

HOLY TRINITY ANGLICAN CHURCH
March 19th, 2023 The Fourth Sunday in Lent

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; those who follow me will have the light of life. John 8:12

Announcements

The Gathering of the Community

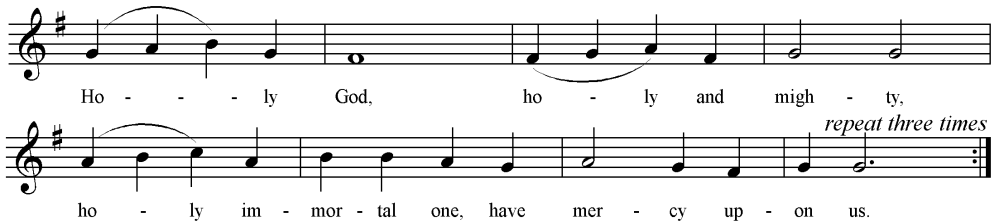
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Almighty 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.

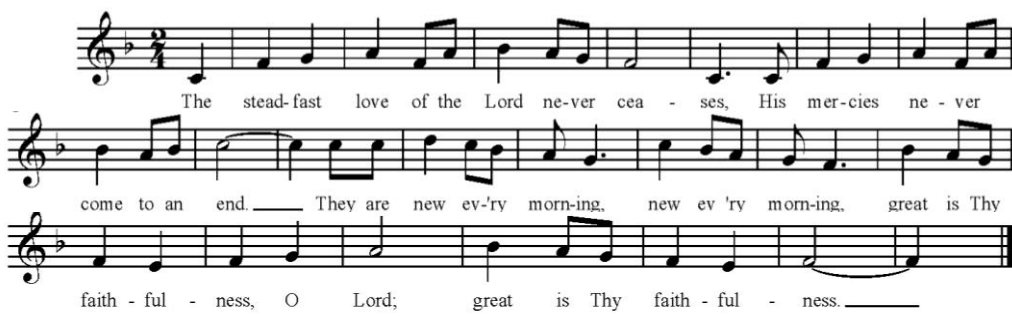
Trisagion



Collect of the Day: 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.

Kids Talk

Kids Song: The Steadfast Love of the Lord



THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

1 Samuel 16:1-13. The beginning of the monarchy permanently changed Israel's understanding of their relationship with God. King Saul has failed, and God sends Samuel to anoint David in his place. The remainder of the book, which ends with Saul's death, tells of David's rise to become the undisputed king.

A reading from 1 Samuel (16:1-13) (Marian Allen)

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.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

***Psalm 23.** It is unlikely that David wrote this psalm, which detracts nothing from the beauty and comfort emanating from every line of the poem. The psalm is linked to the reading from 1 Samuel by the account of David's anointing, and by images of sheep and shepherd.*

Psalm 23



The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters. **R**

He revives my soul and guides me along right pathways for his 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. **R**

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 your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever. **R**

***Ephesians 5:8-14.** Baptismal images abound in this lesson: the passage from darkness to light, the call to awaken, and the challenge to live as children of light. Behind it stands the belief that pagans and unbelievers are not just in darkness but are darkness itself. A similar attitude is common to many religious traditions, ancient and modern, where 'true believers' regard all others as inherently evil.*

A reading from Ephesians (5:8-14) (Marian Allen)

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.'

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Lenten Prose:

Antiphon



Hear us, O Lord, have mer-cy up-on us: for we have sin - ned a - gainst__ thee.

Sins oft committed now we lay before thee: with true contrition, now no more we veil them: grant us, Redeemer, loving absolution.

Hear us, O Lord...

***John 9:1-41.** Another of John's extended stories includes one of the "Signs" by which John reveals Jesus as the Son of God, in this case, the giving of sight to a blind man. The sign's purpose is not to let him see, but to elicit his confession of faith.*

Scripture Intros by The Rev. Robin Walker.

The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (9:1-41).

All: **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.'

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.

The Gospel of Christ.

All: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon: The Rev. Rob Key

The Apostles' Creed:

Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say, 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.

The Prayers of the People *(Matthew Mercer-Deadman)*

Response to each intercession:

Lord, in your mercy...

All: Hear our prayer.

Confession and Absolution

Dear friends in Christ, as we turn our hearts and minds to worship almighty God, let us confess our faults in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace with our neighbour. *(Silence to recount our sins.)*

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.

May Almighty God have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in eternal life - through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Peace *(Please stand)*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And also with you.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Hymn #505: Be Thou My Vision

1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true Word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor the world's emp - ty praise;
 4 High King of heav - en, when vic - tory is won,

naught be all else to me, save that thou art—
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
 may I reach heav - en's joys, bright heav - en's Sun!

thou my best thought, by day or by night,
 thou my great Fa - ther; thine own may I be,
 thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 thou in me dwell - ing, and I one with thee.
 high King of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Prayer over the Gifts: God of light, your Word brings to us a new vision of your glory. Accept our offering of praise and thanksgiving, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Supplementary Eucharistic Prayer 3

The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

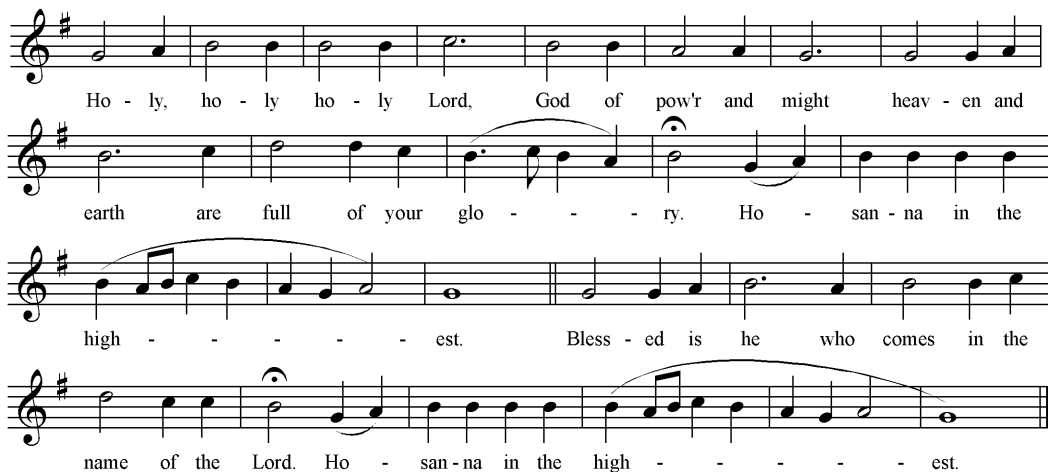
Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right to thank you and praise you, holy and gracious God, creator of all things, ruler of heaven and earth, sustainer of life, for you are the source of all goodness, rich in mercy and abounding in love; you are faithful to your people in every generation, and your word endures for ever. Therefore with angels and archangels, with the fellowship of saints and the company of heaven, we glorify your holy name, evermore praising you and singing,



We praise you, merciful Father, not as we ought, but as we are able, because in your tender love you gave the world your only Son, in order that the world might be saved through him. He made you known by taking the form of a servant, healing the sick, liberating the oppressed, reaching out to the lost. Betrayed, reviled, and nailed to the cross, he confronted the power of sin and disarmed it for ever. In his offering of himself, he became the perfect and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Redeemed by Christ, we have been adopted as your children; by your pardon you have made us worthy to praise you.

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."

In obedience to him and with grateful hearts we approach your holy table, remembering our Saviour's sacrifice, and rejoicing in his victory. Confident in his sovereign purpose, we declare our faith.

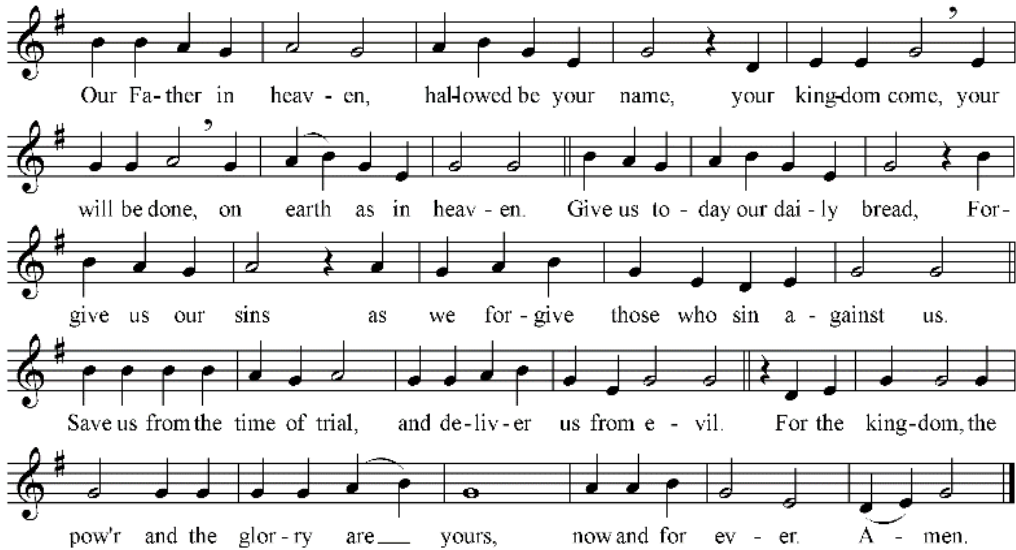


Send your Holy Spirit on us that as we receive this bread and this cup we may partake of the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving. May we be renewed in his risen life, filled with love, and strengthened in our will to serve others; and make of our lives, we pray, a pure and holy sacrifice, acceptable to you, knitting us together as one in your Son Jesus Christ, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, now and forever.



The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, let us sing...



Our Fa-ther in heav - en, haHowed be your name, your king-dom come, your
will be done, on earth as in heav - en. Give us to - day our dai - ly bread, For -
give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.
Save us from the time of trial, and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the
pow'r and the glor - ry are — yours, now and for ev - er. A - men.

The Breaking of Bread

We break this bread,

All: Communion in Christ's body once broken.

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 reign with him.

The Communion

The gifts of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Fraction Anthem: Hymn #50, verses 1 & 3

1. Now, my tongue, the mystery telling,
Of the glorious body sing,
And the blood, all price excelling,
Which the nations' Lord and King,
Once on earth among us dwelling,
Shed for this world's ransoming.

3. Word made flesh, by word he maketh,
Very bread his flesh to be,
Wine his blood for whoso taketh;
And if senses fail to see,
Faith alone the true heart waketh
To behold the mystery.

The table is set, all are welcome.

If you would prefer a blessing, please indicate this by crossing your arms over your chest.

The bread is gluten free for all to share in the One Bread, One Body.

Communion Hymn #175: Forty Days and Forty Nights

1 For - ty days and for - ty nights you were fas - ting
2 burn - ing heat through - out the day, bit - ter cold when
3 Shall not we your tri - als share, learn your dis - ci -
4 So if Sa - tan, press - ing hard, soul and bo - dy
5 Sav - iour, may we hear your voice— keep us con - stant

in the wild, for - ty days and for - ty nights
light had fled, prowl - ing beasts a - round your way,
pline of will, and with you by fast and prayer
would des - troy, Christ who con - quered, be our guard;
at your side; and with you we shall re - joice

tempt - ed, and yet un - de - filed:
stones your pil - low, earth your bed.
wres - tle with the powers of hell?
give to us the vic - tor's joy.
at the e - ter - nal Eas - ter - tide.

Anthem: Lead Gently, Lord

Lead gently, Lord, and slow,
For oh, my steps are weak,
And ever as I go,
Some soothing sentence speak;

Lead gently, Lord, and slow,
For fear that I may fall;
I know not where to go
Unless I hear thy call.

That I may turn my face
Through doubt's obscurity
toward thine abiding-place,
E'en tho' I cannot see.

My fainting soul doth yearn
For thy green hills afar;
So let thy mercy burn-
My greater, guiding star!

For lo, the way is dark;
Through mist and cloud I grope,
Save for that fitful spark,
The little flame of hope.

Prayer after Communion:

Creator, through your goodness we receive your Son in word and sacrament. May we always have faith in him, Jesus Christ the Lord.

The Doxology

Glory to God,

All: 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.

The Blessing

Strengthened by God, let us go now in peace. In the spirit of Lent let us try to turn away from darkness and travel through the wilderness, never alone, always together. We ask this in the name of

God Almighty, Creator, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Recessional Hymn #397: Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

1 Praise the one who breaks the dark-ness with a lib-er-
 2 Praise the one who blessed the chil-dren with a strong yet
 3 Praise the one true love in-car-nate: Christ who suf-fered

a-ting light. Praise the one who frees the pris-oners, turn-ing
 gen-tle word. Praise the one who drove out de-mons with a
 in our place. Je-sus died and rose for ma-ny that we

blind-ness in-to sight. Praise the one who preached the
 pier-cing two-edged sword. Praise the one who brings cool
 may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and

gos-pel, heal-ing ev-ery dread dis-ease, calm-ing
 wa-ter to the des-ert's burn-ing sand. From this
 glad-ness, see-ing what our God has done. Praise the

storms and feed-ing thou-sands with the ve-ry bread of peace.
 well comes liv-ing wa-ter, quench-ing thirst in ev-ery land.
 one re-deem-ing glo-ry, praise the One who makes us one.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Music for Meditation

NOTE: During Lent, the final organ voluntary is meant to be a time of meditation. The congregation is encouraged to observe a moment of silence following the voluntary before leaving the pews.

You are invited to join us for coffee and fellowship in the Lower Hall following the service.