

**Gathering Table
a Faith Community
in the
Anglican Church of Canada**

The Second Sunday of Lent

**Presider: Brenda O'Neill
Preaching: Frances Bennett-Sutton**

March 13th , 2022

10:00 a.m.

Welcome To Gathering Table

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For thousands of years, First Nations people have walked on this land; 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.

Welcome and Opening Remarks

If you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Psalm 95. 7 – 8

Music Before the Liturgy:

O Day of Peace that Dimly Shines

Gathering of the Community

BAS Page 47

Please stand, as you are able, for the Gathering of the Community

Presider: Lord, open our lips,

All: **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Presider: O God, make speed to save us.

All: **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

All: **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

The Lord is glorious in his saints:

O come, let us worship.

Canticle # 6 Seek the Lord

BAS p. 78

Isaiah 55.6–11

Seek the Lord while he wills to be found; *

call upon him when he draws near.

Let the wicked forsake their ways *

and the evil ones their thoughts;

And let them turn to the Lord, and he will have compassion, *

and to our God, for he will richly pardon.

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, *

nor your ways my ways, says the Lord.

For as the heavens are higher than the earth, *

so are my ways higher than your ways,
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

For as rain and snow fall from the heavens *
and return not again, but water the earth,
Bringing forth life and giving growth, *
seed for sowing and bread for eating,
So is my word that goes forth from my mouth; *
it will not return to me empty;
But it will accomplish that which I have purposed, *
and prosper in that for which I sent it.

The Lord is glorious in his saints:
O come, let us worship.

The Proclamation of the Word
(Please be seated for the readings.)

**First Reading is found in The Book of
Genesis 15: 1 – 12, 17 - 18**

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."

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

PSALM 27

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?

When evildoers came upon me to eat up my flesh, it was they, my foes and my adversaries, who stumbled and fell.

Though an army should encamp against me, yet my heart shall not be afraid;

And though war should rise up against me, yet will I put my trust in him.

One thing have I asked of the Lord; one thing I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life;

To behold the fair beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.

For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe in his shelter; he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling and set me high upon a rock.

Even now he lifts up my head above my enemies round about me.

Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation with sounds of great gladness; I will sing and make music to the Lord.

Hearken to my voice, O Lord, when I call; have mercy on me and answer me. You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face." Your face, Lord, will I seek.

Hide not your face from me, nor turn away your servant in displeasure.

You have been my helper; cast me not away; do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.

Though my father and my mother forsake me, the Lord will sustain me.

Show me your way, O Lord; lead me on a level path, because of my enemies.

Deliver me not into the hand of my adversaries, for false witnesses have risen up against me, and also those who speak malice.

What if I had not believed that I should see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living!

O tarry and await the Lord's pleasure; be strong, and he shall comfort your heart; wait patiently for the Lord.

The Second Reading is found in The Letter of Paul to the Philippians

Philippians 3: 17 – 4:1

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 Saviour, 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.

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

A Gradual: Let Stream of Living Justice

Please stand, as you are able, for the reading of the Gospel.

Luke 13: 31 – 35

**The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Luke**

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.'"

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

A Sermon / Message: Frances Bennett-Sutton

A time of silence for reflection:

Affirmation of Faith:

Let us confess the faith in these words:

**Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one.
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 neighbour as yourself.**

There is no commandment greater than these.

Music: Come Thou Fount

Intercessions and Thanksgivings

Collect for Second Sunday of Lent

**Almighty God, whose Son was revealed in majesty
before he suffered death upon the cross, give us
faith to perceive his glory, that being strengthened
by his grace we may be changed into his likeness,
from glory to glory; who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.**

Amen

A Prayer for our Parish

Gracious God, during this vacancy, guard and grow our Parish of Gathering Table as we serve you together in this period without an incumbent.

Lord Jesus, we know that you have plans for us and that these plans are always good. We ask now that you will help us to share responsibility, grow in faith, love one another, care for those in need, reach out to others, and welcome newcomers and visitors.

Holy Spirit, please guide those who are seeking the right person for us, and those who are seeking the right place for their ministry, that together we may discover your way for the future and see your kingdom grow. Amen.

Prayers of the People

With longing hearts we pray, “Lord, hear our prayer”.

Lord, hear our prayer

For your Church, especially Archbishop Anne, Archdeacon Deborah, Pastor Gail, for the members of this parish listed in our bulletin;

Janis, Arlene, Carl and Elizabeth, Adrienne, Tom and Dora, Charles and Marion, Rosalie, Mark, Dorothy, Len, Garth and Brenda, Beth, Cindy, Henry, Marjorie, Richard,

Sheila, Nancy and Bob, Michelle, Alex, Sarah, Evelyn and Emerson

May we always be sensitive to the leading of your Spirit.

Lord, hear our prayer

For the Queen and all in authority. We pray for wisdom, truth and compassion in the governance and care of all people, particularly as the world continues to deal with the continuing challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. We pray especially for people in countries without vaccines and other resources.

Lord, hear our prayer

For the safety and protection of hospital and first responder staff, for city police, OPP, RCMP, and for our armed forces, especially members of the Lake Superior Scottish Regiment.

Lord, hear our prayer

For lasting peace in war-torn countries, especially Ukraine.....(silence)....., and also Afghanistan, Yemen, Syria, Somalia, Ethiopia, and North Africa. For relief and safety for people and lands affected by drought, flood, famine, and other disasters.

Lord, hear our prayer

For deep and lasting reconciliation from the residential school legacy, and for justice and peace for families of missing and murdered indigenous women and girls.

Lord, hear our prayer

For those in need of your healing touch and grieving the loss of a loved one – *(please say aloud or silently the*

names of persons); in your mercy,

Lord, hear our prayer

For all people, as we confront the urgency and reality of human-caused climate change; grant us great courage to address this challenge in a timely manner.

Lord, hear our prayer

For the staff at Grace Place, Dew Drop Inn, Shelter House, Salvation Army, and other agencies who serve the hungry, lonely, and hurting people of our city. Grant them encouragement, resources and compassion to do this vital work.

Lord, hear our prayer

For our parish of Gathering Table; may we live with passion and purpose and abide in Jesus; may we be formed in God's love for the world and may we reach toward a future of faith, hope and love.

Lord, hear our prayer

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;

in your compassion, forgive us our sins,

known and unknown,

things done and left undone;

and so uphold us by your Spirit

that we may live and serve you

in newness of life,

to the honour and glory of your name;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gracious God,
you have heard the prayers of your faithful people;
you know our needs before we ask,
and our ignorance in asking.
Grant our requests as may be best for us.
This we ask in the name of your Son
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us continue in prayer together, saying:

Creator, we give you thanks for all you are and all you bring to us for our time within your creation. In Jesus, you place the Gospel in the centre of the sacred circle through which all of creation is related. You show us the way to live a generous and compassionate life. Give us your strength to live together with respect and commitment as we grow in your Spirit, for you are God, now and forever. Amen

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

A Blessing

Life is short
And we do not have much time
To Gladden the hearts of those
Who travel with us.
So may we be swift to love,
May we make haste to be kind
And may we go in Peace
To Love and serve the Lord

Announcements

Closing Music: Come ye Sinners Poor and Needy

Dismissal

Let us go forth to be Christ's Body here on earth.
Thanks be to God.

Please note that there is a 'treasure chest' at the back of the church where offerings can be left when leaving the church.

At the conclusion of the service, please remain seated until an usher dismisses you. If you are helping with post-service cleaning or counting, please remain seated until ushers indicate it is safe to move about.

Readings for The 3rd Sunday of Lent

Isaiah 55: 1 - 9.....

Psalms 63: 1 - 8

1 Corinthians 10: 1 – 13

Luke 13: 1 - 9

Anglican Cycle of Prayer Please Pray for:

2nd Sunday of Lent

The Anglican Church of Melanesia

Anglican Lutheran Cycle of Prayer :

Please Pray for:

ACC: The Rt. Rev. Bruce Myers, Bishop, and the people and clergy of the Diocese of Quebec

ELCIC Bishop Jason Zinko, the people and rostered ministers of the Manitoba-Northwestern Ontario Synod

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Please pray for:

Manitoulin Island Parishes, All Saints, Gore Bay
St. John the Evangelist, Kagawong, St. Paul's,
Manitowaning, St. Francis of Assisi, Mindemoya
Holy Trinity, Little Current, The Rev. Doug Prebble

Parish Cycle of Prayer

Please pray for our own church members:

Janis Medwid, Arlene Meservier, Carl and Elizabeth Mickelson, Adrienne Morris, Tom and Dora Morris, Charles and Marion Morris, Rosalie Hardisty Morris, Mark Myers, Dorothy Nesbitt, Len Norris, Garth and Brenda O'Neill, Beth O'Neill, Cindy Papassay, Henry Parise, Marjorie (Midge) Peel, Richard Pepper, Sheila Pepper, Nancy and Bob Polhill, Dr. Michelle Proudfoot, Alex and Sarah, Evelyn and Emerson Pyne,

Please Pray For: Our young people in Junior High School, High School, College and University who are struggling academically, socially and mentally, especially during the uncertainty of Covid-19 times, as well as with understanding their own identities.

Prayer during Vacancy in Our Parish

Heavenly Father,

During this vacancy, guard and grow our Parish as we serve you together in this period without an incumbent. Lord Jesus, we know that you have plans for us and that these plans are always good. We ask now that you will help us to share responsibility, grow in faith, love one another, care for those in need, reach out to others, and welcome newcomers and visitors.

Holy Spirit, please guide those who are seeking the right person for us, and those who are seeking the right place for their ministry, that together we may discover your way for the future of Gathering Table and see your kingdom grow. Amen.

A grace note from www.thunderbay-northshoreanglicans.com

Serve Jesus until perfection becomes you!

Reminder about Visitations:

Pastoral care visits will continue to be restricted to emergency situations – please call the office if such a situation arises.

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 /phone 306-240-0771.

Sunday Sermons: 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> **Please Note** You may be visible on the online stream



2022 Envelopes
are now available at the back of the church.
Or Ask About Electronic Offering Program

CAMP GITCHIGOMEЕ 2022
MEMBERSHIPS NOW AVAILABLE for \$5.00

Support the work of Camp Gitchigomee by purchasing a \$5.00 Yearly Membership. See Jim Sutton or call Roberta

Wolfe at the church office or contact the camp at campgitchigomee@gmail.com Thank You

Looking Ahead to Easter:

Making of the Palm Crosses – April 9th, 2022
10 a.m. in Parish Hall – Everyone Welcome to help

The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday,
April 10th, 2022 at 10 a.m.

Deadline for Easter Flowers – April 11th, 2022

Maundy Thursday, April 14th, 2022 at 7 p.m.

Good Friday – April 15th, 2022

The Sunday of the Resurrection Easter Sunday
April 17th, 2022 – at 10 a.m.

EASTER FLOWERS

In the Anglican Church, if we do something twice....is it Tradition? Surely, then, thrice seals the deal!

A third consecutive Lent and Easter season in the shadow of Co***d. But this year we may gather to celebrate the unfathomable love of God toward all humanity, through Lent and Easter seasons.

Please consider donating toward the Easter flowers, in Celebration of His Love. **DEADLINE: Monday, April 11** – the day after Palm Sunday.

This year, we may deliver our Easter Flower contributions to Gathering Table IN PERSON! Details are given below.

Pay by cheque or money order, made out to Gathering Table ALTAR GUILD re Easter Flowers.

Do include a written confirmation of your name, amount and any dedication you wish to have printed in the Easter Bulletin. OR, if not In Person, then: Contact Rose Jardine by email at roseanew@tbaytel.net, or by voice mail / text at 621-1205, to add your name to the list AND provide the wording of your 'dedication'. For assistance with any part of this 2022 process, please DO email, call or text Rose.

PWRDF – Ukraine Support

PWRDF is supporting Ukrainians forced to flee their homes due to the Russian invasion. The initial grant of \$20,000 issued to an ACT Alliance appeal has been increased to \$50,000. The grants will fund the work of ACT member Hungarian Interchurch Aid (HIA).

As the war began on February 24, tens of thousands of Ukrainians fled for safety elsewhere in Ukraine or to neighbouring countries. HIA has been working in Ukraine for more than 25 years in humanitarian and development projects. It had already shipped 28 tons of food to support those fleeing to Hungary, and their staff have been working with refugees at the Ukraine/Hungary border. Yelena was one of hundreds of Ukrainians in line at a border crossing into Hungary, waiting with her three children while her husband is on the frontlines. She told ACT, "We heard that the Polish border is completely jammed, so we decided to cross the mountains and try to make it into Hungary. My sister is still on the way, I have no idea where she or my nieces are."

On February 27, HIA set up a 24-hour refugee support point on the Hungarian side of the border at Beregsurány,

where the line of refugees trying to cross into Hungary is kilometres long, says an ACT communiqué.

The support point was set up in a heated pavilion almost 4 km away in Asztély, Ukraine, near the border crossing.

More tents and mobile toilets will be added in the coming days. HIA is providing hot tea, sandwiches, refreshments, blankets and basic hygiene items for Ukrainians, including many elderly and children who are waiting long hours to cross the border into Hungary.

“In addition to the tangible help at the support point, HIA also helps those arriving with information in Hungarian and Ukrainian, including how those in need can get temporary accommodation in Hungary,” says ACT.

There is also support from local volunteers, such as a nearby Serbian bakery who is providing fresh bread, made with flour donated from Hungary.

“We’ve been standing here at this border checkpoint for more than five hours,” says Yelena. “It is cold and my children are freezing. It is amazing to see that people are here to help, and even just talking to you gives us hope for a better future.”

How you can help

To make a donation to this response, go to **pwrdf.org/give-today** and click on **Response in Ukraine**. You may also donate by phone at 416-822-9083 or leave a voicemail toll-free at 1-866-308-7973 and we will return your call, or mail your cheque to PWRDF, 80 Hayden, 3rd floor, Toronto, Ontario, M4Y 3G2.

Please mark **Ukraine** in the memo field

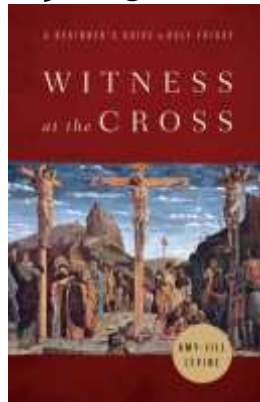
2022 Parking Passes Available at Gathering Table

Parking Passes for those wishing to park during the week to work in the area are available in the church office for \$30.00 each month.

Parking Passes for Parishioner's are now available in the Church Office for \$10.00. Office hours Tues. Wed. Thurs. from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Lenten Book Study with Rev. Gail Clifton

Called Witness at the Cross: A Beginner's Guide to Holy Friday. It will continue Mar. 15th, 22nd and 29th all 2-4. If necessary we will include Apr. 5th. For more information contact Rev. Gail @ 768-9865



Thank You to all those who are keeping Gathering Table shoveled out after each snow fall.



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

Email: office@gatheringtable.ca

Web: <http://gatheringtable.ca>

Office: 345-6898

Hall: 345-6088

Office Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Friday from 8 a.m. to noon

Pastor: Currently Vacant – Please call the Church Office

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

Phone: 768-9865 email: gailx2@shaw.ca

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

Lay Reader in Training: Richard Pepper

Rector’s Warden:	David Reid
Deputy Rector’s Warden:	Vacant
People’s Warden:	Jim Sutton
Deputy People’s Warden:	Sheila Chisholm
Co-Music Directors -	Pianist Donna Hamill Organist (Vacant)

Archbishop Anne's Motto for 2022

“So, if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:
everything old has passed away;
see, everything has become new.”

(2. Cor. 5.17) “