

Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Metcalfe
Epiphany 6 - February 12, 2023
Reverend Michael Fleming

Fr. Michael: As we gather on this new day to praise you and serve you, we acknowledge that the places in which we live and worship lie on the unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishinaabe people.

People: **Together, we walk the pathways of this good earth in the spirit of reconciliation and hope.**

Fr. Michael: Here we are Lord! We come from the busy-ness of our daily lives, from the hubbub of our work and play, from the hue and cry of the world around us. We come to worship you. In this hour, we long to meet you, to feel your presence surrounding us, enveloping us, loving us. We long to enter into silence, laying aside our worries and our cares, aware of your presence around us, before us, behind us, within us. Maranatha – come, Lord Jesus. **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: Called and gathered, we stand before you united in our love and hope in our Lord and 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: We are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses. We remember this day all the saints who have served you in every generation here at Holy Trinity, and with them 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 and everlasting God, whose Son healed the sick and restored them to wholeness of life, look with compassion on the anguish of the world, and by your power make whole all peoples and nations; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God, now and forever.

Amen

Fr. Michael: Lord God, as we prepare to gather as Vestry this day, we recognize that we can do nothing apart from you. Grant us wisdom to rightly represent you and to faithfully interpret

your Word. Let the spirit of Wisdom dwell within us and may that Wisdom provide us with knowledge., conviction, Christlike love and unity. We pray that this time will be fruitful to those in attendance, and may righteousness and peace be ours through Christ, in whose precious Name we pray.

Amen (from : ConnectUs 2019)

Reader: A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob. DEUTERONOMY 30:15-20 The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

Reader: Lord, be with us to guide us, within us to strengthen us, without us to protect us, above us to raise us, beneath us to uphold us, before us to lead us, behind us to guard us, ever about us, this day and for evermore.

Amen (from The Rhythm of Life by David Adam 1996)

Reader: Our psalm for this new day is a portion of Psalm 119 (Psalm 119: 1-8)

Happy are they whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord! Happy are they who observe his decrees and seek him with all their hearts!

All: **Happy are they who walk in the law of the Lord.**

Who never do any wrong, but always walk in his ways. You laid down your commandments, that we should fully keep them.

All: **Happy are they who walk in the law of the Lord.**

Oh, that my ways were made so direct that I might keep your statutes!

Then I should not be put to shame, when I regard all your commandments.

All: **Happy are they who walk in the law of the Lord.** I will thank you with an unfeigned heart, when I have learned your righteous judgements. I will keep your statutes; do not utterly forsake me.

All: **Happy are they who walk in the law of the Lord.**

Reader: A reading from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians (1 Corinthians 3: 1-9)

And so, brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarrelling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving

according to human inclinations? For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human? What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labour of each. For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

Reader: O God, source of everything divine; you are good, surpassing good and you are just, surpassing everything just. In you is tranquility, peace and harmony. Heal our divisions and restore us in the unity of love which is your Divine Nature. Let the bonds of love and the ties of affection make us one in the Spirit by your grace which makes everything peace-filled.

(from Swallow's Nest by Marcienne Vroon Rienstra 1992 – adapted by RMF)

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. Luke (St. Luke 6: 27-36)

People: **Glory be to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

"But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. If someone slaps you on one cheek, turn to them the other also. If someone takes your coat, do not withhold your shirt from them. Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. Do to others as you would have them do to you. "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do that. And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, expecting to be repaid in full. But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

This is the very Gospel of Christ.

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

As we seek to be bound to one another in love, let us affirm our unity as we say, "I believe in God, the Father Almighty,

All: creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. 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.

Reader: Eternal God, we thank you for calling each of us by name. In you, we live and move and grow. We pray for the Church throughout the world, remembering especially at this time Shane, our Bishop; Anne, our Metropolitan; Linda, our Primate; as well as our Community Ministries: Centre 454; St. Luke's Table; The Well, Centre 105, Cornerstone Housing for Women, Ottawa Pastoral Counselling Centre, and the Refugee Ministry. We pray for the Director General of Community Ministries, The Reverend Canon Dr. Peter John Hobbs and members of the Community Ministries Committee. We pray for Resurrection Lutheran Church and all who minister there and for all called to vocations in the diaconate, priesthood, and religious life. Remind us of our common foundation in Jesus Christ; may we grow closer and closer to one another in faith and in love, until we attain that unity which is your perfect will.

People: **Build us together in Christ and make us your dwelling-place.**

Reader: Send down your Spirit so we may know Jesus more deeply with us and bear witness to our life and unity in him. May we know the mind of Christ in order to speak God's Word and Wisdom everywhere. Strengthen us to work towards peace and reconciliation in the Church and in society.

People: **Build us together in Christ and make us your dwelling-place.**

Reader: We pray for all churches experiencing change and/or difficulty at this time: growth or struggle, reconciliation or conflict. Inspire and strengthen them in works of witness and service.

People: **Build us together in Christ and make us your dwelling-place.**

Reader: We pray for those who are homeless, who are wanderers; those who are hungry, those who are unemployed or underemployed; for those who have no sense of peace or wholeness. We pray particularly today for those of our family who are in need of your love Myra, Louise, Marjorie, Richard and Deb L., Howard, Irene, Beth, Roy, Zachariah, Sarah, Jeanette, and Cheryl. May we as your children recognize and serve all who are suffering, all who are needy in mind, body or spirit.

People: **Build us together in Christ and make us your dwelling-place.**

Reader: We thank you for all the gifts of creation. Teach us to share with others our time, our energy, our resources and our love. Make us sensitive and responsive to the wounds in the human family and in your creation. May we be faithful to our calling and live long on this earth. May we give our whole life to Christ, for we belong to Him and in Him are united all things on earth and in heaven.

Amen (from re:Worship 2020)

Fr. Michael: Let us confess where we have failed God and our neighbours.

People: **Almighty God, we confess that we have taken your commandments and turned them into rules. We have criticized those who have fallen short and selfishly have proclaimed ourselves to be righteous. We have failed to understand the spirit of the commandments and the way that was shown by you for us to live, loving God, loving our neighbours and loving ourselves. Forgive us for turning your Law of Love into burdens instead of a Way to freedom and**

joy in you. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen

(from re:Worship 2019)

Fr. Michael: Sisters and brothers, know this: you are loved. Love is the way; when you love God, you love others; when you truly lay down your desires and even your life for others, you lay down your life for God. Give yourself to God by serving others; know that in God's love there is forgiveness, healing and reconciliation in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

And the peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Fr. Michael: Eternal God, you are the strength of the weak and the comfort of those who suffer. Receive all that we offer you this day, turn our sickness into wholeness and our sorrow into joy; through Jesus Christ who is Lord of lords and Light of lights.

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, for the gift of a world full of wonder, and for our life which comes from you. By your power you sustain the universe. All:

Glory to you for ever and ever.

Fr. Michael: You created us to love you with all our heart, and to love each other as ourselves, but we rebel against you by the evil that we do. In Jesus, your Son, you bring healing to our world and gather us into one great family. Therefore, with all who serve you on earth and in heaven, we praise your wonderful name, as 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: We give you thanks and praise, loving Father, because in sending Jesus, your Son, to us you showed us how much you love us. He cares for the poor and the hungry. He suffers with the sick and the rejected. Betrayed and forsaken, he did not strike back but overcame hatred with love. On the cross he defeated the power of sin and death. By raising him from the dead you show us the power of your love to bring new life to all your people.

All: **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Fr. Michael: On the night before he gave up his life for us, Jesus, at supper with his friends, took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "Take this, all of you, and eat it: this is my body which is given for you." After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is the cup of my blood, the blood of the new and eternal covenant, which is shed for you and for many, so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me."

All: **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Fr. Michael: Gracious God, with this bread and wine we celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus, and we offer ourselves to you in him. Send your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts, that we may know the presence of Jesus in the breaking of bread, and share in the life of the family of your children.

All: **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Fr. Michael: Father, you call us to be your servants; fill us with the courage and love of Jesus, that all the world may gather in joy at the table of your kingdom. We sing your praise, almighty Father, through Jesus, our Lord, in the power of the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

All: **Glory to you for ever and ever. Amen.**

Fr. Michael: As Jesus has gifted this to his Church, we pray,

People: **Our Father, who art in Heaven, 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: We share the gifts of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Fr. Michael: God of tender care, in this eucharist we have celebrated your love for us and for all people. May we show your love in our lives and know our fulfilment in your presence; we ask this in the name of Jesus. **Amen**

Fr. Michael: We give ourselves to you Lord; we give ourselves to you. All that we are; all that we have been; all that we hope to be. We give ourselves to you Lord, we give ourselves to you; in joy and in sorrow, in sickness and in health, in success and in failure. We give ourselves to you Lord, we give ourselves to you; in darkness and in light, in trouble and in joy, in time and for eternity. We give ourselves to you Lord, we give ourselves to you. (Launcelot Andrewes {1555-1626})

All: **Glory to God, whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Fr. Michael: God the Father, who created us; God the Son who redeemed us; God the Holy Spirit who sanctifies us ... bless and keep us now and always. **Amen**

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

Copyright © 2004 by the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada.

All rights reserved.

Reproduced under licence from ABC Publishing, Anglican Book Centre, a ministry of the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada, from Anglican Liturgical Library. Further copying is prohibited.

