

## The Gathering of the Community

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

*John 8.12*

*Leader* Let us remember before God our selfish ways, the things we have done wrong, the sorrows we have caused, the love we have not shown.

*Silence for reflection is kept.*

**All Most merciful Father,  
forgive us our sins against you  
and against each other.**

**Strengthen us to overcome our weaknesses,  
that we may live in love  
as you would have us live,  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.**

*The priest says,*

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.

*People Amen.*

*BAS page49*

Come, let us sing to the Lord;

**Let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.**

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving

**And raise a loud shout to him with psalms.**

For the Lord is a great God,

**And a great king above all gods.**

In his hand are the caverns of the earth,

**And the heights of the hills are his also.**

The sea is his for he made it,

**And his hands have moulded the dry land.**

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee,

**And kneel before the Lord our Maker.**

For he is our God,

**And we are the people of his pasture  
and the sheep of his hand.**

Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

## **10 The Souls of the Righteous**

*Wisdom 3.1–8*

The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God; \*  
no torment shall ever touch them.

In the eyes of the unwise they seemed to be dead, \*  
their departure was taken for defeat,  
their going from us to be disaster; \*  
but they are in peace.

Though they appeared to be punished \*  
their hope is rich in immortality.

Small their affliction, great their blessing; \*  
God proved and found them worthy of himself.

Like gold in a furnace he tried them, \*  
and accepted them as an oblation.

In the moment of God's coming  
they shall kindle into flame \*  
and run like sparks through the stubble.

They shall govern nations and peoples, \*  
and the Lord shall be their ruler for ever.

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.

**Reader: A reading from the book of Genesis**

*Genesis 45:1-15*

Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, "Send everyone away from me." So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry

with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’ And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.” Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to us now

**People: Thanks be to God**

Psalm 133

1 Oh, how good and pleasant it is, \*  
when brethren live together in unity!  
2 It is like fine oil upon the head \*  
that runs down upon the beard,  
3 Upon the beard of Aaron, \*  
and runs down upon the collar of his robe.  
4 It is like the dew of Hermon \*  
that falls upon the hills of Zion.  
5 For there the Lord has ordained the blessing: \*  
life for evermore.

**Reader: A reading from the letter to the Romans**

*Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32*

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been

disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to us now

**People: Thanks be to God**

## **11 A Song of Wisdom**

*Wisdom 10.15–19, 20b–21*

Wisdom freed from a nation of oppressors \*

a holy people and blameless race.

She entered the soul of a servant of the Lord, \*

withstood dread kings with wonders and signs.

To the saints she gave the reward of their labours, \*

and led them by a marvellous way;

she was their shelter by day \*

and their starlight through the night.

She brought them across the Red Sea, \*

led them through mighty waters,

but their enemies she swallowed in the waves \*

and spat them out from the depths of the abyss.

Lord, the righteous sang hymns to your name, \*

and praised with one voice your protecting hand,

for Wisdom opened the mouths of the dumb, \*

and gave speech to the tongues of babes.

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.

*Reader*     The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

*People*     **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*Matthew 15:21-28*

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

*Reader* The Gospel of Christ.

*People* Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

## *The Apostles' Creed*

*Celebrant* Let us confess our faith, using 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.**

*Intercessor* Let us pray.

Who can separate us from the love of God? What can separate us from the love of Christ? Let our hearts now respond to such overwhelming love as we pray together in the Spirit, saying: Hear us, O Lord.

That God will renew the merciful covenant made with us in love, we pray:

*People* Hear us, O Lord.

*Intercessor* That the ministers of the gospel may be people of genuine conversion and prophetic voice, we pray:

*People* Hear us, O Lord.

*Intercessor* That the bread of life may be shared one day by all Christians at a common table of praise, we pray:

*People* Hear us, O Lord.

*Intercessor* For the poor of our world, and for governments called to assist them in their need, we pray:

*People* Hear us, O Lord.

*Intercessor* For the sick and the suffering in our world especially those we name silently before, we pray:

*People* Hear us, O Lord.

*Intercessor* For those preparing for baptism, that they may hear the invitation of God to come to the waters of regeneration and there find abundant life, we pray:

*People* Hear us, O Lord.

*Intercessor* For the newly wedded couples in our community, for expectant parents, and for those who nurture children, that all may be fed at the breasts of a loving God and find strength in lives of service, we pray:

*People* Hear us, O Lord.

*Intercessor* Today in our Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for St. Matthias, Etobicoke, its support for Ingles House and Youth Without Shelter; for St. Michael and All Angels, its Beeton Cupboard and Sunday hot lunch program; and for St. Michael the Archangel, its support of community Out of the Cold and food bank programs, sponsorship of a child in Haiti, and fundraising for the AIDS Committee of Simcoe County, we pray:

*People* Hear us, O Lord.

*Intercessor* Let us be mindful of the dead especially those we name silently before you. That they may come into the fullness of life, united with God in the communion of the faithful, we pray

*People* Hear us, O Lord.

**O God, your loving care for us calls for our gratitude. Multiply once again your abundant mercy toward us; renew your covenant with us; and let our hearts overflow with godly love for others. We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Rabbi and Lord, now in the Spirit and forever. Amen.**

## **The Collect**

Almighty God,  
you have broken the tyranny of sin  
and sent into our hearts the Spirit of your Son.  
Give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service,  
that all people may know the glorious liberty  
of the children of God; through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen**

The Lord's Prayer

*Celebrant* And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us,  
we are bold to pray,

**All 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.**

Hymn

COVID Prayer

Dismissal

*Officiant* Let us bless the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

Closing Music