

## Preparing for Worship Today

- Welcome to this service of worship at Mark the Evangelist!
- Today's service is being live-streamed for the participation of those who can't join us physically today.
- Congregational responses are printed in ***bold italics***.
- Most of the sung responses of the Communion setting can be found in the hymn book as indicated; the Gloria is in the red supplement *Sing Alleluia*, 100b.
- Pray for those who will be leading us in our worship today!



## A SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

### Prelude

### *The Gathering of the People of God*

#### Sung Processional (*TIS 101 v.1*)

*If you are able, please stand when the cantor sings the first line, and sing as the Scriptures are brought into the worship space:*

***Come, you people, come adore him,  
God in Holy Trinity,  
God the Father, Son and Spirit,  
ever blessed unity***

#### Call to Worship

The Lord be with you!  
***And also with you!***

Happy are they who delight in the LORD,  
***who study God's law  
day and night.***

Like trees by streams of water,  
***in all things they shall prosper.***

(*Psalm 1.2f*)

Come, let us worship the Lord...

#### Prayer of invocation

Hymn 477 Jesus call us here to meet him

*'...Jesus call us to each other...'*

#### With the Children

### *The Word Spoken: Scripture and Preaching*

#### The Testimony of Scripture

Your word, O Lord, is a lamp to our feet  
***and a light to our path.***

Philemon 1-25 *Refresh my heart in Christ.*

For the word of the Lord,  
***thanks be to God***

#### The Preaching of the Word

*The sermon text will normally be available  
after worship and online*

*A 'sermon of stillness' – a moment for quiet reflection – usually follows the preaching*

#### Prayer of Confession, including Psalm 139

Psalm 139.1-6, 15-18 *You have searched and known me* [PCS 343]

*REFRAIN: Organ, then cantor, then all together (sung also at the end).  
The psalm text is then sung responsively to the TONE*

REFRAIN Hal H. Hopson

Praise \_ the Lord. Praise \_ the  
Lord. Praise \_ the name of the Lord. \_\_\_\_

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## The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*And also with you.*

**Affirmation of faith:** God is with us

*We are not alone,  
we live in God's world.*

*We believe in God:  
who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus,  
the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others  
by the Spirit.*

*We trust in God.*

*We are called to be the Church:  
to celebrate God's presence,  
to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.*

*In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us.  
We are not alone.  
Thanks be to God.*

*The United Church of Canada,  
General Council 1968, alt. 1998*

## *The Visible Word: Eucharist*

**LITBIT:** The Eucharist is a mystery not because it is mysterious, but because it is a sign of God's secret purpose, which is to unite all things in Christ. In the Eucharist we celebrate that the mess of human history, with its violence and sin, its wars and genocides, is somehow, in ways that we cannot now understand, on its way to the kingdom. It is God's will that we be gathered into unity, reconciled with each other. And so we begin the Eucharist asking the forgiveness of our brothers and sisters, the angels and the saints, the whole vast community of the kingdom. It is a sign that we are willing to be gathered into God's peace with the rest of creation.

TIMOTHY RADCLIFFE

**Hymn 521** Lord Christ, at your first eucharist you prayed

*'...draw us the nearer each to each, we plead,  
by drawing all to you, O Prince of Peace...'*

*(If you are able, please remain standing until after the Lord's Prayer)*

**The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

*And also with you.*

Lift up your hearts.

*We lift them to the Lord.*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*It is right to give our thanks and praise.*

*(The prayer continues...)*

*(Sung, as at hymn 761)*

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

*Hosanna in the highest.*

*Bless'd is he who comes in the name of the Lord.*

*Hosanna in the highest.*

*(The prayer continues...)*

## The Lord's Prayer

*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 people sit)*

## The Breaking of the Bread

The gifts of God for the people of God....

*(Sung, as at hymn 766)*

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us, have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us, have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
grant us peace, grant us peace.*

...Let us receive what we are,  
let us become what we receive  
*The body of Christ*

## The Communion

*The United Church recognises this Table as the Lord's and, so, open to all who would normally commune in their home congregations.*

*After the invitation, and commencing from the front rows, please come forward in single file to the table, where you will be offered the bread at one point and the wine (in communion glasses only) at a second point. The wine has been prepared with as much COVID-19 precaution as practicable, and the celebrant and wine-server have sanitised their hands prior to the distribution. The common cup will only be used by the celebrant*

*If you can't stand or walk to the front but would like to receive communion, please raise your hand if the celebrant has not already noticed you.*

## Prayers of the People

[Gregory of Nyssa holds that] prayer is in significant part about resolving conflict and rivalry. If people prayed seriously they would be reconciled... Prayer, for Gregory, takes us into heaven, it give us direct access in Christ to the Father and makes us equal to the angels (or even better) because God's glory is open to us. And when we pray we gradually receive a share in God's power. Now that sounds very exciting, because if we have a share in God's power then we can do and do miracles ... like forgiving your neighbours, and giving your property away to the poor, because *that* is how God exercises power. And if we are having a share in God's power, that is where our prayer will lead.

ROWAN WILLIAMS

## Offering

*Many members now make their offering by electronic transfer; the plate will be passed for those who prefer to make cash/envelope offerings. The prayer dedicating the offerings 'captures' the full range of gifts.*

## Notices

### *The Sending Forth of the People of God*

Hymn 107 Sing praise and thanksgiving

*'...frame our desiring to do your requiring...'*

## Word of Mission and Blessing

## Postlude

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We'd love to hear your feedback on the service.

Our email address is:

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Our website is:

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