creed.

Let us confess the faith of our baptism together,
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,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.

*Please remain standing, be seated, or kneel
for the Prayers, as you prefer.*

The Prayers of the People

With confidence and trust let us pray to the Holy One.

In our Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for The Anglican Episcopal Church in Japan; For all the Bishops and leaders of our Church. In the Diocese of Niagara, we pray for St. George, Lowville, the clergy, and the people of that parish. For Rev. Allison, and all the clergy and people who share in the ministry of this place. In our parish cycle of prayer, we pray for the following people and their families ...

For the one holy catholic and apostolic Church,
let us pray to the Holy One.

God of compassion,

All in your mercy hear us.

For the mission of the Church,
that in faithful witness it may preach the gospel
to the ends of the earth, in our community giving thanks for
those who volunteer and offer leadership to the CNIB,

let us pray to the Holy One.

God of compassion,

All in your mercy hear us.

For those preparing for baptism,
and for their teachers and sponsors,

let us pray to the Holy One.

God of compassion,

All in your mercy hear us.

For peace in the world, remembering the people of Ukraine, Gaza and the West Bank, East Africa, Kashechewan, Tumbler Ridge BC, Iran, Mexico, and all others caught in conflict, violence, and disaster. We pray for the people of Cuba now facing shortages of energy impacting all aspects of their lives. That a spirit of respect and reconciliation may grow among nations and peoples,

let us pray to the Holy One.

God of compassion,

All in your mercy hear us.

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer, remembering those who are close to us, and those who are ill: those on our parish prayer list as well as those on the parish prayer list at Holy Trinity Chippawa. Especially in these winter months, we remember our neighbours in need of shelter, warmth and food. For all in need experience of God's comfort and strength this day,

let us pray to the Holy One.

God of compassion,

All in your mercy hear us.

For refugees, prisoners, and all in danger; that they may be relieved and protected,

let us pray to the Holy One.

God of compassion,

All in your mercy hear us.

For those whom we have injured or offended,

let us pray to the Holy One.

God of compassion,

All in your mercy hear us.

For grace to amend our lives and to further the reign of
God,

let us pray to the Holy One.

God of compassion,

All in your mercy hear us.

In communion with all those who have walked in the way of
holiness ...

let us pray to the Holy One.

God of compassion,

All in your mercy hear us.

Loving God,

in your goodness

you have taught us to come close to you in penitence

with prayer, fasting and generosity;

accept our Lenten discipline,

and when we fall by our weakness,

raise us up by your unfailing mercy;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Prayers of Penitence

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and
was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, where for forty
days he was tempted. Let us confess our sins
remembering before God the times when we have fallen
from temptation into sin.

Silence is kept.

Wash away all my iniquity

and cleanse me from my sin:

Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

Against you, you only have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight:
Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

Create in me a pure heart, O God,
and renew a steadfast spirit within me:
Lord, have mercy.

cf Psalm 51

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Priest May almighty God have mercy on you,
forgive you your sins,
and bring you to everlasting life.

All **Amen.**

As you are able, please stand.

The Peace

Priest Since we are justified by faith,
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has given us access to his grace.

Romans 5:1,2

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*Please greet one another with a sign of peace
in the name of the Lord.*

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Preparation of the Gifts

Offertory Hymn *He Comes to Us as One Unknown* **456**
As you are able, please stand.

The Prayer over the Gifts

God of wisdom,
may the light of the eternal Word,
our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
guide us to your glory.
We ask this in his name.

All **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and good...
...for ever praising you and saying:

All ***Holy, holy, holy Lord,*** **Hymn 722**
Lord God of power and might,
heav'n and earth are full, full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna,
hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes,
who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna,
hosanna in the highest.

Please be seated or kneel, as you prefer.

We give thanks to you, Lord our God,...

The celebrant continues.

...Therefore, Father, according to his command,

**All we remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;**

Hymn 724

The celebrant continues.

...by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, almighty God,
now and for ever.

All Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Let's pray together now as Jesus taught us:

Our Fa-ther in heav-en, hal-low-ed be your
name, your king-dom come, your will be done on
earth as in heav-en. Give us to-day our
dai-ly bread. For-give us our sins as we for-give
those who sin a-gainst us. Save us from the
time of trial and de-liv-er us from e-vil, for the
king-dom, the pow'r and the glo-ry are yours,
now and for ev-er.

David Haas ©1986

Silence is kept.

The Breaking of the Bread

This is the Body of Christ:
Behold what you are,
become what you receive.

All Amen.

Agnus Dei

**All 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

The celebrant invites the people to share in communion.

This is the table, not merely of the church, but of Christ.
It is made ready for those who love him,
and for those who want to love him more.

So come, whether you have much faith or little;
have tried to follow, or are afraid you've failed.

Come, because it is His will
that those who want to meet him might meet him here.

These are the gifts of God for you, the people of God.

All Thanks be to God.

Please come forward now to be served Communion.

If you wish to receive communion, please put out your hands.

*If you prefer not to receive communion but would like to receive a
blessing, please cross and place your hands over your chest.*

Please note that gluten-free wafers are available. Simply indicate that when you open your hands to receive the host.

The common cup will be offered but you are free to decline drinking from it. Those unable to come forward will be served in their pew.

Communion Hymn *Jesus, Lover of My Soul* **533**

Prayer after Communion *Please stand as you are able.*

Creator of heaven and earth,
we thank you for these holy mysteries,
which bring us now a share in the life to come,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

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.**

The Dismissal

The Blessing

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,
to deny yourselves, take up your cross,
and follow him;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Please be seated for the Announcements

Announcements

Sending Hymn

To God be the Glory
Please stand as you are able.

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The Dismissal

Go in the peace of Christ.
All Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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and,

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Introduction to the Season of Lent

Lent may originally have followed Epiphany, just as Jesus' sojourn in the wilderness followed immediately on his baptism, but it soon became firmly attached to Easter, as the principal occasion for baptism and for the reconciliation of those who had been excluded from the Church's fellowship for apostasy or serious faults. This history explains the characteristic notes of Lent – self-examination, penitence, self-denial, study, and preparation for Easter, to which almsgiving has traditionally been added.

*Now is the healing time decreed
for sins of heart and word and deed,*

*when we in humble fear record
the wrong that we have done the Lord.*

(Latin, before 12th century)

As the candidates for baptism were instructed in Christian faith, and as penitents prepared themselves, through fasting and penance, to be readmitted to communion, the whole Christian community was invited to join them in the process of study and repentance, the extension of which over forty days would remind them of the forty days that Jesus spent in the wilderness, being tested by Satan.

Ashes are an ancient sign of penitence; from the Middle Ages it became the custom to begin Lent by being marked in ash with the sign of the cross. The calculation of the forty days has varied considerably in Christian history. It is now usual in the West to count them continuously to the end of Holy Week (not including Sundays), so beginning Lent on the sixth Wednesday before Easter, Ash Wednesday. Liturgical dress is the simplest possible. Churches are kept bare of flowers and decoration. "Gloria in excelsis" is not used. The Fourth Sunday of Lent (Laetareor, Refreshment Sunday) was allowed as a day of relief from the rigour of Lent, and the Feast of the Annunciation almost always falls in Lent, providing another break from austerity.

As Holy Week approaches, the atmosphere of the season darkens; the readings begin to anticipate the story of Christ's suffering and death, and the reading of the Passion Narrative gave to the Fifth Sunday its name of Passion Sunday. There are many devotional exercises which may be used in Lent and Holy Week outside the set liturgy. The Stations of the Cross, made popular in the West by the Franciscans after they were granted custody of the Christian sites in the Holy Land, are the best known.

*Common Worship: Times and Seasons,
© The Archbishops' Council 2006, p. 211.*

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