

ORDER FOR WORSHIP

4th Sunday in Lent

March 14, 2021

The fourth of the Old Testament promises providing a baptismal lens this Lent is the promise God makes to Moses: those who look on the bronze serpent will live. In today's gospel Jesus says he will be lifted up on the cross like the serpent, so that those who look to him in faith will live. When we receive the sign of the cross in baptism, that cross becomes the sign we can look to in faith for healing, for restored relationship to God, for hope when we are dying.

*The Holy Spirit
calls us together as
the people of God.*

GATHERING

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We wish to acknowledge this land on which St. Philip's Lutheran Church is located. For thousands of years, it has been the traditional land of the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Haudenosaunee, and the Wendat peoples. We are grateful to have the opportunity to meet, worship, and serve on this land.

WELCOME

PRAYER

PRELUDE

"The Gentle Waltz"

Oscar Peterson

THE BIBLE BUNCH

Walking in the Light

*God speaks to us in
scripture reading,
preaching, and song*

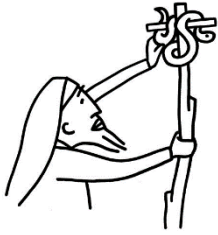
WORD

GOSPEL

John 3: 14 – 21

To explain the salvation of God to the religious leader, Nicodemus, Jesus refers to the scripture passage quoted in today's first reading. Just as those who looked upon the bronze serpent were healed, so people will be saved when they behold Christ lifted up on the cross.

[Jesus said:] ¹⁴"Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For all who do evil



hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

- 1 Amazing grace! how sweet the sound
 that saved a wretch like me!
 I once was lost, but now am found;
 was blind, but now I see.
- 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
 and grace my fears relieved;
 how precious did that grace appear
 the hour I first believed!
- 3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares
 I have already come;
 'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
 and grace will lead me home.
- 4 When we've been there ten thousand years,
 bright shining as the sun,
 we've no less days to sing God's praise
 than when we'd first begun.

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt., sts. 1-3; anonymous, st. 4

THANKSGIVING

*In everything
Give
Thanks.*

1 Thessalonians 5:18

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

CARING in COMMUNITY

Living the Vision: Neighbourhood Table @ Home

LORD'S PRAYER

*God blesses us and
sends us in mission
to the world.*

HYMN

SENDING

WOV 778

O Christ the Same

1 O Christ the same, through all our sto - ry's pag - es—
3 O Christ the same, se - cure with - in whose keep - ing

our loves and hopes, our fail - ures and our fears;
our lives and loves, our days and years re - main;

e - ter - nal Lord, the king of all the a - ges,
our work and rest, our wak - ing and our sleep - ing,

un - chang - ing still a - mid the pass - ing years:
our calm and storm, our plea - sure and our pain:

O liv - ing Word, the source of all cre - a - tion,
O Lord of love, for all our joys and sor - rows,

who spread the skies and set the stars a - blaze;
for all our hopes when earth shall fade and flee;

O Christ the same, who wrought our whole sal - va - tion,
O Christ the same, be - yond our brief to - mor - rows,

we bring our thanks for all our yes - ter - days.
we bring our thanks for all that is to be.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926
Music: LONDONDERRY AIR, Irish tune

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BLESSING

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

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ST. PHILIP'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

SERVING TODAY

Rev. Tuula Van Gaasbeek	Pastor
Chris Ritcey-Conrad	Music Director
Dave Pascoe	Videographer
Meranda Phannenhour	The Bible Bunch
Elisabeth van Rensburg	Reader
John & Lauren Voorpostel	Hymn of the Day
Arlene Somerville	Prayers of the People
Special Guest, Patrick the Irish Frog	The Lord's Prayer
Matilda (Tillie) Hogeveen	Sending
No Fixed Address	Additional Music

IN OUR PRAYERS

Gus Berndt, Rodney Erlandson, Mary Hanslep, Al Jacksteit, Mark Kieswetter, Fran Moore, Marion Morningstar, Pat Penney, Julie Potocny, Lesley Powell, Sydney Ross, Helen Scollnik, and Elga Smidt.

PASS THE OFFERING PLATE PLEASE

Thanks for giving your offering regularly. Even while our doors are closed, our hearts and hands are open and busy. Our ministries need your support. Details for how to give are on stphilipstoronto.com/donate-now/.

WAYS TO BE INVOLVED

While we can't be in the building, there are still ways to stay involved and in community with others. Here are a few:

- Lenten Evening Service, Wednesdays @ 7:00 pm during Lent; after a community "soup" supper @ 6:00 pm. Watch for an email on Wednesday with the link.
- Zoom Cooking Classes, Wednesday @ 2:00pm. Watch for link in Wednesday email.
- Add your name to the readers for worship services: contact Pastor Tuula.
- Participate in the Virtual Worship: play an instrument or sing, provide a Children's Message, lead the prayers, or tell a Faith Story. Or something else? Please contact Pastor Tuula.
- Join in the Virtual Coffee Hour @ 11:00 am
- 50+ connecting in new ways in 2021! Watch for the next event. Contact Doris Pascoe for details.
- Neighbourhood Table @ Home: Deliver Good Food Boxes for 6 weeks to 45 families and 25 seniors. (February 18 – March 25)