

**A Service of Morning Prayer
for March 7, 2021
Third 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 19 Refrain: The words of the Lord are spirit and life.

19:1 The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

19:2 Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.

19:3 There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;

19:4 yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,

19:5 which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs its course with joy.

19:6 Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and nothing is hid from its heat.

19:7 The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple;

19:8 the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes;

19:9 the fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

19:10 More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.

19:11 Moreover by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

19:12 But who can detect their errors? Clear me from hidden faults.

19:13 Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

19:14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

A Reading from Exodus 20:1-17

20:1 Then God spoke all these words:

20:2 I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery;

20:3 you shall have no other gods before me.

20:4 You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

20:5 You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me,

20:6 but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

20:7 You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

20:8 Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy.

20:9 Six days you shall labor and do all your work.

20:10 But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work--you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns.

20:11 For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

20:12 Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

20:13 You shall not murder.

20:14 You shall not commit adultery.

20:15 You shall not steal.

20:16 You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

20:17 You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CP 478 Almighty God Thy Word is Cast

1 Almighty God, thy word is cast
like seed into the ground;
now let the dew of heaven descend,
and righteous fruits abound.

2 Let not the foe of righteousness
this holy seed remove,
but give it root in every heart
to bring forth fruits of love.

3 Let not the world's deceitful cares
the rising plant destroy,
but let it yield a hundredfold
the fruits of peace and joy.

4 Oft as the precious seed is sown,
thy quickening grace bestow,
that all whose souls the truth receive,
its saving power may know.

A Reading from I Corinthians 1:18-25

1:18 For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

1:19 For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

1:20 Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

1:21 For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe.

1:22 For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom,

1:23 but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles,

1:24 but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

1:25 For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CCLI 2253644 God Who Sets Us on a Journey

1. God who sets us on a journey
To discover dream and grow
Lead us as You led Your people
In the desert long ago
Journey inward journey outward
Stir the spirit stretch the mind
Love for God and self and neighbour
Marks the way that Christ defined

2. Exploration brings new insights
Changes choices we must face
Give us wisdom in deciding
Mindful always of Your grace
Should we stumble lose our bearings
Find it hard to know what's right
We regain our true direction
Focused on the Jesus light

3. End our longing for the old days
Grant the vision that we lack
Once we've started on this journey
There can be no turning back
Let us travel light discarding
Excess baggage from our past
Cherish only what's essential
Choosing treasure that will last

4. When we set up camp and settle
To avoid love's risk and pain
You disturb complacent comfort
Pull the tent pegs up again
Keep us travelling in the knowledge
You are always at our side
Give us courage for the journey
Christ our goal and Christ our guide

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 2:13-22

2:13 The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

2:14 In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables.

2:15 Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables.

2:16 He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!"

2:17 His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me."

2:18 The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?"

2:19 Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up."

2:20 The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?"

2:21 But he was speaking of the temple of his body.

2:22 After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

CP 631 The Kingdom of God is Justice and Joy

1 The kingdom of God is justice and joy;
For Jesus restores what sin would
destroy.
God's power and glory in Jesus we
know;
And here and hereafter the kingdom
shall grow.

2 The kingdom of God is mercy and
grace;
The captives are freed, the sinners find
place,
The outcast are welcomed God's
banquet to share;
And hope is awakened in place of
despair.

3 The kingdom of God is challenge and
choice:
Believe the good news, repent and
rejoice!
His love for us sinners brought Christ to
his cross:
Our crisis of judgement for gain or for
loss.

4 God's kingdom is come, the gift and
the goal;
In Jesus begun, in heaven made whole.
The heirs of the kingdom shall answer
his call;
And all things cry "Glory!" to God all in all

Sermon by the Rev. Heather Liddell

CCLI 7028410 We Have Come God's Living Temple

1. We have come God's living temple
In the joy of Christ the Son
Here the Father's word is spoken
Here His gracious work is done
Breathe His Spirit drink His goodness
Heaven's life is here begun

2. Set aside all vain distractions
Lay your needs before His throne
Give your hands a holy offering
You are His and not your own
All your spirit praise His Spirit
Turn your thoughts to Him alone

3. Christ is God's eternal temple
All His holy presence here
By His Spirit we His body
Live to make His presence clear
Loving learning giving growing
Till our Lord Himself appear

4. Go and shine with God's own presence
Live the love of Christ the Son
By your words let Him be spoken
By your hands His work be done
Breathe His Spirit share His goodness
Till His glorious Kingdom come

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 The Rev. Alison Westervelt
Gathering all that commands our prayers, let us intercede with our gracious God saying,
Have mercy, O Lord.

Have mercy, O Lord.

We pray for God's church throughout the world:

-for l'Eglise Anglicana Du Congo.

-for the Diocese of Ontario: the Rt. Rev. Michael Oulton, Bishop.

-for St. John, Sedgewick: Interim Ministry; Richard Conrad, Honorary Assistant.

-for the Archdeacons of the Diocese of Buyé: Amos Mut-e-zi-mana, Evariste Nsab-imana,
Simeon Ntir-and-ekura, P
apias Ma-seng-esho, and Leonidas Nizi-giyi-mana.

-our brothers and sisters of Treaty 6 and especially those of the Ermineskin Cree Nation.

-for our Diocese of Edmonton and our Bishop Jane. With Bishop Jane's decision to step
down as Bishop of Edmonton on April 16, 2021, comes a time of great transition for the
diocese. Even as we prepare to say good-bye to a beloved leader, the diocese must turn its
attention toward choosing the next and we pray for that process.

-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.

That God's commandments may be close to us as we live out our faith, we pray,

Have mercy, O Lord.

For our divided and restless world, that those who hold power over others may be troubled
and transformed by the demands of justice. We especially remember Michael Kovrig and
Michael Spavo, we pray,

Have mercy, O Lord.

For children, that infants and young people of every nation may have food and learning,
shelter and medicine, support and compassion, so that they may grow to love the world you
have created, we pray,

Have mercy, O Lord.

For the Canterbury Foundation residence and staff as they search for new board members
from the Anglican community, we pray,

Have mercy, O Lord.

For those in any kind of need:

-for those who are shunned or pushed to the edge of the community;

-for those who are institutionalized;

-for those who have been isolated by illness, or old age, or by an uncaring society;

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 and George and Carla. Mary, and Helen, those known to you alone and those we name now either aloud or in the silence of our hearts.... that you grant them your nearness, we pray,

Have mercy, O Lord.

For all who work with those in need; the sick, the elderly, the addicted, the homeless, those with mental and emotional illness, that your presence and strength may be felt and embraced, we pray,

Have mercy, O Lord.

For the dead, especially those who held on to and handed on God's commandments until our day. We pray for the repose of the soul of Lynda Mandel and Richard Alan Kindrachuk, that they may be at peace, we pray,

Have mercy, O Lord.

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.

Father God remember us and all those we hold in our hearts. In these forty days teach us to do the work of our baptism and to daily raise to you the needs of the world. Grant this, we ask, through Christ, our Lord. **Amen**

Collect

Father of mercy,
alone we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves.
When we are discouraged by our weakness,
strengthen us to follow Christ,
our pattern and our hope;
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 505 Be Thou My Vision

1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that thou
art
Thou my best thought by day or by night
Waking or sleeping thy presence my light

2 Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true
Word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father; thine own may I be,
Thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.

3 Riches I heed not, nor the world's empty
praise;
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and thou only first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

4 High King of heaven, when victory is won;
May I reach heaven's joys, bright heaven's
Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

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.

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing. But
to us who are being saved, it is the power of God. Go in peace, leaning on
the saving power of God.

Thanks be to God.