

Gathering Table
a Faith Community in the Anglican Church of Canada

Ash Wednesday



*Remember that you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.*

E C C L E S I A S T E S 3 : 2 0

‘Greetings In The Name Of The Risen Lord !’

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Gathering Table
a Faith Community in the Anglican Church of Canada

Officiant & Preacher: Rev. Ann Camber
Lay Reader: Rose Jardine

Ash Wednesday



February 22nd, 2023

7 p.m.

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.

**Welcome To Gathering Table
and Opening Remarks**

Welcome to all our visitors and newcomers We're glad you're here!
We invite you to sign our Visitor's Book at the back of the church. We encourage "Masks" to be worn under the new COVID-19 Protocols that were received from the Diocese of Algoma.

Waiting in Silence

If today, you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Psalm 95.7-8

The Gathering of the Community

BAS page 281

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

The Collect for Ash Wednesday

Presider: Almighty and everlasting God, you despise nothing you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our brokenness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **All: Amen**

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading is from the Book of Isaiah

Isaiah 58:1-12

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practised righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgements, they delight to draw near to God. "Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your

bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Psalm 103:8-18

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and of great kindness.

He will not always accuse us, nor will he keep his anger for ever.

He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

For as the heavens are high above the earth, so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.

As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our sins from us.

As a father cares for his children, so does the Lord care for those who fear him.

For he himself knows whereof we are made; he remembers that we are but dust.

Our days are like the grass; we flourish like a flower of the field;

When the wind goes over it, it is gone, and its place shall know it no more.

But the merciful goodness of the Lord endures for ever on those who fear him, and his righteousness on children's children;

On those who keep his covenant and remember his commandments and do them.

Psalm Prayer:

BAS page 843

God of infinite mercy and forgiveness, by the cross and resurrection of Jesus your Son, wash away our sins and deliver us from our infirmities of body and spirit, that we may live with him his risen life, to the praise and glory of your holy name. Amen.

Second Reading is found in the Second letter of Paul to the Corinthians

2 Corinthians 5:20B-6:10

We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you." See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault

may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labours, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honour and dishonour, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see – we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

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

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Matthew 6: 1 – 6, 16 – 21

Jesus said, “Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go

into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

The Gospel of Christ
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

SERMON: **Rev Ann Camber**

Invitation to a Holy Lent

BAS Page 281

Dear friends in Christ,
every year at the time of the Christian Passover
we celebrate our redemption
through the death and resurrection
of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Lent is a time to prepare for this celebration
and to renew our life in the paschal mystery.
We begin this holy season
by remembering our need for repentance,
and for the mercy and forgiveness
proclaimed in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

We begin our journey to Easter with the sign of ashes,

an ancient sign, speaking of the frailty and uncertainty of human life, and marking the penitence of the community as a whole. I invite you therefore, in the name of the Lord, to observe a holy Lent by self-examination, penitence, prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, and by reading and meditating on the word of God.

Silence is kept for reflection

Psalm 51:1-18

BAS 282

Refrain: Create in me a clean heart O God

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving kindness; in your great compassion blot out my offences.

Wash me through and through from my wickedness *
and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.
Against you only have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight.

And so you are justified when you speak
and upright in your judgement.
Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth,
a sinner from my mother's womb.

For behold, you look for truth deep within me,
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.
Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure;
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.

Make me hear of joy and gladness,

that the body you have broken may rejoice.
Hide your face from my sins
And blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Give me the joy of your saving help again
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.
I shall teach your ways to the wicked,
and sinners shall return to you.

Deliver me from death, O God,
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness,
O God of my salvation.
Open my lips, O Lord,
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice,
but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.
The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Litany of Penitence

BAS 283

**Most holy and merciful Father,
we confess to you, to one another,
and to the whole communion of saints
in heaven and on earth,
that we have sinned by our own fault
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, and mind, and strength.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.

Have mercy on us, Lord.

We have been deaf to your call to serve as Christ served us.
We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

Have mercy on us, Lord.

We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness: the pride,
hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives,

We confess to you, Lord.

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people,

We confess to you, Lord.

Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

We confess to you, Lord.

Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

We confess to you, Lord.

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

We confess to you, Lord.

Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrongs we have done: for our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

Accept our repentance, Lord.

For all false judgements, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbours, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,

Accept our repentance, Lord.

For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us,

Accept our repentance, Lord.

Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us;

Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great.

The Blessing of the Ashes

Presider: Almighty God,

From the dust to the earth you have created us.

May these ashes be for us a sign

Of our mortality and penitence,

And a reminder that only by your gracious gift

Are we given eternal life;

Through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **All: Amen**

Those who desire to receive ashes come forward.

Presider: *Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return.*

Presider: Accomplish in us, O God,
the work of your salvation,
All: **That we may show forth your glory
in the world.**

Presider: By the cross and passion of your Son, our Lord,
All: **Bring us with all your saints
to the joy of his resurrection.**

Presider: *Almighty God have mercy upon you, forgive you all your sins
through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by
the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.* **All: Amen**

The Peace

Prayer over the Gifts

Presider: Merciful God, turn us from sin to faithfulness. Accept our offering, and prepare us to celebrate the death and resurrection of Christ our Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you now and for ever.

Receiving Holy Communion

This is the table of Christ made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more. So come, whether you have much faith or little, have tried to follow or afraid you have failed. Come because it is Christ's will that those who want to meet him, might meet him here.

Our tradition says that to receive any part of the Eucharist is to receive the full grace of the Sacrament.

The Celebration of the Eucharist
Eucharistic Prayer #2

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Presider: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

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

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise

We give you thanks and praise, almighty God,
through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ,
our Saviour and Redeemer.

He is your living Word,
through whom you have created all things.

By the power of the Holy Spirit
he took flesh of the Virgin Mary
and shared our human nature.
He lived and died as one of us,
to reconcile us to you,
the God and Father of all.

In fulfilment of your will
he stretched out his hands in suffering,
to bring release to those who place their hope in you;
and so he won for you a holy people.

He chose to bear our griefs and sorrows,
and to give up his life on the cross,
that he might shatter the chains of evil and death,
and banish the darkness of sin and despair.

By his resurrection

he brings us into the light of your presence.

Now with all creation we raise our voices
to proclaim the glory of your name

**Holy, holy, holy Lord
God of power and might
Heaven and earth are
full of Your glory
Hosanna in the highest
Hosanna in the highest
*Blessed is He who comes
in the name of the Lord*
Hosanna in the highest
Hosanna in the highest**

Patrick Schlabs

Holy and gracious God,
accept our praise,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ;
who on the night he was handed over
to suffering and death,
took bread and gave you thanks,
saying, "Take, and eat:
this is my body which is broken for you."
In the same way he took the cup,
saying, "This is my blood which is shed for you.
When you do this, you do it in memory of me."

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection,
we offer you this bread and this cup,
giving thanks that you have made us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

We ask you to send your Holy Spirit
upon the offering of your holy Church.
Gather into one
all who share in these sacred mysteries,
filling them with the Holy Spirit
and confirming their faith in the truth,
that together we may praise you
and give you glory
through your Servant, Jesus Christ.
All glory and honour are yours,
Father and Son,
with the Holy Spirit
in the holy Church,
now and for ever.

All: 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.**

Presider: We break this bread
To share in the body of Christ
All: **We, being many, are one body,
For we all share in the one bread.**

Presider: The gifts of God for the People of God.
All: **Thanks be to god.**

Prayer after Communion

Presider: *God of Compassion, through your Son Jesus Christ you reconciled your people to yourself. Following his example of prayer and fasting, may we obey you with willing hearts and serve one another in holy love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.* **All: Amen.**

Presider: Let us go forth into the world to keep a Holy
Lent.

**Thanks be to God who gives us the victory through
our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

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

Our Parish Cycle of Prayer

Please pray for our own church members

Ophelia Shawinimash, Lucy Shewaybick, Shirley Siipola, Mark Smith, Jay Smith, Laura-Lee Smith, Dale and Sharon Sparkes, Tom and Colleen Speer, Jon Stephens, James Stewart and Cassandra Dumontier, Eric and Ann Strand, Evelyn Strawson, Charles Suganaqueb

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.

Readings for The First Sunday of Lent

Genesis 2: 15 – 17, 3: 1 - 7

Psalm 32

Romans 5: 12 - 19 - 13... Matthew 4: 1 - 11

Gathering Table Lenten Quiet Day

Saturday, Mar.18th, 2023

More information available soon. Call the office if you would like to attend. 345-6898 office@gatheringtable.ca

Deanery Quiet Day

Saturday, March 18th, 2023 via Zoom

We Welcome Your Prayer Requests:

If you have any needs or concerns that you would like placed on the Gathering Table prayer chain, please email the request to prayerchain@gatheringtable.ca. If you do not have access to email, please call the office or Sheila Chisholm at 787-0253 and we will get it sent out for you.

Reminder about Visitations:

Rev. Ann has started her Pastoral care visits. If you would like a visit, please call 807-285-9446 or email her at:

rector@gatheringtable.ca

Baptism and Confirmation

Rev. Ann would like to know if there is anyone who is interested in the Sacrament of Baptism (Infant or Adult), or Confirmation (Ages 13+), or Life in the Eucharist (ages 7+) Please call the office or talk to Rev. Ann for more information. (There are sheets on both Baptism, and Confirmation in the rack at the back of the church, or they can be emailed to you by calling the office at 345-6898.



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: Rev. Ann Camber, M.Div.

Phone: 807-285-9446 Email: rector@gatheringtable.ca

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,

Richard Pepper, Jim Sutton, Kim Bienvenue,

Rector's Warden: David Reid

People's Warden: Jim Sutton

Deputy People's Warden: Sheila Chisholm

Music Director; - Pianist Donna Hamill

Archbishop Anne's Motto for 2023

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.”