

**A Service of Morning Prayer
for February 21, 2021
First Sunday in Lent**



We shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.
Matthew 4.4

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *1 John 1.8, 9*

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.
Silence is kept.

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.

People **Amen.**

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy: O come, let us worship.

Psalm 25:1-10 Response: The paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness to those
who keep his covenant.

25:1 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

25:2 O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies
exult over me.

25:3 Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who
are wantonly treacherous.

25:4 Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths.

25:5 Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for
you I wait all day long.

25:6 Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love, for they have
been from of old.

25:7 Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your
steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O LORD!

25:8 Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

25:9 He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way.

25:10 All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who
keep his covenant and his decrees.

A Reading from Genesis 9:8-17

9:8 Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him,

9:9 "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after
you,

9:10 and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals,
and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark.

9:11 I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by
the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth."

9:12 God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you
and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations:

9:13 I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between
me and the earth.

9:14 When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds,

9:15 I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.

9:16 When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth."

9:17 God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CP 8 Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun

1 Awake, my soul, and with the sun
thy daily stage of duty run;
shake off dull sloth, and joyful rise
to pay thy morning sacrifice.

3 Let all thy converse be sincere,
thy conscience as the noonday clear;
think how all-seeing God thy ways
and all thy secret thoughts surveys.

2 Redeem thy misspent time that's
past,
and live this day as if thy last;
improve thy talent with due care;
for the great day thyself prepare.

4 Wake, and lift up thyself, my heart,
and with the angels bear thy part,
who all night long unwearied sing
glory to the eternal King.

1 Peter 3:18-22

3:18 For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit,

3:19 in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison

3:20 who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water.

3:21 And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you--not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

3:22 who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CCLI 7149439 Promises

1. God of Abraham You're the God of
covenant
Of faithful promises
Time and time again You have proven
You do just what You say

Pre-Chorus

Though the storms may come
And the winds may blow
I'll remain steadfast
And let my heart learn when You speak a
word
It will come to pass

Chorus

Great is Your faithfulness to me
Great is Your faithfulness to me
From the rising sun to the setting same
I will praise Your name
Great is Your faithfulness to me

2. God from age to age
Though the earth may pass away
Your word remains the same yeah
Your history can prove
There's nothing You can't do
You're faithful and true

Pre-Chorus

Though the storms may come
And the winds may blow
I'll remain steadfast
And let my heart learn when You speak a
word
It will come to pass

Chorus

Great is Your faithfulness to me
Great is Your faithfulness to me
From the rising sun to the setting same
I will praise Your name
Great is Your faithfulness to me

Bridge

I put my faith in Jesus
My anchor to the ground
My hope and firm foundation
He'll never let me down

Chorus

Great is Your faithfulness to me
Great is Your faithfulness to me
From the rising sun to the setting same
I will praise Your name
Great is Your faithfulness to me

The Gospel

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Mark 1:9-15

1:9 In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.

1:10 And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him.

1:11 And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

1:12 And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness.

1:13 He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

1:14 Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God,

1:15 and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

CP 165 Mark How the Lamb of God's Self Offering

1 Mark how the Lamb of God's self-offering
our human sinfulness takes on
in the birth-waters of the Jordan
as Jesus is baptized by John.
Hear how the voice from heaven thunders,
"Lo, this is my beloved Son."
See how in dovelike form the Spirit
descends on God's Anointed One.

2. From this assurance of God's favour
Jesus goes to the wilderness,
there to endure a time of testing
preparing him to teach and bless.
So we, by water and the Spirit
baptized into Christ's ministry,
are often led to paths of service
through mazes of adversity.

3. Grant us, O God, the strength and courage
to live the faith our lips declare;
bless us in our baptismal calling;
Christ's royal priesthood help us share.
Turn us from every false allegiance,
that we may trust in Christ alone:
raise up in us a chosen people
transformed by love to be your own.

Sermon by the Rev. Alison Westervelt

CP 7047281 Over and Over Again

Chorus

Over and over again
You prove Your love to me
You promise Your mighty right hand
Will be holding onto me

Over and over again
Your strength You give to me
And upon the rock I will stand
As You're holding onto me

Verse

Through the storm through the flood
I am covered
By the blood of the Son of the King
By the waters through the flame
You will lead me
And You take me out of shame into glory

Chorus

Over and over again
You prove Your love to me
You promise Your mighty right hand
Will be holding onto me

Over and over again
Your strength You give to me
And upon the rock I will stand
As You're holding onto me

Bridge

Oh how great this love
He has lavished on us
And oh how great this life
He has purchased for us

Chorus

Over and over again
You prove Your love to me
You promise Your mighty right hand
Will be holding onto me
Over and over again
Your strength You give to me
And upon the rock I will stand
As You're holding onto me

Affirmation of Faith (The Apostles' Creed)

**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.**

Prayers of the People compiled by the Lesley Lambert

In our prayers today, we pray for peace in our world, for dialogue amongst nations, for those who have affluence to share with those who have little, for kindness and reconciliation amongst all peoples. We pray our leaders in Canada, and for the new administration in the USA as they seek to rebuild relationships with friends and neighbours.

Lord, hear our prayer.

In these lengthy days of the pandemic, we thank you for bringing us safely thus far. We commend to your care those who have died, those who are in hospital and those who care for them so diligently in the home and the hospital. We also pray for those who have been unable to be with their loved ones at times when they were needed the most and most craved comfort and physical presence. Be present for them and bring them your comfort and peace.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for those who are alone, who feel more isolated than ever during these strange times, for those who are homeless, hungry, cold or feel isolated and marginalized in any way. Protect and bless those who give them care and friendship. Let them feel your loving presence at the most difficult times. Let us pray today for those known to us alone and those for whom our prayers have been requested: Sandra, Merle, Mona, Nicole, Lois, Ray, Evelyn, Irene and Sandy, Jaclyn, Jim and Par, Kathryn, Joan, Trevor

and Kristine and George and Carla.

We ask for the peaceful repose of the souls of Jeanette Ellis and Lynda Mandel and your comfort to those who mourn them.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We look forward with joyful hope to the time we can gather again together in your name. We ask your blessing upon our parish family and our ministry. We pray for the Church of the Province of Central Africa; the Diocese of Niagara and its bishop, Rt. Rev. Susan Bell.

We remember in prayer St. Matthew's, St. Albert, Rev. Lee Bezanson, rector. We ask your loving care to our Bishop, Jane, as she prepares for retirement after many years of devoted service.

We pray for the Buye Diocese Bible School, Daniel Bizimana, director and Alfred Uwimanihayе, teacher. We also pray for the Cold Lake First Nations.

Lord, as we pray for your church, give us the patience to know that we will meet again and that You are as present with us now as You have ever been. Let us feel the joy of your love as we rise in the morning and the peace of your love as we go to sleep at night. All our prayers we bring to you humbly and earnestly and through your most beloved son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Collect

**Almighty God,
whose Son fasted forty days in the wilderness,
and was tempted as we are but did not sin,
give us grace to discipline ourselves
in submission to your Spirit,
that as you know our weakness,
so we may know your power to save;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.**

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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.**

CP 172 Now Let Us All With One Accord

1 Now let us all with one accord,
In company with ages past,
Keep vigil with our heavenly Lord
In His temptation and his fast.

3 Your love, O Lord, our sinful race
Has not returned, but falsified.
Author of mercy, turn your face
And grant repentance for our pride.

2 The covenant, so long revealed
To those of faith in former time,
Christ by his own example sealed,
The Lord of love, in love sublime.

4 Remember, Lord, though frail we be,
In your own image were we made;
Help us, lest in anxiety,
We cause your name to be betrayed.

5 Therefore, we pray you, Lord, forgive;
So when our wanderings here shall cease,
We may with you forever live
In love and unity and peace.

The Dismissal

We shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God. *Matthew 4.4*

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

May the God of peace enable us to do His will in every kind of goodness working in us what pleases Him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for ever and ever, Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.