

**A Service of Morning Prayer  
for March 14, 2021  
Fourth Sunday in Lent**



God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. *John 3:16*

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 107:1-3, 17-22

107:1 O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever.

107:2 Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, those he redeemed from trouble

107:3 and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north  
and from the south.

107:17 Some were sick through their sinful ways, and because of their iniquities  
endured affliction;

107:18 they loathed any kind of food, and they drew near to the gates of death.

107:19 Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he saved them from their  
distress;

107:20 he sent out his word and healed them, and delivered them from destruction.

107:21 Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to  
humankind.

107:22 And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices, and tell of his deeds with songs of joy.

### A Reading from Numbers 21:4-9

21:4 From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of  
Edom; but the people became impatient on the way.

21:5 The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up  
out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest  
this miserable food."

21:6 Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the  
people, so that many Israelites died.

21:7 The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the  
LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So  
Moses prayed for the people.

21:8 And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole;  
and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live."

21:9 So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a  
serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **CP 173 Creator of the Earth and Skies**

1 Creator of the earth and skies,  
To whom the words of life belong,  
Grant us your truth to make us wise;  
Grant us your power to make us strong.

3 We have not loved you: far and wide  
The wreckage of our hatred spreads,  
And evils wrought by human pride  
Recoil on unrepentant heads.

2 We have not known you:  
To the skies our monuments of folly soar,  
And all our self-wrought miseries  
Have made us trust ourselves the more.

4 For this, our foolish confidence,  
Our pride of knowledge, and our sin,  
We come to you in penitence;  
In us the work of grace begin.

5 Teach us to know and love you, Lord,  
And humbly follow in your way.  
Speak to our souls the quickening Word,  
And turn our darkness into day.

### **A Reading from Ephesians 2:1-10**

2:1 You were dead through the trespasses and sins

2:2 in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient.

2:3 All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else.

2:4 But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us

2:5 even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ--by grace you have been saved--

2:6 and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

2:7 so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

2:8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God--

2:9 not the result of works, so that no one may boast.

2:10 For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **CCLI 5469291 By Faith**

1. By faith we see the hand of God  
In the light of creation's grand design  
In the lives of those who prove His  
faithfulness  
Who walk by faith and not by sight

Of a holy city built by God's own hand  
A place where peace and justice reign  
*Chorus*

We will stand as children of the promise  
We will fix our eyes on Him our soul's reward  
Till the race is finished and the work is done  
We'll walk by faith and not by sight

2. By faith our fathers roamed the earth  
With the power of His promise in their hearts

3. By faith the prophets saw a day  
When the longed-for Messiah would appear  
With the power to break the chains of sin and  
death  
And rise triumphant from the grave

4. By faith the church was called to go  
In the power of the Spirit to the lost  
To deliver captives and to preach good news  
In every corner of the earth

*Chorus*

We will stand as children of the promise  
We will fix our eyes on Him our soul's reward  
Till the race is finished and the work is done  
We'll walk by faith and not by sight

5. By faith the mountain shall be moved  
And the power of the gospel shall prevail  
For we know in Christ all things are possible  
For all who call upon His name

*Chorus*

We will stand as children of the promise  
We will fix our eyes on Him our soul's reward  
Till the race is finished and the work is done  
We'll walk by faith and not by sight

The Gospel

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

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

John 3:14-21

3:14 And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up,

3:15 that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

3:16 "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.

3:17 "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.

3:18 Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

3:19 And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil.

3:20 For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed.

3:21 But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

The Gospel of Christ

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

CP 371 To God Be The Glory

1 To God be the glory who great things has  
done!  
God so love the world, freely sending the Son,  
Who yielded his life an atonement for sin,  
And opened the life-gate that all may go in.

*Refrain*

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!  
Let the earth hear God's voice.  
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!  
Let the people rejoice!  
Oh come to the Father through Jesus the Son.  
And give God the glory, who great things has  
done.

2 O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,  
To every believer the promise of God;  
That when the offender, repenting, believes  
Through Jesus' a atonement, God's pardon  
receives

*Refrain*

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!  
Let the earth hear God's voice.  
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!  
Let the people rejoice!  
Oh come to the Father through Jesus the Son.  
And give God the glory, who great things has  
done.

3 Great things God has taught us, great things  
God has done,  
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;  
But purer and higher and greater will be  
Our wonder, our gladness when Jesus we see

*Refrain*

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!  
Let the earth hear God's voice.  
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!  
Let the people rejoice!  
Oh come to the Father through Jesus the Son.  
And give God the glory, who great things has  
done.

Sermon by the Rev. Alison Westervelt

**CCLI 7025522 Trust in You**

1. Letting go of every single dream  
I lay each one down at Your feet  
Every moment of my wondering  
Never changes what You see

2. I've tried to win this war I confess  
My hands are weary I need Your rest  
Mighty warrior King of the fight  
No matter what I face You're by my side

*Chorus*

When You don't move the mountains  
I'm needing You to move  
When You don't part the waters  
I wish I could walk through  
When You don't give the answers  
As I cry out to You  
I will trust I will trust  
I will trust in You

3. Truth is You know what tomorrow  
brings  
There's not a day ahead You have not  
seen  
So in all things be my life and breath  
I want what You want Lord and nothing  
less

*Chorus*

When You don't move the mountains  
I'm needing You to move  
When You don't part the waters  
I wish I could walk through  
When You don't give the answers  
As I cry out to You  
I will trust I will trust  
I will trust in You

*Bridge*

You are my strength and comfort  
You are my steady hand  
You are my firm foundation  
The Rock on which I stand  
Your ways are always higher  
Your plans are always good  
There's not a place where I'll go  
You've not already stood

*Chorus*

When You don't move the mountains  
I'm needing You to move  
When You don't part the waters  
I wish I could walk through  
When You don't give the answers  
As I cry out to You  
I will trust I will trust  
I will trust in You

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 and led by Autumn Reinhold-Simpson

Let us lift up our prayers to our always compassionate God by saying,

**Lord, hear our prayer**

We pray for God's church throughout the world: for Iglesia Anglicana de Chile.

We pray for the church in Canada, especially the Diocese of Ottawa: the Rt. Rev. Shane Parker, Bishop, for the parish of St. Thomas, Sherwood Park; for Stephen, their Rector and Stephanie their associate priest; for Judy, their vocational deacon; Michael, honorary assistant; and Shawna, administrative assistant.

We pray for the Diocese of Buyé, especially their Mother's Union and Clothilde, their president, Bibiane, their chaplain, and Josephine and Clementine, their trainers.

We pray for our brothers and sisters of Treaty 6 and especially those of the Frog Lake First Nation.

We offer continued prayers for our Diocese of Edmonton and our Bishop Jane. May God bless Bishop Jane for all she has done for us and give her a restful retirement; and may we continue to discern thoughtfully and faithfully as we choose our new bishop.

We pray for our parish of St. Peter's and the community we serve; for our clergy, vestry and wardens and all who give their time, talents and prayers to the work of your kingdom in the Westmount/Inglewood community.

For those who have felt hurt or betrayed by the church, who have not been shown the Jesus who came not to condemn the world but to save it, we pray to the Lord,

**Lord, hear our prayer**

For those who feel that God has condemned or abandoned them during these difficult times, that they might come to know the ever-compassionate Lord whose love knows no bounds, we pray to the Lord,

**Lord, hear our prayer**

That we persist in our vigilance against Covid-19 and remember our duty to care for one another by following all health regulations, we pray to the Lord,

**Lord, hear our prayer**

For those who feel the sting of racism in its overt and institutionalized forms in our communities and governments, and for those of us coming to recognize our own role in perpetuating it, that God may grant us forgiveness and the desire to lay down our egos to create a society in which all are made welcome and loved, we pray to the Lord,

**Lord, hear our prayer**

For those experiencing suicidal thoughts and other mental health challenges, that they may feel heard and be surrounded by love and support, we pray to the Lord,

**Lord, hear our prayer**

We remember especially those who have requested our prayers: Sandra, Merle, Mona, Nicole, Lois, Ray, Evelyn, Irene and Sandy, Joyce, Jaclyn, Jim and Par, Kathryn, Joan, Trevor and Kristine, Mary, and Helen, Cathy and Brent

**Lord, hear our prayer**

We pray for the repose of the soul of Francis Buxton and Richard Alan Kindrachuk, that they may rest in God's perfect peace and their friends and families be comforted, we pray to the Lord,

**Lord, hear our prayer**

Compassionate Father, it has been a long while since we have been able to gather as one body in your presence to worship you in fellowship and community. We long for the time that we can gather again in our beloved St. Peter's and experience the joy and fellowship of shared worship in a shared space. We ask for trust and for patience, not only for ourselves, but for all worshipping communities, so that when the time is right, we can open our doors and once again, carefully and with the safety of all in our minds and hearts, come together again in love and fellowship. Until that time, we thank you for the many opportunities you have granted us to worship in different ways and we ask that you make us always mindful that the church is not the building where worship happens but that the church lives in us as you live in us, we pray, Have mercy, O Lord.

Oh, compassionate God, remember us and all those we hold in our hearts during this Lenten season and let us use this time of fasting and reflection to remove all barriers that stand between ourselves and you. Grant this, we ask, through Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Collect

Gracious Father,  
whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came from heaven  
to be the true bread which gives life to the world,  
evermore give us this bread,  
that he may live in us, and we in him,  
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 633 Lord Christ We Praise Your Sacrifice

1 Lord Christ, we praise your sacrifice,  
Your life in love so freely given.  
For those who took your life away  
You prayed, that they might be forgiven;  
And there, in helplessness arrayed,  
God's power was perfectly displayed.

2 Once helpless in your mother's arms,  
Dependent on her mercy then,  
At last, by choice, in other hands,  
You were as helpless once again;  
And, at their mercy, crucified,  
You claimed your victory and died.

3 Though helpless and rejected then,  
You're now as risen Lord acclaimed;  
Forever by your sacrifice  
Is God's eternal love proclaimed:  
The love which, dying, brings to birth  
New life and hope for all on earth.

4 So, living Lord, prepare us now  
Your willing helplessness to share,  
To give ourselves in sacrifice,  
To overcome the world's despair;  
In love to give our lives away  
And claim your victory today.

### The Dismissal

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him  
should not perish but have eternal life. *John 3:16*

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.

**Thanks be to God.**

For by grace you have been saved through faith.  
Go in peace. You have been created in Christ Jesus for good works.

**Thanks be to God!**