

Virtual Worship from St. Paul's Anglican Cathedral, Kamloops BC

Third Sunday of Easter, May 2, 2021

The Rev Len Fraser and Melissa Green lead worship today. Jim Waldie sings and Gordon Britton is organist and pianist.

Today's service originates from the traditional territory of the Tk'emplúps te Secwepemc – Kamloops & Area First Nation. We acknowledge their care for and working of the land prior to contact with Europeans. As Canadian Anglicans, we continue to work toward healing and reconciliation and a new experience of sharing the land together.

All are welcome to attend Zoom Coffee after the service. The link will appear in the Facebook comments shortly before the end of the service.

Organ prelude: When Morning Guilds the Sky by Ashfordn1926 Lorenz Pub. Co
Played by Gordon Britton

EMBRACING EASTER SEASON TOGETHER

Melissa Green

The bread of life opens our eyes.

The word of life opens our ears.

The risen one shows us God's own brokenness,
and by those wounds we are healed.

Peace be with you.

And also with you.

Almighty God, your power makes the lame walk
and the dead rise to new life.
We give you thanks for the love
poured into our world through Christ Jesus,
who opens our minds to understand what you have made,
whose appearance among his followers brings peace,
and who creates faith through touch and taste.

**Show us Jesus, even now,
through the mystery of your threefold presence,
one God, abiding now and forever. Amen.**

Feasting on the Word

SONG Joyful, Joyful We Adore You, CP430

Joyful, joyful we adore thee,

God of Glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee,
Earth and heaven reflect thy rays;
Stars and angels sing around thee,
Centre of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain
Call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living,
Ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father and our Mother,
All who live in love are thine;
Teach us how to love each other,
Lift us to the joy divine.

Text: Henry van Dyke (1852-1933) alt

Music: Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827) Public Domain

COLLECT

Rev Len Fraser

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life.
Give us grace to love one another and walk in the way of his commandments,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ACTS

Rev Len Fraser

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ACTS

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there

was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

ACTS 8:26-40

Hear what the Spirit says to all people

Thanks be to God

PSALM 22:24-30

Rev Len Fraser

24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; *
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: *
“May your heart live for ever!”

26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, *
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

27 For kingship belongs to the Lord; * he rules over the nations.

28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down
in worship; * **all who go down to the dust fall before him.**

29 My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; * **they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.**

30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn * **the saving deeds that he has done.**

A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF JOHN

Jim Waldie

A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF JOHN

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

1 JOHN 4:7-21

Hear what the Spirit says to all people

Thanks be to God

SONG Come and Follow Me

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown? Will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean and do such as this unseen,

and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

Text: John Bell (1949-) 1987 Iona Community/WGRG North America
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THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO JOHN

Glory to You Lord Jesus Christ

Rev Len Fraser

Jesus said, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

JOHN 15:1-8

The Gospel of Christ **Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ**

SERMON

Rev Len Fraser

Song (Here in this Place New Light is Streaming) Jim Waldie

1) Here in this place new light is streaming; now is the dark-ness vanished away.
See in this space our fears and our dreamings, brought here to you in the light of this day

Gather us in- the lost and forsaken; gather us in the blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall awaken; we shall arise at the sound of our name.

2) We are the young our lives are mystery;
we are the old who yearn for your
face. We have been sung through
out all of history, called to be light
to the whole human race.

Gather us in the- rich and the haughty; gather us in- the proud and the strong; give us a heart so
meek and so lowly; give us the courage to enter the song.

3) Here we will take the wine and the water; here we will take the bread of new birth. Here you
shall call your sons and your daughters, call us a-new to be salt for the earth.

Give us to drink the wine of com-passion; give us to eat the bread that is you; nourish us well,
and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

4) Not in the dark of buildings con-fin ing, not in some heaven, light years a-way, but here in this
place new light is shining; now is the kingdom, now is the day.

Gather us in and hold us forever; gather us in and make us your own; gather us in all peoples
together , fire of love in our flesh and our bone

Text and Music: Marty Haugen (1982 G.I.A. Publications, Inc.)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Melissa Green

Hear, O Israel,
the Lord our God, the Lord is one.

**Love the Lord your God
with all your heart,
with all your soul,
with all your mind,
and with all your strength.**

**This is the first and the great commandment.
The second is like it:
Love your neighbour as yourself.
There is no commandment greater than these.**

PRAYERS

Melissa Green

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Litany of Praise for Creation

This litany is inspired by the poem in Genesis 1.

Glory to you, O God:
you speak a word of power,
and so you create the world.
We praise you, O God:
We praise you, O God.

For the Spirit hovering to bring forth life,
for the earth ordered from chaos,
and for light and dark,
we bless you, O God:
We bless you, O God.

For the cosmos beyond our earth,
for the sky above our heads,
and for the cycle of evening and morning,
we exalt you, O God:
We exalt you, O God.

For the seas, the lakes, and the rivers,
for the land with its mountains and plains,
and for the trees, the plants, and their fruits,
we magnify you, O God:
We magnify you, O God.

For the sun to rule the day,
for the moon to brighten the night,
and for the shining stars,
we extol you, O God:
We extol you, O God.

For the fish in the sea,
for the birds of the air,

and for the monsters in the deep,
we glorify you, O God:
We glorify you, O God.

For wild animals and creatures of all kinds,
for cattle and all livestock,
and for everything that creeps on the earth,
we adore you, O God:
We adore you, O God.

For humankind made in your image,
for setting us on your good earth,
and for providing us food to eat,
we worship you, O God:
We worship you, O God.

Bless us, your creatures.
Accept our praise,
and make us worthy of your marvelous creation.
We praise you, O God:
We praise you, O God.

Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving
and honor and power and might
be to you, our God, forever and ever.
Amen.

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THE LORD'S PRAYER

Jim Waldie

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray

**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.**

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Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: **Have mercy upon us.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: **Have mercy upon us.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: **Grant us your peace.**

Let us pray. O Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God;

**In these times when we cannot receive you sacramentally,
come into ourselves, our souls and bodies,
as you have risen from the dead
bringing victory over death,
healing, comfort and peace.
Revitalize your Church in Love;
Strengthen us for service;
that when our wanderings end,
we may in courage and confidence
in joy and resilience,
discover your love throughout all creation, Amen.**

Quiet time

SENDING AND CELEBRATING

Rev Len Fraser

God of Eastertide –
of blazing bonfires and familiar gestures,
of serious questions and tears and laughter,
of conversations on the road –
come close to us as we walk,
as we warm ourselves,
as we dance in firelight,
as we share stories and food.
Bless us as we celebrate your rising in us,
closer to us than breathing,
life-giving as fire and bread.

Ruth Burgess. Fire and Bread

HYMN Lift High the Cross – CP 602

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore his sacred name.

Come Christian people, sing your praises, shout!
If we are silent, even stones cry out.
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore his sacred name.

Jesus you wept to see our human strife:
Teach us compassion for each human life.
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore his sacred name.

Peace was your plea, and peace your loving theme:
Let peace be our passport, peace a living dream.
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore his sacred name.

Great is the cost of walking on the road,
To follow and suffer with the Son of God.
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore his sacred name.

Worlds to be born and children yet to be, come,
Take up this song into eternity.
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore his sacred name.

Text: Refrain George William Kitchin (1827-1912); st. Shirley Erena Murray (1912-)
Music: Sydney Hugo Nicholson (1875- 1947)

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Organ postlude: Short Prelude in C by J.S. Bach (1685-1750)
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