THE HOLY EUCHARIST LENT IV (YEAR B)

ENTRANCE HYMN

THE GREETING

The grace and peace of our Saviour Jesus Christ be with you, and also with you.

As we continue in our Lenten journey, I invite you in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy word.

THE KYRIES

Lord Jesus, you wept over the sins of your city. On our city and communities: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you heal the wounds of sin and division, jealousy and bitterness. On us: Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you bring pardon and peace to the sinner. Grant us peace: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us. Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray for grace to keep Lent faithfully,

Steadfast God, you reach out to us in mercy. When we rebel against your holy call and walk in disobedience, soften our hearts with the warmth of your love, so that we may know your Son alive within us, redeeming us, and raising us up into your eternal presence. Amen.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF NUMBERS

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. 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. "Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. 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. 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." 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. **NUMBERS 21:4-9**

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church, **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 107: 1 - 3; 17 - 22 Refrain: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

Give thanks to the Lord who is good, and whose mercy endures for ever. Let all those whom the Lord has redeemed proclaim that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe. The Lord gathered them out of the lands; from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south. **R**

Some were fools and took to rebellious ways; they were afflicted because of their sins. They abhorred all manner of food and drew near to death's door. Then they cried to you, O Lord, in their trouble, and you delivered them from their distress. \mathbf{R}

You sent forth your word and healed them and saved them from the grave. Let them give thanks to you, O Lord, for your mercy and the wonders you do for your children. Let them offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving and tell of your acts with shouts of joy. **R**.

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE EPHESIANS

You were dead through the trespasses and sins 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. 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. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ--by grace you have been saved--and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God--not the result of works, so that no one may boast. 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. EPHESIANS 2:1-10

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church, **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

THE HOLY 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.

And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "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. "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. 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. 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. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. 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." **JOHN 3:14-21**

The Gospel of Christ **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

THE SERMON

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us declare our faith in God, We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.

We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high.

We believe in one God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

With faith and love and in union with Christ, let us offer our prayer before the throne of grace, saying, Lord of life: **in your mercy hear us.**

Have mercy on your people for whom your Son laid down his life: we pray for the Church... Lord of life: **in your mercy hear us.**

Bring healing and wholeness to people and nations, and have pity on those torn apart by division: we pray for your world... Lord of life: **in your mercy hear us.**

Strengthen all who are persecuted for your name's sake and deliver them from evil, especially... Lord of life: **in your mercy hear us.**

Look in mercy upon all who suffer and hear those who cry out in pain and desolation, especially... Lord of life: **in your mercy hear us.**

Bring comfort to the dying, and gladden their hearts with a vision of your glory: especially... Lord of life: **in your mercy hear us.**

Give rest to the departed and bring them, with your saints, to glory everlasting. especially.. Lord of life: **in your mercy hear us.**

Let us commend the world, for which Christ died, to the mercy and protection of God. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Let us call to mind our sin and the infinite mercy of God.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us. For self-centered living, and for failing to walk with humility and gentleness: **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

For longing to have what is not ours, and for hearts that are not at rest with ourselves: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

For misuse of human relationships, and for unwillingness to see the image of God in others: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

For jealousies that divide families and nations, and for rivalries that create strife and warfare: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

For reluctance in sharing the gifts of God, and for carelessness with the fruits of creation: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

For hurtful words that condemn, and for angry deeds that harm: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

For idleness in witnessing to Jesus Christ, And for squandering the gifts of love and grace: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

God has called us to live in peace. The peace of the Lord be always with you, **and also with you.** Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

OFFERTORY HYMN

THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

God of our journey, as we walk with you on your path of obedience, sustain us on our way and lead us to your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right to give you thanks and praise, O Lord, our God, sustainer of the universe, you are worthy of glory and praise. **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home; by your will they were created and have their being.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill; you made us the stewards of creation.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

But we turn against you, and betray your trust; and we turn against one another. Again and again you call us to return. Through the prophets and sages you reveal your righteous law. In the fullness of time you sent your Son, born of a woman, to be our Saviour. He was wounded for our transgressions, and bruised for our iniquities. By his death he opened to us the way of freedom and peace.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

Therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed are you, Lord our God, for sending us Jesus, the Christ, who on the night he was handed over to suffering and death, took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, gave it to his friends, and said, "Take this, and eat it: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." In the same way, after supper, he took the cup of wine; he gave you thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Glory to you for ever and ever.

Gracious God, we recall the death of your Son Jesus Christ, we proclaim his resurrection and ascension, and we look with expectation for his coming as Lord of all the nations. We who have been redeemed by him and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring you these gifts. Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this offering of your Church, that we who eat and drink at this holy table may share the divine life of Christ our Lord. **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Pour out your Spirit upon the whole earth and make it your new creation. Gather your Church together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, where peace and justice are revealed, that we, with all your people, of every language, race, and nation, may share the banquet you have promised; through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, all honour and glory are yours, creator of all.

Glory to you for ever and ever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread, Communion in Christ's body once broken. Let your Church be the wheat which bears its fruit in dying. If we have died with him, we shall live with him; if we hold firm, we shall reign with him.

THE COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.**

COMMUNION HYMN

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION AND BLESSING Let us pray,

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.

May God the Father, who does not despise the broken spirit, give to you a contrite heart. **Amen.**

May Christ, who bore our sins in his body on the tree, heal you by his wounds. **Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit, who leads us into all truth, speak to you words of pardon and peace. **Amen.**

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. **Amen.** HYMN

THE DISMISSAL

Let us continue in our Lenten journey. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** Acknowledgements: (a) the collect of the day, 'Trial Use Collects for Years A, B, and C etc. Anglican Church of Canada', and the psalm, 'A Liturgical Psalter. General Synod 2016 Edition. For trial use within the Anglican Church of Canada.' Also, from "Becoming the Story We Tell,' 31, 32 – introduction to confession, confession and absolution, (alt.), and Eucharistic prayer (S2). (b) from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (2006), prayer after communion, 65; (c) from the Church of England's *Common Worship: Times and Seasons* (2006) greeting, 223; introduction from Ash Wednesday (alt), 223; kyries (alt), 260 B1; an affirmation of faith, 100; prayers of the people (alt), 215; prayer over the gifts, 217 K3; and final blessings and dismissal, 235, and Lord's Prayer; and (d) *New Patterns for Worship* (2016) peace, 351, and introduction to the Lord's Prayer, 183, F29

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