

Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Metcalfe
EPIPHANY 2
January 15, 2023
Reverend Michael Fleming

Fr. Michael: As we remember this new day the calling of the first disciples and the beginning of their journey into Kingdom living, we acknowledge that the places we call home and the places we call sacred lie on the unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishinaabe people.

People: **May we walk the path to reconciliation and unity together, rejoicing in the oneness which is ours.**

Fr. Michael: Lord, the first disciples came not from great universities or from the halls of the powerful, but from the mean streets and the world of fishers and farmers, of labourers and merchants; as we continue our pilgrimage towards your Kingdom and your Son Jesus, bless us on our journey with companionship and hope sustaining us in times of darkness and light; we pray all this in Jesus' blessed name.

Amen

Fr. Michael: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: **and also with you.**

Fr. Michael: As people called and gathered, as pilgrims together on the road, we pray, Almighty God

People: **to you all hearts are open, all desires known and from whom no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen**

Fr. Michael: Joining with all the saints who have surrounded us in the past and in the present and who watch over our pilgrimage, we celebrate them and we say, Glory to God in the highest

People: **and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Fr. Michael: Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the Light of the world. May your people illuminated by your Word and sacraments, shine with the radiance of your glory; that he may be known, worshipped and obeyed to the very ends of the earth; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

Amen

Fr. Michael: God of small seeds and mighty plants, you take our meagre lives and with your love cause them to produce acts of loving kindness for you in this world. You hear our cries and find us when we are lost and wandering on fear. You bring us home with you so we may be whole, rejoicing in your goodness. Help us to joyfully serve you all our days, knowing that you are always watching over us. Prepare our hearts to receive your Word and our spirits to respond in eagerness to serve you. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen

(re: Worship Nancy T. Townley Worship Connection on Ministry Matters)

Reader: A reading from the prophet Isaiah (Isaiah 49:1-7)

Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The Lord called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me. He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified." But I said, "I have laboured in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the Lord, and my reward with my God." And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honoured in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth." Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, "Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

Reader: We cry in the wilderness that the land we walk is rugged and rough. We find no straight highways, only deep valleys and high mountains. Jesus, a Light for us and for the nations, take our hands. Open the eyes of the blind, bring prisoners out of their cells. Come to us with your power and might; come and comfort your people. Like a shepherd, gather us as lambs in your arms. **Amen**

(re:Worship Anne Osdieck, The Sunday Website of St. Louis University)

Reader: Our psalm for this new day is Psalm 40 (Psalm 40:1-11).

I waited patiently upon the Lord; he stooped to me and heard my cry.

He lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the mire and clay; he set my feet upon a high cliff and made my footing sure.

All: **Behold, I come to do your will, O God.**

Reader: He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God; many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust in the Lord.

All: **Behold, I come to do your will, O God.**

Reader: Happy are they who trust in the Lord! they do not resort to evil spirits or turn to false gods.

Great things are they that you have done, O Lord my God! how great your wonders and your plans for us! there is none who can be compared with you.

Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! but they are more than I can count.

All: **Behold, I come to do your will, O God.**

Reader: In sacrifice and offering you take no pleasure (you have given me ears to hear you);

Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required, and so I said, "Behold, I come.

All: **Behold, I come to do your will, O God.**

Reader: In the roll of the book it is written concerning me: 'I love to do your will, O my God; your law is deep in my heart.'

I proclaimed righteousness in the great congregation; behold, I did not restrain my lips; and that, O Lord, you know.

All: **Behold, I come to do your will, O God.**

Reader: Your righteousness have I not hidden in my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and your deliverance; I have not concealed your love and faithfulness from the great congregation.

You are the Lord; do not withhold your compassion from me; let your love and your faithfulness keep me safe for ever.

All: **Behold, I come to do your will, O God.**

Reader: A reading from Paul's first letter to the people in Corinth (1 Corinthians 1: 1-9)

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus

Christ, both their Lord and ours: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has

been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him,

in speech and knowledge of every kind just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our

Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of

his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

Reader: Loving God, we come to you in worship and thanksgiving. You are greater than we can understand so open our eyes that we may see your wonderful truths which you have

shown us in Jesus. You are more loving than our hearts can respond to; help us to give ourselves to you in worship so that we can understand the things you are saying to us.

Loving God, in Jesus you chose to come into this world in humility. You chose the path that the world saw as foolish and you used what the world considered weak. For this, we worship

and adore you today and always. **Amen**

(Calvin Institute of Christian Worship)

Fr. Michael: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Fr. Michael: The Holy Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ according to the blessed St. John (John 1: 29-42)

People: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

The next day John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes

a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God." The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter). This is the very Gospel of Christ.

People: **Thanks to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

Homily

Fr. Michael: As we search for our roots and foundations, we affirm that ...We believe in One God the Father Almighty People: maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

All: **On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Reader: Creator God, revealed to us in Jesus of Nazareth, present to us now through your Spirit, we hear your call to care for the lost, the last, the little and the least, that even through us your grace may touch their lives.

People: **Loving God, create in us clean hearts and willing hands.**

Reader: Loving God, friend of outcast and stranger, prejudiced in favour of those whom others reject, we hear your call to care for those standing on the margins of the world. Aboriginal sisters and brothers lost in their own land, refugees seeking asylum and new

hope, those excluded from our communities. May our ministry offer dignity and respect for each and every person and offer a place at the table for all the strangers and the outcasts.

People: **Loving God, create in us clean hearts and willing hands.**

Reader: Gracious God, relating to us as a generous and loving parent, offering yourself in love for every person, we hear your call to offer the hope of renewed relationships where trust and love have been displaced by fear and jealousy, where family has become a place of abuse rather than nurture, where hurts real or imagined remain unforgiven. May our ministry offer gifts of restored and renewed human relationships.

People: **Loving God, create in us clean hearts and willing hands.**

Reader: Loving God, known to us in the dance of community we call Holy Trinity, mediated to us through our common life through the Church, we hear your call to offer new communities of meaning and hope to those who live in isolation and emptiness, to those whose lives lack purpose or direction, to those seeking a safe place to nurture their journey of spirit. We pray especially those of our parish family who are suffering in mind, body or spirit, especially Louise, Marjorie, Richard and Deb L., Howard, Irene, Beth, Roy, Zachariah, Sarah, Jeanette, and Cheryl and those who seek and serve them, remembering especially in our diocesan cycle this week Shane, our Bishop; Anne, our Metropolitan; Linda, our Primate; as well as The Anglican Council of Indigenous Peoples, National Indigenous Anglican Archbishop, the Rt Rev Christopher Harper, Sacred Circle Events, and the ministry of reconciliation. We also remember St. John's Smiths Falls and The Reverend Dr. Thomas Brauer, the work and ministry of our Diocesan Ecumenical Officer, The Venerable Linda Hill and our Diocesan Newspaper Crosstalk, and Leigh Anne Williams, Editor. May our ministry offer the hope of deep and trusted friendship and a way to find connectedness with all those who share our journey of life.

People: **Loving God, create in us clean hearts and willing hands.**

Reader: God beyond all names, whose presence lives in those whom you have called by name, whose presence goes before us into the lives of those to whom we seek to offer our ministry, we hear your call to serve in a variety of places and ways as we serve you in our particular giftedness. We pray that each one of us, as we serve you in our particular ministry might discover a renewed depth in our relationship with you and may be confirmed in our call into ministry. Lord, hear all these our prayers as we offer them in the name of Jesus.

(Rob's Prayers of the Uniting Church SA)

Fr. Michael: Let us join hearts and voices in confession as we pray,

People: **Lord, we are incredibly stubborn. We have entered the season in which your Light has been given to the world, your blessings have been out over all the world, and yet all that we can think about is our own problems, our own needs, our own desires. Help us to desire you, Lord; help us to yearn for your presence; pour your baptismal waters over us again and again, cleansing us from our self-pity and arrogance. Nourish us and heal us so that we can joyfully serve you. Wash away our jealousy, greed and all negative thoughts and behaviours that stand in the way of our truly being the people you have called us to be. Again, let us receive the blessing offered in creation, in the birth, baptism and ministry of Jesus and in the ministry of all the saints in light. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Light of light and Hope of hope. Amen**

Fr. Michael: The love of God is always offered to us, freely, joyfully and for all eternity. Rejoice, dear sisters and brothers, for this is the good news of our lord and our salvation. Alleluia. And may the peace of the living and loving Lord Jesus be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

WE SHARE THE SHALOM OF GOD WITH ONE ANOTHER

Fr. Michael: Living God, you have revealed your Son as Messiah. May we hear your words and follow them and live as children of light in the name of Jesus. **Amen**

Fr. Michael: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Fr. Michael: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Fr. Michael: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Fr. Michael: We give you thanks and praise, Almighty God, through your beloved Son Jesus the Christ, our Saviour and Redeemer. He is your Living Word, through whom you have created all things. By the power of the Holy Spirit, he took flesh of the Virgin Mary and shared our human nature. He lived as died as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. In fulfillment of your will, he stretched out his hands in suffering, to bring release to those who place their hope in you and so he won for you a holy people. He chose to bear our griefs and sorrows and to give up his life on a cross, so that he might shatter the chains of evil and death and banish the darkness of sin and despair.

By his resurrection, he brings us to the light of your presence. Now, with all creation, we raise our voices and we say,

People: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might; heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Fr. Michael: Holy and gracious God, accept our praise through your Son our Saviour Jesus; who on the night he was handed over to suffering and death, took bread and gave you thanks, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body which is broken for you." In the same way he took the cup saying, "Drink this all of you; this is my blood which is shed for you, When you do this, you do it in memory of me." Remembering therefore his death and resurrection, we offer you this bread and this wine, giving thanks that you have made us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you. We ask you to send your Holy Spirit upon the offerings of your holy Church. Gather into one all who share in these sacred mysteries, filling them with the Holy Spirit and confirming their faith in the truth, that together we may praise you and give you the glory through your Servant, Jesus Christ.

All glory and honour are yours, Father and Son with the Holy Spirit in the holy Church, now and forever. **Amen**

Fr. Michael: And now, as our Lord has gifted it to his Church, we pray, Our Father, who art in Heaven

People: **hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Fr. Michael: We break the bread of life, and that life is the Light of the world.

People: **God here among us, Light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.**

Fr. Michael: The gifts of God for all the children of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

WE SHARE THE BLESSINGS WITH ONE ANOTHER

Fr. Michael: God of glory, you nourish us with the bread from heaven. Fill us with your Holy Spirit, that through us your light may shine in all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Redeemer, Friend and Brother. **Amen**

Fr. Michael: Open our eyes, Lord Jesus, to the world around us. Show us what we should see but from which we hide our eyes. Show us how people live in this world and the reality of their days.

Fr. Michael: Give us the courage to do what you ask of us and to “come and see.” Open our eyes, Lord Jesus, to the shape of your Kingdom. Show us what life could be like if only we could see with wisdom. Show us what we could do to change things forever with you. Give us the courage to have a vision and to “come and see”. Open our eyes, Lord Jesus, to the people all around us. Show us what we should see, but what we have failed to notice. Show us what people are saying to us and what they long for. Give us the courage to be where you are and to “come and see”.

(re:Worship Susan Durber from Monthly Prayers of Christian Aid 2019)

People: **And Glory to God, whose power working in us can do all that we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, now and forever. Amen**

Fr. Michael: May you listen deeply, cherishing the richness of voices – soft and strong. May you never waver in your pursuit of justice, giving yourselves in risk, creativity and thoughtfulness. May you love God with everything in your heart – be it gladness or doubt, fear or playfulness. May you love deeply all the people of your life and may they love you.

Fr. Michael: May you live with a spirit of forgiveness, mending what is broken and bridging what is separated. May you know your weaknesses and reverence them as special ways to God’s tenderness. May you remember all the loved one who have helped you to fashion your story. May you take all sadness into your heart and hold it lightly until compassion is born – then, may give your compassion away. Go now gently and joyfully as a witness to God’s love. May God watch over you, Jesus walk with you and the Spirit give you courage. Go now to all the ends of the earth and give – LIFE!

Worship follows the Holy Eucharist in the Book of Alternative Services.

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