

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**  
**Mothering Sunday**  
**March 19, 2023**

**ENTRANCE HYMN: 429**

**GREETING**

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

**INTRODUCTION**

As we prepare for Easter, when we shall reaffirm the baptismal covenant, let us continue to observe a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy word.

**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.

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.**

**COLLECT OF THE DAY**

Let us pray,

Holy God, in Jesus Christ you reveal yourself to the world,  
even when we are blind to your grace.

Open our eyes to see your transforming love in our midst,  
so that we may see your world anew;

through Jesus Christ, the saviour who shows compassion. **Amen.**

**A READING FROM THE FIRST BOOK OF SAMUEL**

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the Lord commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah. **(16: 1 – 13)**

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 23

*Refrain: The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.*

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. You make me lie down in green pastures and lead me beside still waters. **Refrain.**

You revive my soul and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake. Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me, your rod, and your staff, they comfort me. **Refrain.**

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever. **Refrain.**

## A READING FROM THE LETTER TO THE EPHESIANS

For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light- for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore, it says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you." (5: 8 – 14)

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

## CHOIR ANTHEM

### 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.**

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, ‘Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?’ Jesus answered, ‘Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.’ When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying to him, ‘Go, wash in the pool of Siloam’ (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, ‘Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?’ Some were saying, ‘It is he.’ Others were saying, ‘No, but it is someone like him.’ He kept saying, ‘I am the man.’ But they kept asking him, ‘Then how were your eyes opened?’ He answered, ‘The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, “Go to Siloam and wash.” Then I went and washed and received my sight.’ They said to him, ‘Where is he?’ He said, ‘I do not know.’ **(9:1-12)**

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.**

### **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, for Samuel our Bishop, the parishes of Churchill Falls and Cow Head, all young people preparing for Confirmation and for those responsible for selecting a Rector and an Assisting Priest for this parish. 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, remembering those in Ukraine. We pray for your world, especially for families broken by death, sickness, and separation. Lord of life: **in your mercy hear us.**

Strengthen all who are persecuted for your name's sake and deliver them from evil, especially in countries where identifying as Christian puts people in danger of suffering violence. 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, remembering those on the Ascension Prayer Cycle. Lord of life: **in your mercy hear us.**

Receive our thanksgivings for all who give a mother's love to us, and especially those who have given care and nurture to us in our homes. Lord of life: **in your mercy hear us.**

For our earthly mothers and all who nurture and care for us., that they may be loved and blessed in return. Lord of life: **in your mercy hear us.**

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

Give rest to the departed and bring them, with your saints, to glory everlasting. 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.**

## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

Dear friends in Christ,  
as we prepare for the Paschal Feast,  
let us make ready our hearts  
to reaffirm the covenant of our baptism.

Let us ask God to bring to light  
the things now hidden in darkness,  
and to disclose to us the secret purposes of our hearts.

How faithfully have we continued  
in the apostles' teaching and fellowship,  
in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

*Silence is kept.*

Lord, have mercy, **Lord, have mercy, and complete your work in us.**

How faithfully have we persevered in resisting evil,  
and whenever we fell into sin,  
repented and returned to the Lord?

*Silence is kept.*

Lord, have mercy, **Lord, have mercy, and complete your work in us.**

How faithfully have we proclaimed  
by word and example  
the good news of God in Christ?

*Silence is kept.*

Lord, have mercy, **Lord, have mercy, and complete your work in us.**

How faithfully have we sought and served Christ in all persons,  
loving our neighbours as ourselves?

*Silence is kept.*

Lord, have mercy, **Lord, have mercy, and complete your work in us.**

How faithfully have we worked for justice and peace among all people, respecting the dignity of every human being?

*Silence is kept.*

Lord, have mercy, **Lord, have mercy, and complete your work in us.**

How faithfully have we worked to safeguard the integrity of God's creation, respecting, sustaining, and renewing the life of the earth?

*Silence is kept.*

Lord, have mercy, **Lord, have mercy, and complete your work in us.**

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. **Amen.**

### **SHARING THE PEACE**

We are the body of Christ.

**In the one Spirit we were baptized into one body.**

Let us then pursue all that makes for peace

**And build up our common life.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you

**And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

### **HYMN FOR THE PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS AND BLESSING OF FLOWERS: 560**

O God bless these flowers, bless us, and bless our mothers and all who give us care, nurture and love. May the flowers remind us how much our mothers have done for us; may they remind our mothers that we love them; and may they remind us all that God

cares for each one of us, because we are all his children We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **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 the Lord. **Amen.**

### **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

May God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to God our Creator.

**It is right to offer thanks and praise.**

Eternal God, Source of all being,  
we give you thanks and praise  
for your faithful love.  
You call us into friendship  
with you and one another  
to be your holy people,  
a sign of your presence in the world.

When those we trust betray us,  
unfailingly you remain with us.  
When we injure others,  
you confront us in your love  
and call us to the paths of righteousness.  
You stand with the weak,  
and those, broken and alone,  
whom you have always welcomed home,  
making the first last, and the last first.  
Therefore, we raise our voices  
with angels and archangels,  
forever praising you and saying:  
**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
Lord God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the One who comes, who comes in the name of the  
Lord.**

**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

Blessed are you, O Holy One:  
when Hagar was driven into the wilderness  
you followed her and gave her hope.  
When Joseph was sold into bondage,  
you turned malice to your people's good.  
When you called Israel out of slavery,  
you brought them through the wilderness  
into the promised land.  
When your people were taken into exile  
you wept with them by the river of Babylon  
and carried them home.

**Restore us, O God, let your face shine!**

At the right time you sent your Anointed One  
to stand with the poor,  
the outcast, and the oppressed.  
Jesus touched lepers, and the sick, and healed them.

He accepted water from a woman of Samaria  
and offered her the water of new life.  
Christ knew the desolation of the cross  
and opened the way for all humanity  
into the redemption of your reconciling love.

On the night he was betrayed,  
Jesus, at supper with his friends,  
took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread,  
gave it to them, and said, "Take and eat:  
this is my body which is given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine,  
and when he had given thanks,

he gave it to them,  
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."

Loving and Holy One,  
recalling Christ's death and resurrection,  
we offer you these gifts,  
longing for the bread of tomorrow  
and the wine of the age to come.  
Therefore, we proclaim our hope.  
**Dying you destroyed our death,  
rising you restored our life.  
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Pour out your Spirit on these gifts  
that through them you may sustain us  
in our hunger for your peace.  
We hold before you  
all whose lives are marked by suffering,  
our sisters and brothers.  
When we are broken and cast aside,  
embrace us in your love.  
**Restore us, O God, let your face shine!**

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours,  
O Source of all life,  
now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Trusting in the compassion of God,  
we pray as our Saviour taught us,  
**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.  
Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.**  
We break this bread,  
**Communion in Christ's body once broken.**

### **BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

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 HYMNS: SSB p. 24, 45, 7**

### **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.**  
Glory to God,  
**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.**

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 BEFORE THE DISMISSAL SSB p. 22**

### **DISMISSAL**

Let us continue in our Lenten journey.  
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## COME IN, COME IN AND SIT DOWN

*Refrain: Come in, come in and sit down,  
You are a part of the family.  
We are lost and we are found,  
And we are a part of the family.*

You know the reason why you came,  
Yet no reason can explain;  
So share in the laughter and cry in the pain,  
For we are a part of the family.

*Refrain*

God is with us in this place,  
Like a mother's warm embrace.  
We're all forgiven by God's grace,  
For we are a part of the family.

*Refrain*

There's life to be shared in the bread and the wine;  
We are the branches, Christ is the vine.  
This is God's temple; it's not yours or mine,  
For we are a part of the family.

*Refrain*

There's rest for the weary and health for us all,  
There's a yoke that is easy, and a burden that's small.  
So come in and worship and answer the call,  
For we are a part of the family.

*Refrain*

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## CHILDREN OF THE LIGHT

*Refrain: We are children, children of the light,  
We are shining, in the darkness of the night.*

*Hope for this world,  
Joy throughout the land,  
Touch the hearts of everyone,  
Take everybody's hand.*

Come and gather 'round the flame,  
Share the light in His name,  
We the children of the light.  
As the wind blows where it will,  
Spread the news to everyone,  
There's still plenty of time  
For we have just begun. **Refrain**  
Join the song of all the earth  
We've a dream a dream to share,  
And a promise of re-birth.  
Let the earth feel the warmth  
Of His love here in our heart,  
We have many a dream  
And promises to keep. **Refrain**

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### **JESUS LOVES ME**

Jesus loves me this I know  
For the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to him belong,  
They are weak, but he is strong.  
**Refrain: Yes, Jesus loves me**  
**Yes, Jesus loves me,**  
**Yes, Jesus loves me.**  
**The Bible tells me so.**

Jesus loves me, he who died  
Heaven's gate to open wide;  
He will wash away my sin,  
Let his little child come in. **R**

Gentle Jesus, with me stay  
Close beside me all the way;  
When at last I come to die  
Take me home with thee on high. **R**



## HOME AGAIN FURNITURE BANK HEADS WITHOUT BEDS

On March 31, Elizabeth and Bob Barnes as well as Lester and Kim Pike are joining other participants in Home Again Furniture Bank's annual *Heads Without Beds* campaign. Together, we will raise awareness and funds needed to help people like John.

Not yet middle-aged, John experienced a health crisis that resulted in the loss of his job, car, and home. By the time he was discharged, John's former life was destroyed, and he had no choice but to stay in a shelter.

After nine long months John finally received keys to his own apartment and took residence immediately, despite it being unfurnished. Restless nights on the floor and lonely days in an empty space were the norm until Home Again arrived with everything John needed to create a home.

*"The furniture has made a huge difference to my life. I sleep and function better now and was able to secure a job with the federal government. As a matter of fact, the table and chairs from Home Again are especially important because I work remotely sitting at that table... With a furnished home, a place to call my own, I was able to get back on my feet again."*

We would appreciate your support. You can donate by clicking on the following link: <http://www.headswithoutbeds.ca/> or you can check out Kim and Elizabeth's Facebook page. Thank you for your support.

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; the final blessings and dismissal, 235, and the Lord's Prayer; and (d) *New Patterns for Worship* (2016) peace, 351, and introduction to the Lord's Prayer, 183, F29.