

Gathering Table
a Faith Community in the Anglican Church of Canada

Presider & Preacher: The Rev'd George Porter, D. Phil.

Palm Sunday
10:00 a.m.

April 5th, 2020
BAS Page 297

WELCOME TO GATHERING TABLE

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For thousands of years, First Nations people have walked on this land; their relationship with the land is at the centre of life and spirituality. We are gathered as treaty people on the traditional territory of the Anishnaabeg of the Fort William First Nation and acknowledge this people's stewardship of this land through the ages.

Steve Bell: 'Ride on, King Jesus'

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!

THE BLESSING OF THE PALMS

Greeting and prayer – BAS Page 297

Presider: Dear friends in Christ,
during Lent we have been preparing
for the celebration of our Lord's paschal mystery.

On this day our Lord Jesus Christ
entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph.
The people welcomed him with palms and shouts of
praise, but the path before him led to self-giving, suffering,
and death.

Today we greet him as our King,
although we know his crown is thorns and his throne a
cross.

We follow him this week from the glory of the palms
to the glory of the resurrection
by way of the dark road of suffering and death.
United with him in his suffering on the cross,
may we share his resurrection and new life.

Let us pray.

Assist us mercifully with your help,
Lord God of our salvation,
that we may enter with joy
into the celebration of those mighty acts
whereby you give us life and immortality;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Presider: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to:
Matthew

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Matthew 21: 1 – 11

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." This took place to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, "Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey." The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

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

The Blessing: BAS Page 298

Presider: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Presider:,

It is right to praise you, almighty God,
for the acts of love by which you have redeemed us
through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Hebrews acclaimed Jesus as Messiah and King,
with palm branches in their hands, crying,
Hosanna in the highest.

May we also, carrying these emblems, go forth to meet
Christ

and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life;
who lives and reigns in glory with you and the Holy Spirit,
now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Collect

Almighty God, whose Son was crucified yet entered into glory, may we, walking in the way of the cross, find it is for us the way of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

The Second Collect

Almighty and ever living God, in tender love for all our human race you sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take our flesh and suffer death upon a cruel cross. May we follow the example of his great humility, and share in the glory of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who

**is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen**

The Proclamation of the Word

**The First Reading is from the Book of
Isaiah 50: 4 – 9a**

The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens - wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Psalms 31: 1, 9 - 16

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in trouble; my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.

For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing; my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.

I have become a reproach to all my enemies and even to my neighbours, a dismay to those of my acquaintance; when they see me in the street they avoid me.

I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind; I am as useless as a broken pot.

For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around; they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life.

But as for me, I have trusted in you, O Lord. I have said, "You are my God.

My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

Make your face to shine upon your servant, and in your loving kindness save me."

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians 2: 5 - 11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the

Father.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

The Sermon: **George**

The Apostles' Creed - page 189 BAS

Presider: Let us confess the faith of our baptism in the words of the Apostles' Creed:

**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

Creator, your word which summoned this world into existence, brought order out of chaos and beauty out of the formless, has infused the very air we breathe with the precious perfume of your love. This word is the light by which our journey is illuminated, the light by which we see the beauty of this world, and the light we pass to those who would join us travelling in the hope and joy of your company.

Sustainer, your love extends to the boundaries of the universe yet is focused on humankind; weak, sinful, helpless, blown this-way-and-that-way individuals who you count as your children, wanting nothing more than to welcome them into your arms, prodigals returning to their home.

Your word is a lamp to my feet
ALL: And a light for my path.

Healer, your love extends to the boundaries of humankind, to rich and poor, have and have-nots, oppressor and oppressed, thief and victim, for we are all in need of your forgiveness and reconciliation. We pray for all your children wherever they might be, especially in this time of global pandemic, in their joy and sorrow, fear, pain and suffering; that your word might comfort, your love heal and restore.

Your word is a lamp to my feet
ALL: And a light for my path.

Reconciler, your love breaks through, demands to be noticed, exposes that which has been hidden, reveals the truth that has been concealed within the heart. We pray for those who exploit the poor, those whose business is slavery or persecution and those who hold power over life or death. We pray that your word, your love might bring change, and bring light into hearts darkened by sin.

Your word is a lamp to my feet

And a light for my path.

Saviour, your love has influence wherever it is shown; a shoulder to lean on, a willing ear to listen, a task performed, a gift given, a selfless act. Give special strength to those who daily give of themselves to care for the sick, the endangered and those in any need. We pray for Archbishop Anne and all those in positions of authority and responsibility. May they show your love and share your word through their actions and service, and may they and those they serve be blessed.

Your word is a lamp to my feet

And a light for my path.

**Christ with us, Christ before us,
Christ behind us, Christ in us,
Christ beneath us, Christ above us,
Christ on our right, Christ on our left,
Christ when we lie down, Christ when we sit
down, Christ when we arise,
Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of us,
Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of us,
Christ in every eye that sees us, Christ in every ear
that hears us.**

The Confession and Absolution – Page 191

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.

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.

General Thanksgiving Prayer: Page 129 BAS

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise
for all you have done for us.

We thank you for the splendour of the whole creation,
for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life,
and for the mystery of love.

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends,
and for the loving care
which surrounds us on every side.

We thank you for setting us tasks
which demand our best efforts,
and for leading us to accomplishments
which satisfy and delight us.

We thank you also for those disappointments and failures
that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ;
for the truth of his word and the example of his life;
for his steadfast obedience,

by which he overcame temptation;

for his dying, through which he overcame death;

for his rising to life again,

in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit,

that we may know Christ and make him known;

and through him, at all times and in all places,

may give thanks to you in all things. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BLESSING

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and

the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore.

Let us Bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Steve Bell: 'Ride on, King Jesus'

Scripture Readings for Resurrection - Easter Day

Exodus 12: 1 – 14 ...

Psalm 116: 1, 10 – 17

1 Corinthians 11: 23 – 26

John 13: 1 – 17, 31b - 35

Anglican Cycle of Prayer

Please Pray for: The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean
The Most Revd James Richard Wong Yin Song - Archbishop, Province of Indian Ocean & Bishop of the Seychelles

Anglican Lutheran Cycle of Prayer :

Please Pray for:

ACC Archbishop Anne Germond, the people and clergy of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario

ELCIC The dean, council, and congregations of the Manitoba East Area of the Manitoba-Northwestern Ontario Synod

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer :

Please Pray for: St. Mary Magdalene, Sturgeon Falls
The Ven. Marie Loewen

Parish Cycle of Prayer:

Please pray for our own church members: Violet Aber, Bruce and Georgina Adderley, Roberta Adderley, Joanna Aegard, Angela Alberta and Ava, Katelin Anderson, Ryan Thrasher, Brooke-Lynn and Scarlett, Bruce and Margaret Aris, Darlene Armstrong, Audrey Atkinson and Errol, Bill Barney, Wilson Barton, Sabata Baya, Brandon and Ellen Beaudry and Clint, Richard and Lesley BeauParlant, Wendy Bell, Ellie Bennett , Kerri and Shane Bernardi, Sydney and Samuel, Kim Bienvenue,

Please Pray For:

Our young people in Junior High School, High School, College and University who are struggling academically, social and mentally, as well as with understanding their own identities.

Prayer requests from Arch Bishop Anne:

“Please join the bishops of our province in holding our province and our whole world in prayer during this time of crisis, especially those who are afflicted with this coronavirus. Pray especially for researchers, policymakers, frontline workers, and for all those who are caring for those who are sick, as well as for those who have died and those who mourn.”

“Continue to pray for those who are most deeply affected by COVID-19 - frontline workers, hospital staff, those who are stranded and unable to return to their homes from abroad, those who are isolated further because of the new restrictive measures in place, and those who have been diagnosed with COVID -19 and their families and loved ones.”

New- Gathering Table Prayer Chain

During this time of social isolation and uncertainty, it is more important than ever to pray for one another. If you would like to be a part of the Gathering Table prayer chain or you have any needs or concerns that you would like placed on the prayer chain please contact Sheila Chisholm at chisholmsheilak@gmail.com or text or phone 306-240-0771.

A grace note from www.thunderbay-northshoreanglicans.com
Jesus' walk to death is our walk to eternal life.

Reminder about Visitations:

Pastoral care visits will be restricted to emergency situations – please call the office or the Rectory if such a situation arises. Telephone prayer ministry will be ongoing.

Dear Parishioners:

At this time when Sunday worship services have been suspended, we are providing a number of ways that you can continue to financially support our mission and ministries at Gathering Table. Of course, these methods are unnecessary for parishioners currently using the Electronic Offering Program (EOP). But if you wish to begin the EOP or modify your existing EOP, please contact the Diocesan office at:

[https://www.dioceseofalgoma.com/about-the-diocese-of-
algoma/electronic-offering-programme/](https://www.dioceseofalgoma.com/about-the-diocese-of-algoma/electronic-offering-programme/)

Offering Options:

1. Drop it off at the church office at 228 Pearl St. Office hours are Tuesday to Thursday 10 – 2 and Friday 9 – 12 noon. Just buzz the door, identify yourself, and the door will be unlocked. Give it to Roberta or Sharon, who will record the offering.
2. Mail it in to: Gathering Table, 228 Pearl St., Thunder Bay, ON P7B 1E4. Please ensure to not mail cash.
3. Send an e-transfer by setting up a profile with your own financial institution, indicate the recipient is Gathering Table church, and use the church email address of office@gatheringtable.ca

Use the security question “What is the first name of our Pastor?” (answer: George) In the message box, please include your envelope number or mailing address, and the Sunday date you wish the offering to be applied. For example:

| |
|---|
| Envelope no. 999 for
Sunday March 29 |
|---|

With appreciation,
Marg, Marjorie, Sheila, Jim

Sunday Sermons: Since we aren't gathering at the church, the Sunday service can be viewed on the Gathering Table website <http://gatheringtable.ca> and on the Gathering Table Facebook page. The whole service will be live streamed at 10 a.m. Sunday at the link <http://gatheringtable.ca>

Email office@gatheringtable.ca



Gathering Table
228 Pearl Street, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 1E4

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Web: <http://gatheringtable.ca>

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Hall: 345-6088

Pastor: The Rev. Canon George M. Porter, D.Phil.

Phone: 626-9650

Mobile: 355-5454

Email: porter.george@gmail.com

Honorary Assistant: The Rev. Gail M. Clifton, M.Div.

Phone: 768-9865

Lay Readers: Frances Bennett-Sutton, Kim Bienvenue,
Rose Jardine, Brenda O'Neill and Jim Sutton

Rector's Warden: Marg Boone

Deputy Rector's Warden: Marjorie Tutkaluk

People's Warden: Jim Sutton

Deputy People's Warden: Sheila Chisholm

Co-Music Directors - at Gathering Table

Pianist Donna Hamill Organist (Vacant)

Archbishop Anne's Motto for 2020

***"In the same way, let your light so shine before others
that they may see your good works
and give glory to your Father in heaven."***

(Matthew 5.16)