



St. James
Anglican | Dundas

Fourth Sunday in Lent



Sunday 19th March 2023

www.stjamesdundas.ca

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Rector
Honorary Assistants

Parish Deacon
Director of Music
Parish Administrator
Wardens

Rev. Canon Leslie Gerlofs
Rev. Canon Peter Davison
Rev. Carol Overing
Rev. Deacon Ann Vander Berg
Richard Hansen
Nyle Armstrong
Terese Herron, O.N.
Barry Shimmons
Janet Cannon
Christine Aiken

Welcome to this time of worship!

Thank you for joining St. James today. It is good that you are here! If you are visiting or looking for your spiritual home, please make yourself known to us. We welcome your presence with us.

During our worship today please remember:

- During this time of pandemic worship, we are pausing our mask mandate for the time being. Masks are highly encouraged but the choice of wearing a mask in the church building is based on personal circumstances and tolerance for risk. During the sharing of the peace some people may not feel comfortable with close contact.
- During the eucharist, everyone wishing to draw closer to the love of God is welcome to receive bread and wine. At the appointed time please come up the main aisle. If you wish to receive the bread only, please cross your arms after receiving the bread. If you wish a blessing instead of receiving bread and wine, please cross your arms and the priest will bless you. Gluten free bread is blessed for anyone who requires it. Please indicate to the priest if needed.
- Children are welcome here at Saint James! Children can gather in 'The Prayer Ground' at the beginning of the service and will then be led downstairs to their program with their leaders. The children will rejoin us at communion. If this is your first time here, please go with your child to meet the leader and inform them of any allergies or special needs. For those not wanting to leave their parents, the prayer-ground is available throughout the service.
- A collection plate is located in the middle aisle of the church. If you wish to make a gratitude offering for the blessings from God in your life, please place the offering on the plate before the time of the offertory hymn. Your gift will be used to support the ministry and mission in the St. James community of faith. Take a moment to give thanks for God's blessings in your life today.
- The service is being livestreamed and is taped for viewing online.
- The congregation responses are in **bold** type.

The Gathering of the Community

Welcome & Announcements

Territorial Acknowledgement

One We gather on the territory traditionally inhabited by the Haudenosaunee and the Anishinaabe nations acknowledged in the Dish with One Spoon wampum belt.

All We commit ourselves to the work of truth and reconciliation with the Original Peoples of this land in a relationship of honour and mutual respect.

Opening Hymn: # 505 Be Thou My Vision

The Greeting

One Where Christ walks,
All we will follow.

One Where Christ stumbles,
All we will stop.

One Where Christ cries,
All we will listen.

One Where Christ suffers,
All we will hurt.

One When Christ dies,
All we will bow our heads in sorrow.

One When Christ rises again in glory,
All we will share his endless joy.

One There is no other way;
All He is the only way.

The Collect

One Bend your ear to our prayers, O Christ, and come among us.

All **By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

Reading

Ephesians 5:8-14

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.'

Reader Holy wisdom, holy Word.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn # 179 *Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery*

(v. 1-3)

The Gospel

John 9:1-41

One God is with you.

All **And also with you.**

One The Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Saint John

All **Glory to you, O 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.'

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, 'He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.' Some of the Pharisees said, 'This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.' But others said, 'How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?' And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, 'What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.' He said, 'He is a prophet.'

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, 'Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?' His parents answered, 'We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.' His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, 'He is of age; ask him.'

'So, for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, 'Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.' He answered, 'I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.' They said to him, 'What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?' He answered them, 'I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?' Then they reviled him, saying, 'You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.' The man answered, 'Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.' They answered him, 'You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?' And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' He answered, 'And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said to him, 'You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.' He said, 'Lord, I believe.' And he worshipped him. Jesus said, 'I came into this world for judgement so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.' Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, 'Surely we are not blind, are we?' Jesus said to them, 'If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, "We see", your sin remains.

One The Gospel of Christ
All **Praise to you, O Jesus Christ.**

Gradual Hymn # 179 *Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery*
(v. 4-5, 6e)

Homily *The Rev. Canon Leslie Gerlofs*

Affirmation of Faith *(please stand as you are able)*

One Let us affirm our faith together:

All 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

One Merciful God,
All receive our prayer.

Confession and Forgiveness

One In the name of God,
who makes a way in the wilderness,
walks with us, and guides us in our pilgrimage.
All Amen.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

One Holy One,
All we confess that we have wandered far from you:
we have not trusted your promises,
we have ignored your prophets in our own day,

**we have squandered our inheritance of grace,
we have failed to recognise you in our midst.
Have mercy on us!
Forgive us and turn us again to you.
Teach us to follow in your ways,
assure us again of your love,
and help us to love our neighbour.
Amen.**

One Beloved in Christ, the Word draws near to you,
and all who call out to God shall be saved.
In Jesus, God comes to you again and again
and gathers you under wings of love.
In + Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven.
All Amen.

The Peace

Offertory Hymn # 465 Here In This Place

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Prayer over the Gifts

One God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings
as we present them in faithful service
for the sake of your gospel.
All **Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal
as you pour out your very presence
through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.
Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer

One The Lord be with you.
All **And also with you.**

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

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

One With rod and staff you walked with your children
through the shadow of slavery and the valley of exile
and every kind of evil.
When your sheep strayed in sin, you sent your own
Son to be our shepherd king and to restore our souls.
He came to lay each one of us across his shoulders
and bring us home to you.
He set a table in the face of his enemies
and laid down his life
that you might take it up again in glory.
And because you promise goodness and mercy to
follow us all our days,
we give our thanks
with all who dwell in your house forever,
with angels and archangels, and all the company of
heaven, as we join the unending hymn.

**All Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

One Anointing God, Samuel poured oil on the head of David
and your Spirit came mightily upon him.
Send your Holy Spirit upon your church to make us
faithful disciples and, with your same Spirit,
anoint these gifts of bread and wine
that they may be for us the body and blood
of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, at supper with his disciples,
took bread, gave you thanks,
broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying,
“Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup.
Again, he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples,
saying,
“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.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.”

Great is the mystery of faith.
Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.

Searching God, you alone give your followers
eyes of faith.
Teach your church to see as you see,
and set its sights on your kingdom.
In the face of evil, lift the burden of fear.
In the shadow of death, give comfort.
In the company of enemies, spread your welcome table
until that day when every cup runneth over
and your children look upon one everlasting banquet,
and all are made one around your heavenly feast,
as faith shall at last be made sight;
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,
in the power of the Holy spirit,
with all honour and glory,
one God, now and forever.

All

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

All 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 forever. Amen.

The Invitation to Communion

One Come and receive Jesus.
 In this rich meal of grace,
 You have fed us with your body, the bread of life.

 The gifts of God for the people of God.
All **Thanks be to God.**

Communion Hymn # 520 *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

Ablutions Anthem: *Ave Verum*

Edward Elgar

Jesu, Word of God Incarnate, Of the Virgin Mary born, On the Cross Thy sacred Body for us with nails was torn. Cleanse us, by the blood and water streaming from Thy pierced side; feed us with Thy body broken, now and in death's agony! O Jesu, hear us Son of Mary.

Prayer after Communion

One Embodied God,
 at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus.

All **With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise,
empower us to hear the needs of our neighbours
and touch the world with your love.
Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope
to a world in need. Amen.**

The Blessing

One God, the giver of love,
 + Christ, the resurrection and the life,
 and the Holy Spirit of rebirth
 bless you in this Lenten journey. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn: # 599 Awake, Awake, Fling Off the Night

Dismissal

One Go in peace. Serve in love.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Cycle of Prayer:

ACC/ The Rt. Rev. Mary Irwin-Gibson, Bishop, and the people and clergy of the Diocese of Montreal **ELCIC/** The Assistant to the Bishop and the staff of the Manitoba – Northwestern Ontario Synod; and the elimination of racial discrimination.

In the Niagara Diocese: St. Jude, Oakville, the Reverend Canon Dr. David Anderson, Interim Priest-in-Charge; the Venerable Harry Dawson, Pastoral Assistant; the Reverend Canon Dr. Patrick Patterson, Priest Assistant, and the people of that parish.

Parish/ Margaret Garner, Steven, Erin, Rowan and Andrew Gentles, and Keith and Leslie Gillies

Today's Ministry Team

Preaching and Presiding

Lay Assistant

Server

Reader

Greeters

Duty Warden

The Rev. Canon Leslie Gerlofs

Canon David Ricketts

Victoria Baldwin

Wayne Dickson

Nina MacIntosh, Sue Carson,

Maureen Ash

Christine Aiken