

Diocese of Yukon - Morning Prayer - February 21, 2021

1st Sunday in Lent **Freedom Sunday**

The Penitential Rite

If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and will cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1.8-9

Presider: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbour.

God of all mercy,

All: **we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.**

**We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves and in the world you have created.**

**We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done and the evil done on our behalf.**

**Forgive, restore and strengthen us through our Saviour Jesus Christ,
so that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

Presider: May the God of love and power forgive you
and free you from your sins,
heal and strengthen you by the Holy Spirit
and raise you to new life in Jesus Christ. Amen.

MORNING PRAYER

The Gathering of the Community

Opening Hymn: Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness. #397 Common Praise

Praise the one who breaks the darkness with a liberating light.

Praise the one who frees the prisoners, turning blindness into sight.

Praise the one who preached the gospel, healing every dread disease,
calming storms and feeding thousands with the very bread of peace.

Praise the one who blessed the children with a strong, yet gentle word.

Praise the one who drove out demons with a piercing two-edged sword.

Praise the one who brings cool water to the desert's burning sand.

From this well comes living water, quenching thirst in every land.

Praise the one true love incarnate; Christ who suffered in our place.

Jesus died and rose for many that we may know God by grace.

Let us sing for joy and gladness, seeing what our God has done.

Praise the one redeeming glory, praise the One who makes us one.

Introductory Responses

We cast our burdens upon you, O Lord,
and you will sustain us.

Create in us clean hearts, O God,
and renew a right spirit within us.

Cast us not away from your presence
and take not your Holy Spirit from us.

Give us the joy of your saving help again
and sustain us by your bountiful Spirit.

Blessed are you, O Holy One,
the God of our salvation who bears our burdens.

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading: Genesis 9:8-17

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, “As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

All: **Thanks be to God**

The Responsory

Leader: Incline your ear to me; make haste to answer when I call.

People: **Incline your ear to me; make haste to answer when I call.**

Leader: Lord, hear my prayer and let my cry come before you.

People: **Make haste to answer when I call.**

Leader: Hide not your face from me in the day of my trouble.

People: **Make haste to answer when I call.**

Leader: You endure for ever and your name from age to age.

People: **Make haste to answer when I call.**

Leader: You will arise and have compassion on Zion, for it is time to have pity upon her.

People: **Make haste to answer when I call.**

The Psalm. Psalm 25:1-9

Leader: To you, O Lord, * I lift up my soul;

People: **my God, I put my trust in you; ***

let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

Leader: Let none who look to you be put to shame; *

let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.

People: **Show me your ways, O Lord, ***

and teach me your paths.

Leader: Lead me in your truth and teach me, *

for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

People: **Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, ***

for they are from everlasting.

Leader: Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *

remember me according to your love

and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.

People: **Gracious and upright are you, O Lord; ***

therefore you teach sinners in your way.

Leader: You guide the humble in doing right *

and teach your way to the lowly.

People: **O Lord, all your paths are love and faithfulness ***

to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.

All: **God of compassion and love, forgive our sins, relieve our misery, satisfy our longing, and fulfil all our hopes for peace; through your Son Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen**

Leader: Glory to God, Source of all being, eternal Word and Holy Spirit:

All: **as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.**

Second Reading. 1 Peter 3:18-22

For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

All: Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn: Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service. (Common Praise #585)

Lord, whose love in humble service bore the weight of human need,
who upon the cross, forsaken, worked your mercy's perfect deed:
we, your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart;
consecrating to your purpose every gift which you impart.

Still your children wander homeless; still the hungry cry for bread;
still the captives long for freedom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
As you, Lord, in deep compassion healed the sick and freed the soul,
by your Spirit send your power to our world to make it whole.

As we worship, grant us vision till your love's revealing light
in its height and depth and greatness dawns upon our quickened sight,
making known the needs and burdens your compassion bids us bear,
stirring us to ardent service, your abundant life to share.

The Gospel. Mark 1:9-15

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

The Gospel of Christ

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

The Sermon. Dr. Andrea Mann or Dr. Ryan Weston

Affirmation of Faith. The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;

he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers of the Community

Leader: Let us offer our intercessions, petitions and thanksgivings,
saying, ‘God of our ancestors, hear our prayer.’

Leader: God of the forgotten, we remember before you all who are vulnerable to human trafficking. We remember before you all the Indigenous girls and very young women who have suffered abuse, rape, and violence. All those from the East of our land who are missing or have been confirmed to be murdered, for their communities and families and all who mourn. Come, Holy Spirit, and turn our hearts, minds, souls and bodies to care, to advocate, and to seek justice.

All: **God of our ancestors, hear our prayer.**

Leader: We remember before you all the Indigenous women, who, coming into the greening and beautiful springtime of life have been violated, beaten, and cut down. All those from the South of our land who are missing or murdered, for all their families and communities and all who mourn. Come, Holy Spirit, and lead us to seek ways to support the children and families of these women, with true nurture and care.

All: **God of our ancestors, hear our prayer.**

Leader: We remember before you all the Indigenous women, who, as mothers of girls and women who have been brutalized are seared with the burning pain of grief. For all those from the West of our land who are missing or murdered, for all their families and communities and for all who mourn. Come, Holy Spirit and with fierce comfort protect that all who mourn that they may find healing, truth, and justice.

All: **God of our ancestors, hear our prayer.**

Leader: We remember before you all the Indigenous women Elders who bring the wisdom of their lives to guide the younger generations. We give thanks for their strength and courage, for those who have shared their healing journeys. We pray for continued healing and relief for them for the grief they carry for their grandchildren, Indigenous girls and women missing or murdered, as they near the end of their days. Come, Holy Spirit, and help us to honour these Elders that their stories of survival and healing from violence may guide us and teach us deeply.

All: **God of our ancestors, hear our prayer.**

Leader: In our diocesan cycle today we pray for the people and community of Atlin, for the parish of St. Martin, for The Rev Dorothy Odian & Dennis, The Rev Dn George Holman & Marilyn, and Licensed Lay Minister Cheri Malo

In the worldwide Anglican Cycle of Prayer today we pray for
The Church of the Province of Central Africa

Leader: For the one holy catholic and apostolic Church throughout the world,

All: **God of our ancestors, hear our prayer.**

Leader: For the mission of the Church,

that in faithful witness it may preach the gospel to the ends of the earth,

All: **God of our ancestors, hear our prayer.**

Leader: For those preparing for baptism

and for their teachers and sponsors,

All: **God of our ancestors, hear our prayer.**

Leader: For peace in the world,

that a spirit of respect and reconciliation may grow among nations and peoples,

All: **God of our ancestors, hear our prayer.**

Leader: For the poor, the persecuted, the sick and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners and all in danger; that they may be relieved and protected,

All: **God of our ancestors, hear our prayer.**

Leader: For all whom we have injured or offended,

All: **God of our ancestors, hear our prayer.**

Leader: For grace to amend our lives and to further your reign,

All: **God of our ancestors, hear our prayer.**

A short period of silence

The Collect

God of the wilderness, your Son battled with the powers of darkness and grow closer to you in the desert; help us to use these forty days to grow in wisdom and prayer, so that we may witness to your saving love in Jesus Chris our Lord. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Leader: Trusting in the compassion of God and gathering our prayers and praises into one, in the language of our heart, let us pray as our Saviour taught us,

All: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

**Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Blessing

Closing Hymn: The Kingdom of God is Justice and Joy. (Common Praise #631)

The kingdom of God is justice and joy,
for Jesus restores what sin would destroy.
God's power and glory in Jesus we know,
and here and hereafter the kingdom shall grow.

The kingdom of God is mercy and grace,
the captives are freed, the sinners find place.
The outcasts are welcomed God's banquet to share,
and hope is awakened in place of despair.

The kingdom of God is challenge and choice,
believe the good news, repent and rejoice!
God's love for us sinners brought Christ to his cross,
our crisis of judgement for gain and for loss.

God's kingdom is come, the gift and the goal,
in Jesus begun, in heaven made whole.
The heirs of the kingdom shall answer God's call
and all things cry "Glory!" To God All-in-All.

The Dismissal