

ST Catherines CHURCH



MARCH 13, 2022

10 AM TRADITIONAL SERVICE

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT



Thank you for ministering this morning:

Music: Rob Gloor & Singers
Greeters: Lori Burns and Gillian Holland
Coffee Group: Penny Zuk, Gillian Holland
Altar Guild: Vivian McGie
Readers: **1)** Deborah Foster **2)** Janet Jo
Intercessor: Perter Mercer
Livestream/Sound: Sara, Armin and Chris Wensley
Sunday Teacher: Ethan Spence

As you enter the church, we invite you to light a votive candle to remember a person or situation that you carry on your heart. Candles are also available during communion.

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome & Intentions: Rev Sharon Smith

Rev. Sharon: For thousands of years, indigenous people have walked on this land; their relationship with the land is at the centre of their lives and spirituality. We are gathered on the traditional territory of the Squamish and Tsleil Waututh peoples.

All: We acknowledge their stewardship of this land.

Presider: We who come from other lands
express our gratitude for the
blessing of living, working, playing,
laughing and loving on this
beautiful land.

All: Thanks to be God

Presider: The grace of our Lord Jesus
Christ,
and the Love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy
Spirit. be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Prayer of Purity:
(Book of Alternative Services)

Presider: Ever-present God,

**All: To you all hearts are open
all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hidden:
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by
the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that
we may perfectly love you, and
worthily magnify your holy Name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen**

Confession:

Presider: Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he
welcomes sinners
and invites them to his table.
Let us confess our sins,
confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence is kept.



Artist: Joel Haas (Creative Commons)

Presider:

Most merciful God,

All:

**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.**

Presider:

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.

All:

Amen.

Kyrie

Leader: Lord Have Mercy

All: Lord Have Mercy

Leader: Christ Have Mercy

All: Christ Have Mercy

Leader: Lord Have Mercy

All: Lord Have Mercy

Prayer of the Day:

Presider: Brooding Spirit,

**All: beneath your wings
there is creation and life:
accompany us on the difficult
path with the disappeared and
the broken,
the fearful and the vengeful,
until we find the way
to the city our peace
where we are accepted as we are;
through the cross of Jesus Christ,
our only Lord. Amen.**

Gathering Hymn: How Firm a Foundation

How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word
What more can He say than to you He has said
To you who, for refuge, to Jesus have fled

"Fear not I am with you, oh be not dismayed
For I am your God and will still give you aid
I'll strengthen you, help you and cause you to stand
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand"

"When through the deep waters I call you to go
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow
For I will be with you, your troubles to bless
And sanctify to you your deepest distress"

"When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie
My grace all sufficient shall be your supply
The flame shall not hurt you, I only design
Your dross to consume and your gold to refine"

"The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose
I will not, I will not desert to his foes
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake
I'll never, no never, no never forsake

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

God promises a childless and doubting Abram that he will have a child, that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars, and that the land of Canaan will be their inheritance. Abram's trust in God is sealed with a covenant-making ceremony, a sign of God's promise.

After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Then he said to him, “I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.” But he said, “O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?” He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.”

Leader: Let us hear what the Spirit is saying.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: 27

The Psalm is led by Janet Johnston

Leader: The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

People: When evildoers close in against me to devour my flesh, they, my foes and my enemies, will stumble and fall.

Leader: Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear. Though war rise up against me, my trust will not be shaken.

People: One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple.

Leader: For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter, hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high up on a rock.

**People: Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me.
Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the LORD.**

Leader: Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call;
have mercy on me and answer me.

People: My heart speaks your message “Seek my face.” Your face, O LORD, I will seek.

Leader: Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger. Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.

People: Though my father and my mother forsake me, the LORD will take me in.

Leader: Teach me your way, O LORD;
lead me on a level path, because of my oppressors.

**People: Subject me not to the will of my foes,
for they rise up against me, false witnesses
breathing violence.**

**Leader: This I believe—that I will see the goodness of
the LORD in the land of the living!**

**People: Wait for the LORD and be strong.
Take heart and wait for the LORD!**



Artist: Henryk Siemiradzki

Reading 2: Philippians 3:17--4:1

Although Paul's devotion to Christ has caused him to be persecuted, he does not regret the course he has taken. He encourages Christians to have confidence in God.

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

Reader: Let us hear what the Spirit is saying.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn: A Spendthrift Lover Is the Lord

A spendthrift lover is the Lord
who never counts the cost
or asks if heaven can afford
to woo a world that's lost.
Our lover tosses coins of gold
across the midnight skies
And stokes the sun against the cold
to warm us when we rise.

Still more is spent in blood and tears
to win the human heart,
to overcome the violent fears
that drive the world apart.
Behold the bruised and thorn-crowned face
of one who bears our scars
and empties out the wealth of grace
that's promised by the stars.

Gospel Reading: Luke 6:17-26

Neither Herod's plotting nor Jerusalem's resistance to maternal love will deter Jesus from his sacrificial mission

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus,] "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!"

See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.' ”

Presider: The Gospel of Christ.

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Hymn cont:

How shall we love this heart-strong God
who gives us everything,
whose ways to us are strange and odd,
what can we give or bring?
Acceptance of the matchless gift
is gift enough to give.
The very act will shake and shift
the way we love and live.

Homily: Rev. Sharon

Reflective silence follows.

Affirmation of Faith

Presider: Moses said,

**All: Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God,
the Lord is one.**

Presider: And Jesus affirmed:

**All: Love the Lord your God with
all your heart,
with all your soul, with all your mind,
And with all your strength.
This is the first and the great
commandment, the second is like it:
Love your neighbor as yourself.
There is no commandment greater
than these.**

Spirit of God, search our hearts.

PRAYER

Prayers of the People

Song of Peace *(Sara Thomsen from traditional Gaelic)*

Deep peace of the rolling waves to you.

Deep peace of the silent stars.

Deep peace of the blowing air to you.

Deep peace of the quiet earth.

Let peace, let peace, let peace fill your soul.

May peace, may peace, may peace keep you whole.

Presider: May the peace of God – Creator,
Christ and Holy Spirit be always with
you, and those you love.

People: **And also with you.**

The Passing of the Peace

Presider: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

The community, standing at our seats, greet one another saying or gesturing: ‘Peace be with you’.

Communion

Preparing the Table: Dear God, Compassionate and Kind

Dear God, compassionate and kind,
forgive our foolish ways;
re clothe us in our rightful mind,
in purer lives your service find,
in deeper reverence, praise,

In simple trust like theirs who heard
beside the Syrian sea,
the gracious calling of the Lord,
let us, like them, now heed his word:
"Rise up and follow thee!"

O Sabbath rest by Galilee!
O calm of hills above,
where Jesus knelt to share with thee
the silence of eternity,
interpreted by love!
Drop your still dews of quietness,
till all our strivings cease;
take from our souls the strain and stress,
and let our ordered lives confess
the beauty of your peace,

Prayer over the Gifts:

Presider: God of wisdom,

All: may the light of the eternal Word, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, guide us to your glory. We ask this in his name. Amen

The Eucharistic Prayer

Preface for Lent (BAS); Eucharistic Prayer (ELCIC VIII)

Presider: Blessed are you, gracious God
Creator of Heaven and Earth
Because you call your faithful people
to cleanse our hearts
And to prepare with joy with this paschal
feast That reborn through the waters of
baptism and renewed in the Eucharistic
mystery
We may be more fervent in prayer
And more generous in works of love.

Therefore, we raise our voices to you in praise:

**All: 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.
 Hosanna in the highest.**

Presider: God of our weary years,
 God of our silent tears,
 You have brought us this far along the way.
 In times of bitterness you did not abandon us.
 But guided us in the path of love and light.

In every age you sent prophets to make known your
loving will for all humanity.
The cry of the poor has become
your own cry; our hunger and thirst for justice is your
own desire.

Presider:

In the fullness of time,
you sent your chosen servant to preach
good news to the afflicted, to break
bread with the outcast and despised,
and to ransom those in bondage
to prejudice and sin.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
Our Lord Jesus took bread
and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to
his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for
you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the fullness of time,
you sent your chosen servant to preach
good news to the afflicted, to break bread
with the outcast and despised,
and to ransom those in bondage
to prejudice and sin.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
Our Lord Jesus took bread
and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his
disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Presider: Again, after supper, Jesus took the cup,
Gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink,
saying: This cup is the new covenant in
my blood, shed for you and all people for
the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
For as often as we eat of this bread and
drink of this cup we proclaim the Lord's
death until he comes.

**All: Christ has died. Christ has risen.
Christ will come again.**

Presider: Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate,
**All: to fill the hearts of all who share this
bread and cup with courage and
wisdom to pursue love and justice in
all the world. Join our prayers and
praise with your people of every age,
that, rejoicing in the hope of the
resurrection, we might live in
freedom.**

Presider: Through him, with him, in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory
and honour is yours,
Creator God, now and forever,
All: Amen.

Lord's Prayer (*Sung*):

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.**

Fraction (Breaking the Bread):

Presider: We break this bread

All: **Communion in Christ's body once
broken.**

Presider: Let your Church be the wheat
which bears its fruit in dying.

All: **If we have died with him,
we shall live with him;
if we hold firm, we shall rise with him.**

Invitation to the Table:

Presider: The gifts of God for the people of God

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Communion:

All people are welcome to receive Communion of one kind (Wafers). Gluten free wafer are available upon request. Please wear your mask and sanitize your hands before receiving.

We ask that you wait until you have returned to your seat before removing your mask and consuming the wafer.

While the communion is being administered, we respectfully ask that you keep the silence.

Candle lighting during this time is welcomed.

Communion Hymn: As We Gather at Your Table

As we gather at your table,
as we listen to your word,
help us know, O God, your presence;
let our hearts and minds be stirred.
Nourish us with sacred story
till we claim it as our own;
teach us through this holy banquet
how to make Love's victory known.

Turn our worship into witness
in the sacrament of life;
send us forth to love and serve you,
bringing peace where there is strife.
Give us, Christ, your great compassion
to forgive as your forgave;
may we still behold your image
in the world you died to save.

Gracious Spirit, help us summon
other guests to share that feast
where triumphant Love will welcome
those who had been last and least.
There no more will envy blind us,
nor will pride our peace destroy,
as we join with saints and angels
to repeat the sounding joy.

Prayer after Communion:

Presider:

Lord of this feast

All:

beyond measure and price;

we thank you

for meeting us in our brokenness

so that none might be lost:

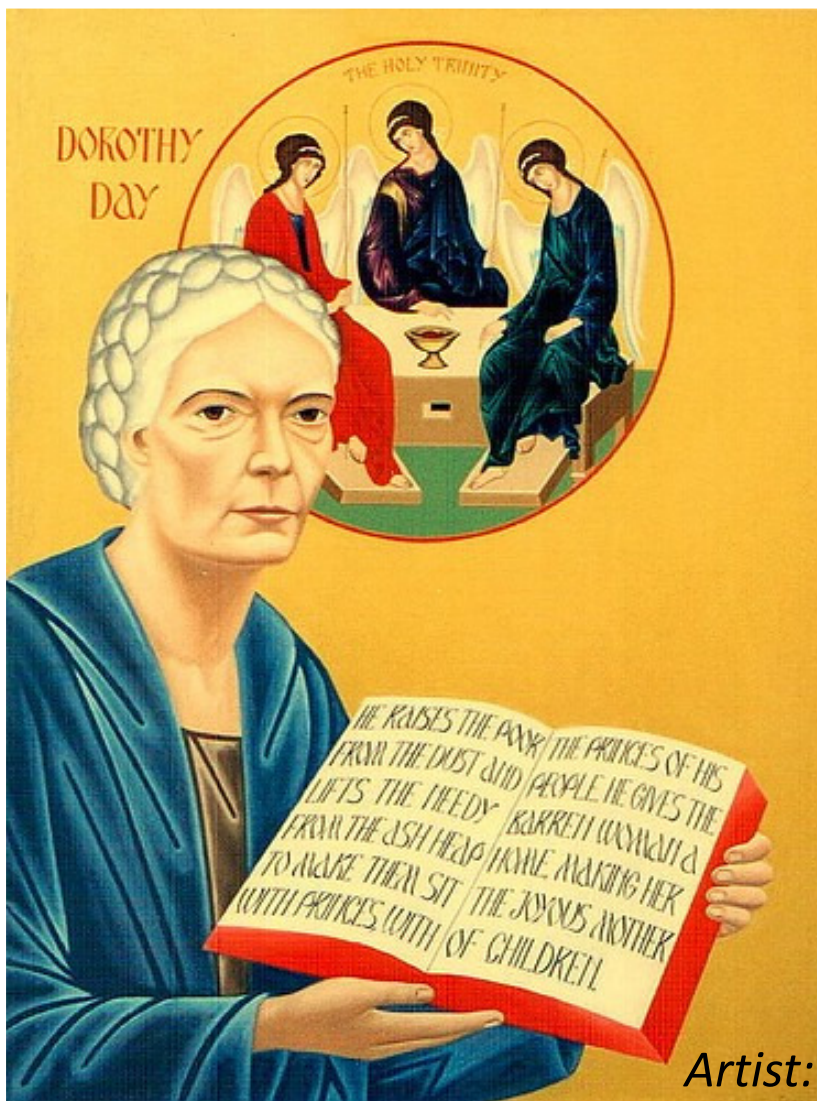
liberate us now

to share bread with our neighbour,

each receiving from the other

what we need to be ourselves.

Amen.



Artist: Nicholas Tsai, Creative Commons

Sending

Announcements – Rev. Sharon

Blessing:



Artist: Mario Irarrazabal

Sending Song: Let Streams of Living Justice

Let streams of living justice
flow down upon the earth;
give freedom's light to captives,
let all the poor have worth.

The hungry's hands are pleading,
the workers claim their rights,
the mourners long for laughter,
the blinded seek for sight.

Make liberty a beacon,
strike down the iron power;
abolish ancient vengeance:
proclaim your people's hour.

For healing of the nations,
for peace that will not end,
for love that makes us lovers,
God grant us grace to mend.

Weave our varied gifts together;
knit out lives as they are spun;
on your loom of time enroll us
till our thread of life is run.

O great Weaver of our fabric,
bind church and world in one;
dye our texture wit your radiance,
light our colours with your sun.

Your city's built to music;
we are the stones you seek;
your harmony is language:
we are the words you speak.
Our faith we find in service,
our hope in other's dreams,
our love in hand of neighbour:
our homeland brightly gleams.
Inscribe our hearts with justice;
your way- the path untried;
your truth – the heart of stranger;
your life – the Crucified.

Dismissal – Rev Sharon Smith

Presider: Go forth in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Lenten Study- *Engaging Sacred Space*
with Peter Elliott and Thomas Roach.

As St Catherine's looks at how we can transform our Sanctuary into a more inviting and beautiful space for worship and for members of the community to use, we need to look at ideas that honour our tradition and incorporate a respectful use of space by the community.

Three Thursday evenings from 7 to 8:30pm.
Register on the church website event or phone the church office.

March 17: ***On Holy Ground***

March 24: ***Building a Blueprint***

March 31: ***In this Together***

Events this Week

Tuesday Evening 8-9 pm on Zoom:

At the end of our busy days, we will be praying together, reflecting on a scripture and/or wisdom saying, sitting in silence and discussing our experience. We will be opening ourselves up with the Welcoming Prayer and Centring Prayer Practices to draw near to God in every moment.

Zoom details at www.saint-catherines.org

Wednesday Morning 10-11 am on Zoom:

Once a month, on the third Wednesday of the month, we gather to reflect deeply on scriptures.

We use a practice called 'Lectio Divina':

Lectio Divina is a contemplative way of reading the Bible. It dates back to the early centuries of the Christian Church and was established as a monastic practice by Benedict in the 6th century. It is a way of praying the scriptures that leads us deeper into God's word. We slow down. We read a short passage more than once. We chew it over slowly and carefully. We savour it. Scripture begins to speak to us in a new way. It speaks to us personally, and aids that union we have with God through Christ who is the Living Word.