

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

*We gather this day on traditional Anishinaabe Algonquin territory.
May we always dwell on this land with respect and peace.*

Sunday, March 19, 2023— Fourth 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 hymn numbers
are posted on the hymn board.***

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God,
through the waters of baptism
your Son has made us children of light.
May we ever walk in his light
and show forth your glory in the world;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

First reading

A reading from the first book of Samuel

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of

the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

1 Samuel 16: 1-13

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Responsive reading

Our responsive reading today is from Psalm 23.

The congregation is invited to respond by reading aloud the verses in bold type.

The Lord is my shepherd;

I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures

and leads me beside still waters.

He revives my soul

and guides me along right pathways for his name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;

for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;

you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Psalm 23

Second reading

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians

For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light - for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

Ephesians 5: 8-14

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 John

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the

man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has

spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out. Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshipped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgement so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

John 9: 1-41

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 or 613-257-3178.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray The Anglican Church of Southern Africa

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

In our Diocese, we pray for Shane, our Bishop; Anne, our Metropolitan; Linda, our Primate; as well as The Anglican Council of Indigenous Peoples, National Indigenous Bishop Christopher Harper, Sacred Circle Events, and the ministry of reconciliation; Christ Church, Bells Corners: The Venerable Kathryn Otley, L. Col. the Reverend Michael Gibbons; For Pilgrims to the Holy Land.

In our Parish we pray for all those in need of our prayers, especially remembering **David, Beth, Elizabeth, George, Frank, Peter, Kendra, Gloria, Janet, Carole, Brenda, Karen, Trinette, William** and any others who we wish to name silently or aloud this morning... (*Short silence*). We pray for Grayson as we prepare for his baptism.

As we journey toward the renewing waters of Easter, let us pray for all who seek new life in Christ, by responding to 'God of our salvation' with the words, 'Hear our prayer.'

Renew bishops, priests, deacons, other ministers, and all the people of your Church, that our eyes may be opened to see you in new ways, and our lives may radiate with your light and peace. God of our salvation...**Hear our prayer.**

Raise up leaders throughout the world whose works are right and true, that they may seek the well-being of the poor, and be good stewards of your creation. God of our salvation...**Hear our prayer.**

Send your goodness and mercy to those in the shadow of fear and grief, and to all who are sick, that they may be comforted by the light and life of your Son. God of our salvation...**Hear our prayer.**

Give us grace to discern the spiritual blindness within us, that, repenting of our mistakes, we may turn toward you with new hearts and follow your Son with joy. God of our salvation...**Hear our prayer.**

God of eternal light, we give thanks for all the saints, and those known to this community who have died in the faith. Help us to live like them as your children of light. God of our salvation...**Hear our prayer.**

Receive our prayers and grant us your mercy, O God, in the name of the crucified and risen one, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

This Week in the Parish: Week of March 20

St. Jimmy's Table ~ Lent: A Preparation Celebration All are welcome to join us for March's St. Jimmy's Table gathering on Friday, March 24 from 5:30 to 7:00 pm in St. James Church Hall. We're continuing to think about Lent and prepare for Easter. Come join us for crafts, fellowship, delicious food, and faith-formation fun! We hope to see you there!

Women's Heart Disease - Saturday, April 15th at 10:30, Christ Church Ashton, church hall. Heather Ebbs, Peer Leader for the Women@Heart Program for the University of Ottawa's Heart Institute will talk about this under-studied, under-diagnosed and under-treated disease in women. Everyone welcome. Light refreshments

St. James Annual Easter Egg Hunt ~ Egg-cell ent Fun! Come join in the fun! On Saturday, April 8 from 10 am to 12 pm come and search the St. James Church grounds for Easter eggs. There are lots of tasty treats in store for those up for the challenge! How many eggs will you be able to find?!

A Special Vestry for St John's Innisville will be held on Tuesday, March 28 at 3:30 pm. The purpose of the meeting is to consider a motion to approve the sale of the St John's Innisville Anglican Church building and cemetery, both located at 110 Ferguson Fall's Road, Lanark Highlands. Contributing members of St John's qualified to vote as members of Vestry are encouraged to attend. It would be appreciated if you could let Fr Brian know you're coming by calling 613-518-7967.