

**The First Sunday in Lent  
21 February 2021**



If you are joining us online for the first time, we extend a warm welcome to you and invite you to join in our worship by saying or singing the words printed in **bold**.

*You can call in to the service by telephone:*

*Canada: (647) 374-4685*

*Meeting ID 845 2813 2472*

**WELCOME:**

**OPENING SENTENCE:**

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy,  
slow to anger and of great kindness.

*Psalm 103.8*

**GREETING:**

We have come together in the Name of Christ  
to offer our praise and thanksgiving,  
to hear and receive God's holy word,  
to pray for the needs of the world,  
and to seek the forgiveness of our sins,  
that by the power of the Holy Spirit  
we may give ourselves to the service of God.

## OPENING HYMN:

## DWELLING

Words/Arr: Joanne Redhead © 2019

Tune: ADORO TE

**1. Dwelling in the quiet place,  
There I hear your voice.  
Leading, guiding always near,  
calm amidst the noise.  
Listening in your presence Lord,  
you guide me on my way,  
Dwelling in that quiet place  
Each and every day.**

*And I will dwell and I will dwell in  
you Lord.*

*And I will dwell, I will dwell in you.  
My strength and peace, my comfort  
and my refuge,  
I will dwell, I'll dwell in you.*

*And I will dwell and I will dwell in  
you Lord.*

*And I will dwell, I will dwell in you  
My strength and peace, my comfort  
and my refuge,  
I will dwell, I'll dwell in you.*

**2. Praying in the quiet place,  
Underneath your wings  
Treasured words sink deep within,  
There my heart will sing.  
Resting in your presence Lord  
Your shelter keeps me safe,  
Dwelling in that quiet place  
I receive your grace.**

**3. Rising from the quiet place,  
Strengthened by your word.  
By your spirit, sharing peace  
Serving in the world.  
Moving in your presence Lord,  
You guide me with your light  
Dwelling in that quiet place  
Through the darkest night.**

**4. Walking in the quiet place,  
There I'll know your love.  
Holy ground beneath my feet,  
Heavenly choirs above.  
Living in your presence Lord,  
There I will always be,  
Dwelling in that quiet place  
For eternity.**

## CONFESSION:

The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart God will not despise. Let us come to the Lord, who is full of compassion, and acknowledge our transgressions in penitence and faith.

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.**

**We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**PREPARATION:**

O Lord, open our lips  
**and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

O God, make speed to save us.  
**O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
**as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

Praise the Lord.  
**The Lord's name be praised.**

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;  
let us pray with one heart and mind.

*Silence is kept.*

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,  
so may the light of your presence, O God,  
set our hearts on fire with love for you;  
now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

**ON EAGLE'S WINGS**    *(Before & after the Psalm)*

**1. You who dwell in the shelter of the  
Lord  
Who abide in His shadow for life  
Say to the Lord, "My refuge  
My rock, in whom I trust!"**

**Chorus:**  
*And He will raise you up on eagle's  
wings  
Bear you on the breath of dawn  
Make you to shine like the sun  
And hold you in the palm of His hand*

**2. The snare of the fowler will never  
capture you  
And famine will bring you no fear  
Under His wings, your refuge  
His faithfulness, your shield  
(Chorus)**

**3. You need not fear the terror of the  
night  
Nor the arrow that flies by day  
Though thousands fall about you  
Near you it shall not come (Chorus)**

**4. For to His angels He's given a  
command  
To guard you in all of your ways  
Upon their hands they will bear you  
up  
Lest you dash your foot against a  
stone (Chorus)**

## **PSALM 91**

**You who live in the shelter of the Most High,  
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,  
will say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my fortress;  
my God, in whom I trust.'**

**For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler  
and from the deadly pestilence;  
he will cover you with his pinions,  
and under his wings you will find refuge;  
his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.  
You will not fear the terror of the night,  
or the arrow that flies by day,  
or the pestilence that stalks in darkness,  
or the destruction that wastes at noonday.**

**A thousand may fall at your side,  
ten thousand at your right hand,  
but it will not come near you.  
You will only look with your eyes  
and see the punishment of the wicked.**

**Because you have made the Lord your refuge,  
the Most High your dwelling-place,  
no evil shall befall you,  
no scourge come near your tent.**

**For he will command his angels concerning you  
to guard you in all your ways.  
On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.  
You will tread on the lion and the adder,  
the young lion and the serpent you will trample under foot.  
Those who love me, I will deliver;  
I will protect those who know my name.  
When they call to me, I will answer them;  
I will be with them in trouble,  
I will rescue them and honour them.  
With long life I will satisfy them,  
and show them my salvation. (NRSV)**

**Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE READING:**

**MATHEW 4: 1-11**

*Read by Robin Holder.*

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. And the tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” But he answered, “It is written, ““Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.””

Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, ““He will command his angels concerning you,’ and ““On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.””

Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’” Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” Then Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! For it is written, ““You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.”” Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him. (ESV)

**CANTICLE:            A SONG OF THE WORD OF THE LORD**

*Return to the Lord, who will have mercy,  
to our God, who will richly pardon.*

**Seek the Lord while he may be found, /  
call upon him while he is near;**

**Let the wicked abandon their ways, /  
and the unrighteous their thoughts;**

**Return to the Lord, who will have mercy; /  
to our God, who will richly pardon.**

**‘For my thoughts are not your thoughts, /  
neither are your ways my ways,’ says the Lord.**

**‘For as the heavens are higher than the earth, /  
so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.**

**‘As the rain and the snow come down from above, /  
and return not again but water the earth,**

**‘Bringing forth life and giving growth, /  
seed for sowing and bread to eat,**

**‘So is my word that goes forth from my mouth; /  
it will not return to me fruitless,**

**‘But it will accomplish that which I purpose, /  
and succeed in the task I gave it.’**

*Isaiah 55.6-11*

**Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

*Return to the Lord, who will have mercy,  
to our God, who will richly pardon.*

**THE SERMON:**

**THE REV. CHRIS DOW**

## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:**

**Christ died for our sins  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he was buried;  
he was raised to life on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
afterwards he appeared to his followers,  
and to all the apostles:  
this we have received,  
and this we believe.  
Amen.**

*cf 1 Corinthians 15.3-7*

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:**

*Led by Liliana Pascucci.*

## **THE COLLECT FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT:**

Lord Jesus Christ, who for our sake fasted forty days and forty nights, give us grace so to discipline ourselves, that we may always obey your will in righteousness and true holiness, to the honour and glory of your Name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## **THE SEASONAL COLLECT FOR LENT:**

**Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing that you have made and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent: create and make in us new and contrite hearts that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may receive from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **THE COLLECT FOR PEACE:**

**O God the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life, to serve you is perfect freedom. Defend us your servants from all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defence, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **THE COLLECT FOR GRACE:**

Almighty and everlasting God, we thank you that you have brought us safely to the beginning of this day. Keep us from falling into sin or running into danger, order us in all our doings and guide us to do always what is righteous in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER (SUNG)**

Trusting in the compassion of God, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

### **CLOSING HYMN:**

### **FORTY DAYS AND FORTY NIGHTS**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Forty days and forty nights<br>Thou wast fasting in the wild;<br>Forty days and forty nights<br>Tempted, and yet undefiled             | 2. Sunbeams scorching all the day;<br>Chilly dew-drops nightly shed;<br>Prowling beasts about Thy way;<br>Stones Thy pillow; earth Thy bed. |
| 3. Should not we Thy sorrow share<br>And from worldly joys abstain,<br>Fasting with unceasing prayer,<br>Strong with Thee to suffer pain? | 4. Then if Satan on us press,<br>Jesus, Savior, hear our call!<br>Victor in the wilderness,<br>Grant we may not faint nor fall!             |
| 5. So shall we have peace divine:<br>Holier gladness ours shall be;<br>Round us, too, shall angels shine,<br>Such as ministered to Thee.  | 6. Keep, O keep us, Savior dear,<br>Ever constant by Thy side;<br>That with Thee we may appear<br>At the eternal Eastertide.                |

### **THE GRACE:**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.