

THE PARISH OF MISSISSIPPI LAKE

Sunday, December 13, 2020
Third Sunday of Advent

9:00 am

Christ Church Ashton – Peter Hicks, Lay Reader

St James Franktown – Rev. Rosemary Parker

St James Carleton Place – Presider: Rev. Canon Mary Ellen Berry; Preacher: Ven. Brian Kauk

Parish of Mississippi Lake - Live on Our Facebook Pages

11:00 am

St John's Innisville – Peter Hicks, Lay Reader

St Bede's Nolan's Corners – Rev. Rosemary Parker

Thank you for joining us in worship today! For those at home,
have your Candles and Prayer Spaces ready.

Prelude

We are gathering today on the traditional territory of the Algonquin people. May we dwell on this land with respect and peace. For those who maybe be watching this from beyond our parish, we invite you to acknowledge the traditional territory you are on today.

The Gathering of the Community

The Greeting

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the Love of God,
and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

The Light of the Advent Wreath

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

Light Three Candles on the Advent Wreath (Including the Rose Coloured One)

Gracious God, we pray that the whole world may share with us the joy of knowing you. Give faith to those who doubt; give hope to those who are in need; give love to those who are friendless and alone; and draw us all closer together in the power of your Holy Spirit and the presence of your Son Jesus Christ, who live and reign with you, for ever and ever. Amen.

Collect of the Day

God of power and mercy,
you call us once again
to celebrate the coming of your Son.
Remove those things which hinder love of you,
that when he comes,
he may find us waiting in awe and wonder
for him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading: Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion - to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 126

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,
then were we like those who dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy.

Then they said among the nations,
"The Lord has done great things for them."

The Lord has done great things for us,
and we are glad indeed.

Restore our fortunes, O Lord,
like the watercourses of the Negev.

Those who sowed with tears
will reap with songs of joy.

Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Gospel: John 1: 6-8, 19-28

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

Prayers of the People

Sisters and brothers in Christ, for the sake of the world that God so loves, let us pray with the words Lord, in your mercy ...hear our prayer. We pray for peace, hope, and joy in Christ's body, that we may proclaim your good news and be awake to your presence. In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Falkland Islands and Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Timothy Thornton. In the Canadian Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Venerable Alan Perry, General Secretary, and the staff of the General Secretary's Office and Melanie Delva, Reconciliation Animator. In our Diocese, we pray for +Shane, our Bishop; The Well and their Executive Director Rachel Robinson. In our Companion Diocese of Jerusalem and the Middle East, we pray for Redeemer Church, Amman, Jordan. Lord, in your mercy...

hear our prayer.

We pray for those who are walking in the midst of danger; for those who are exhausted and seeking relief; for those who face a mountain of worry or debt or any other obstacles. Lord, in your mercy...

hear our prayer.

Keep in your tender care and mercy, O God, those who are sick in mind, body, or spirit...those weighed down by depression or pain...those recuperating from surgery or accident. Lord, in your mercy...

hear our prayer.

Leader: Give us the courage to acknowledge human frailty, limitation, and even death, with confidence in you. We pray for those who have died and for families and friends who mourn. Lord, in your mercy...

hear our prayer.

Leader: God of the future, make us ready to receive your reign, when you will bring everlasting peace, hope, and joy to renew the face of the earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbour.

**Most merciful God,
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.**

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

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Remaining in your seats, bow to those around you.

Musical Offering

***The Holy Eucharist continues below.
For the Service of the Word,
please turn to the following section. (Page 10)***

The Holy Eucharist

Prayer Over the Gifts

God of love and power, your word stirs within us
the expectation of the coming of your Son.
Accept all we offer you this day,
and sustain us with your promise of eternal life.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise. [...]

As children of your redeeming purpose
who await the coming of your Son,
we offer you our praise, with angels and archangels
and the whole company of heaven singing the hymn of your unending glory:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.
[...]**

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of
the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be to you, Lord of all ages, world without
end.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, let us pray,

**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.**

Breaking of the Bread

God of promise, you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.

Happy are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

Communion

Please remain in your seats, and sanitize your hands.

The celebrant will distribute communion down in the pews.

When the celebrant has left your area of the church,

briefly remove your mask to receive the host,

put your mask back on, and then sanitize your hands again.

Prayer After Communion

God for whom we wait, you have fed us with the bread of eternal life.
Keep us ever watchful, that we may be ready to stand before the Son of man.
We ask this in the name of Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

Blessing

Be steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and untiring in love all the days of your life;
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be
among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Dismissal

As we await our coming Saviour, go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Please leave the church building as directed, and head safely home.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

General Thanksgiving Prayer

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us,
and all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love in the
redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.**

**And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that, with truly thankful hearts,
we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips,
but in our lives, by giving up ourselves
to your service, and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with you
and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, let us pray,
**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.**

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Thanks be to God.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath: Adapted from Full Homely Divinity, accessed Nov. 18, 2020: <http://fullhomelydivinity.org/articles/advent%20ofullpage.htm>

Eucharistic Prayer: The Scottish Liturgy 1982: Eucharistic Prayer I (General Use).

Unless otherwise indicated, materials are from The Book of Alternative Services (1985).