

# The Anglican Parish of Mississippi Lake welcomes you to worship with us!

*We gather today on the traditional, unceded territory of the Algonquin people. May we dwell on this land with respect and peace.*

## Sunday, March 20 – Third Sunday in Lent

*The full order of service we're using today can be found in the Book of Alternative Services on page 185 or one of our worship booklets. Speak to a greeter if you're unsure what we're using this morning.*

***Hymns will be announced, and the hymn numbers are posted on the hymn board.***

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### **The Collect of the Day**

Father of mercy,  
alone we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves.  
When we are discouraged by our weakness,  
strengthen us to follow Christ,  
our pattern and our hope;  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

## First reading

A reading from the book of Isaiah

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are 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.

*Isaiah 55: 1-9*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Responsive reading**

*Our responsive reading today is from Psalm 63. The congregation is invited to respond by reading aloud the verses in bold type.*

O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you;  
**my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,  
as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.**

Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place,  
**that I might behold your power and your glory.**

For your loving-kindness is better than life itself;  
**my lips shall give you praise.**

So will I bless you as long as I live  
**and lift up my hands in your name.**

My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness,  
**and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,**

When I remember you upon my bed,  
**and meditate on you in the night watches.**

For you have been my helper,  
**and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.**

My soul clings to you;  
**your right hand holds me fast.**

*Psalm 63: 1-8*

## Second reading

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness. Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

*1 Corinthians 10: 1-13*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

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

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

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam - fell on them - do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did." Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

*Luke 13: 1-9*

The Gospel of Christ.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## The Prayers of the People

*If you would like to request prayers for yourself or someone you love, please contact the church office at [office@lakesideanglicans.ca](mailto:office@lakesideanglicans.ca) or 613-257-3178.*

We continue today to pray for peace among nations and peace in Ukraine.

**In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer** we pray for La Iglesia Anglicana de Mexico

**In the Anglican-Lutheran Cycle of Prayer for Canada**, we pray for (ACC)The Rt. Rev. Mary Irwin-Gibson, Bishop, and the people and clergy of the Diocese of Montreal (ELCIC) The Assistant to the Bishop and the staff of the Manitoba – Northwestern Ontario Synod (ACC/ELCIC) The elimination of racial discrimination.

**In our Diocese**, we pray for Bishop Shane Parker; Christ Church, Bells Corners and their clergy, The Venerable Kathryn Otley, L. Col. the Reverend Michael Gibbons, Deacon Tamara Connors; In our Companion Diocese of Jerusalem, we pray for Saviour Church, Kufr-Yasif, Israel.

**In our Parish** we pray for all those in need of our prayers, especially remembering **Robert, Rob, Margaret, Ross, Ruth, Ethel, Ed, Marg, Ed** and any others who we wish to name silently or aloud this morning... *(Short silence)*.

Gathered by the Spirit, let us return to the Lord our God, and pray for the church, the world, and all who yearn for new life with the words: 'Hear our prayer.'

Merciful God, you call your church to be a witness to your steadfast love. Grant that the work of ministers, teachers, missionaries, relief workers, and all the baptized may be faithful and fruitful. Lord, in your mercy...

**Hear our prayer.**

Creating God, all you have made is good. Teach us to care for the earth, the sea, the sky, and all living things, with love and reverence. Lord, in your mercy...

**Hear our prayer.**

Just God, your ways are beyond human understanding. Give those in positions of authority wisdom and compassion for all who suffer. Bring relief to victims of natural disasters, violence, and oppression. Lord, in your mercy...

**Hear our prayer.**

Faithful God, hear the cries of the sick and dying, the hungry and homeless, the lost and forgotten. Lord, in your mercy...

**Hear our prayer.**

Loving God, teach us to seek your will in all things. Deepen our faith, and give us strength to follow wherever you lead us. Lord, in your mercy...

**Hear our prayer.**

We commend to your loving care all who have died. Help us to trust in your eternal love and the promise of resurrection that is ours in Christ. Lord, in your mercy...

**Hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, you have commanded us to pray, and you promise to hear us. Hear the prayers of your people, and grant us all that we need, for the sake of the one in whose name we pray, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**