

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, April 28, 2024 Fifth Sunday of Easter

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God,
your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life.
Give us grace to love one another
and walk in the way of his commandments,
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 Acts

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Acts 8: 26-40

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Responsive reading

Our responsive reading today is from Psalm 22. The congregation is invited to respond by reading aloud the verses in bold type.

My praise is of him in the great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the Lord shall praise him:
"May your heart live for ever!"

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord,
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

For kingship belongs to the Lord;
he rules over the nations.

To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship;
all who go down to the dust fall before him.

My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him;
they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.

They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn
the saving deeds that he has done.

**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.**

Psalm 22: 24-30

Second reading

A reading from the first letter of John

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

1 John 4: 7-21

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

The 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.

Jesus said, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

John 15: 1-8

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 for The Church of Bangladesh.

In the Anglican-Lutheran Cycle of Prayer for Canada, we pray for The Most Rev. Anne Germond, Bishop, the Most Rev. Fred Hiltz, Assisting Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Victoria Matthews, Episcopal Administrator, and the clergy and people of the Diocese of Moosonee; The congregations of the Winnipeg area of the Manitoba-Northwestern Ontario Synod.

In our Diocese, we pray for Shane, our Bishop; Anne, our Metropolitan; Linda, our Primate; as well as Staff at Ascension House; St. Barnabas, Deep River: The Venerable Patrick Stephens; Members of the Licensed Lay Readers' Association and their warden, The Reverend Canon Bob Albert.

In our Parish we pray for all those in need of our prayers, especially remembering **Helene, Betty, Wade, Amber, Pam** and any others who we wish to name silently or aloud this morning... *(Short silence)*.

Today we pray for Shawn Gardiner, who has died, and for Sherry, Tom, Connie & family who mourn. Rest eternal grant to him, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon him.

Transformed by the life-giving power of the empty tomb, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need saying, "Your mercy is great."

Nourished by the body and blood of the resurrected Christ, let us pray that the church may reach out in love and service to all who are hungry and thirsty. Hear us, O God...**Your mercy is great.**

Nourished by the abundance of creation, let us pray for plentiful rains, fertile soil, and safety for all who plant and harvest our food. Hear us, O God...**Your mercy is great.**

Nourished by the freedoms of voice and vote, let us pray for just leaders and governments to administer fairly and equitably for all. Hear us, O God...**Your mercy is great.**

Nourished by a kind word and gentle touch, let us pray for all who are suffering in body or spirit. Hear us, O God...**Your mercy is great.**

Nourished by a love that bears fruit in action and service, let us pray for the right use of gifts in this congregation to welcome the stranger, to feed the hungry, and to care for the earth. Hear us, O God...**Your mercy is great.**

Nourished by the fruitful lives of the saints, let us pray that our lives may reflect their glory. Hear us, O God...**Your mercy is great.**

Hear our prayers, gracious God, and grant all that we need to live as your Spirit filled people, in the name of the risen Christ.

Amen

Upcoming Events

Christ Church Ashton.

Plant Sale. Saturday, May 11 or 25th. 8:30-11:30 a.m.

St George's Events

Community breakfast Saturday, May 4; 9-11am. Donations accepted however not expected. All welcome. Information 613-256-9010.

Quilt show and tea on Saturday May 11; 11:30am-3:30pm. \$15. Information 613-256-9010.

Fiddle service on Sunday, June 2. Musical prelude 10am, worship service with fiddle accompaniment 10:30. Lunch following. Info 613-256-9010.

St James Carleton Place Events

The Big Give: Saturday, June 1. There will be a Free Car Boot Sale like last year. If you are interested in participating, please call Lynn Hyndman to book your spot. 613-851-7129

Father's Day BBQ: Saturday, June 8. More information to come!

A TIME OF PRAYER: LISTENING FOR DIVINE SPARKS IN OUR MIDST

<https://ottawa.anglican.ca/resources/a-time-of-prayer/>

Individuals and parishes are asked to pray for God's wisdom as we listen for how God calls us to engage in the world. Here is a suggested prayer for the coming month:

"Living God, we thank you that through the resurrection of Jesus our lives and ministries are transformed. Give us humble and obedient hearts, that we may receive what you have made known to us. May we be bold in serving you and bringing your Good News to our communities. Help us to share of ourselves and our possessions with one another and especially with people in need. Amen."