**February 18, 2024– First Sunday in Lent – Email/At Home Missal**

**The ZOOM link for today’s service, which opens at 09.30 am on February 18, 2024, can be found here:**

**Worship February 18, 2024 09:30 am ZOOM room opens; service begins at 10:00 am.**

**Join Zoom Meeting click here:**

[**https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84066302102?pwd=ZEQ1V0dhRzRoMUZrcDBlMXF3STJWZz09**](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84066302102?pwd=ZEQ1V0dhRzRoMUZrcDBlMXF3STJWZz09)

**Meeting ID: 840 6630 2102 Passcode: 541916**

**You don’t have to have a computer or internet to connect to any of our church Zoom services; you can also just call in on one of these numbers (long distance charges may apply): (All Canadian numbers). You can also access the ZOOM from your telephone by using the “One tap mobile” option:**

**+14388097799,,84066302102#,,,,\*541916# Canada;**

**+15873281099,,84066302102#,,,,\*541916# Canada**

**Dial by your location:**

**+1 778 907 2071 Canada**

**+1 780 666 0144 Canada**

**+1 204 272 7920 Canada
+1 438 809 7799 Canada**

**+1 587 328 1099 Canada**

**+1 647 374 4685 Canada
+1 647 558 0588 Canada**

**Meeting ID: 840 6630 2102 Passcode: 541916**

**Find your local number:** [**https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kMO4FqjTt**](https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kMO4FqjTt)

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**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 18TH, 2024 –FEBRUARY 25TH, 2024:**

**You will find the video for February 11th, 2024, at the following YouTube link:**

[**https://youtu.be/hruqUhD1WVA**](https://youtu.be/hruqUhD1WVA)

**You will find the video for February 14, 2024, Ash Wednesday, at the following YouTube link:**

[**https://youtu.be/wUVVeI4u\_RE**](https://youtu.be/wUVVeI4u_RE)

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**Coming Events** *(save these dates)* ***bold print - events being held here at St. Peter’s***

1. Feb. 19Move with Robert*(Free Exercise Class Mondays 1:00 – 2:00 pm, YMCA Certified Fitness Instructor – Wear exercise shoes/bring water/no registration required/ arrive by 12:45 pm – Trillium United Church, Cambridge)*

Feb. 20 Cambridge Neighbourhood Table *(5:00 -7:30 pm) free dinner & social – Freedom Centre, 1332 Hamilton St. Cambridge*

**Feb. 21 Praying the Catechism –** *(Wednesdays at 7:00pm on Zoom from February 21 to May 15)*

**Feb. 25 Men’s Dessert Event** *(Calling all men to pull out their their favorite desert recipe to prepare and be voted on for the best*

*dessert in 2024. There will be a Chili lunch prior to the main desert event. There is a sign-up list in the Narthex to help with either providing food items for lunch or help with the clean-up)*

Feb. 26 Cambridge Neighbourhood Table *(5:00-7:30 pm) free dinner & social – Langs, 1145 Concession R. Cambridge*

1. **Feb. 28 Praying the Catechism –** *(Wednesdays at 7:00pm on Zoom from February 21 to May 15)*

Mar. 9 White Owl Sugarbush Adventure *(10:00 am – 12:00 noon - featuring land-based learning with Indigenous Educator Dave Skene & Outdoor Educator Nathan Mantey. Join us at White Owl Sugarbush, 1388 Stauffer Dr. Kitchener. Bundle up & learn on the land. Free. All ages welcome. Families encouraged. Sign-up via Eventbrite or email admin@featherandcross.org*

1. **Mar. 17 Annual General Meeting** *(further details coming!)*
2. **Mar. 31 Easter Breakfast** *(further details coming!)*

Apr. 5-7 Bishop’s spiritual Retreat for Lay Persons *(Mount Carmel, Niagara Falls)*

Apr. 16 Public Lecture– The Gospel of Peace *(John Dear – Priest/Peace Activist/Author; Nonviolence in the tradition of Gandhi*

*& Martin Luther King Jr. – No Charge (donations welcome); copies of ‘The Gospel of Peace’ will be available $25 (cash). All Saints Lutheran Anglican Church, 210 Silvercreek Parkway N. Guelph*

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**The Life of St. Peter’s for the week of February 18 – February 25, 2024**

1. Monday 2:00 pm Ministry of Facilities, Risk Management & Property Meeting *(Parlour)*
2. 6:00 pm TOPS - R.F.F. *(Art Room)*
3. 7:00 pm Ministry of Worship, Learning & Radical Hospitality Meeting *(Parlour)*
4. Tuesday 7:00 pm Scouts - R.F.F. *(Scout Room, Art Room, Fellowship Hall)*
5. Wednesday 10:30 am Weekly Bible Study *(Art Room)*
6. 7:00 pm Zoom Check-in – Praying the Catechism
7. Thursday
8. Friday
9. Saturday **10:00 am Choir Practice** *(Sanctuary)*

Sunday **10:00 am Worship Service** – A passage from **Mark 10:32-52** *(Passion prediction, Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, heals blind Bartimaeus.)*

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**Pastoral Visit:** Pastor Laura is available for visits by appointment by calling the church office, 519-653-4721. Whether you have a particular pastoral concern or would just like some one-to-one time to get to know Pastor Laura, she would love to meet with you.

1. **……………………………………………..**
2. **Prayer List:**  Bill, Don, Tammy, Alice, Don, Lynn, Helen, Sharon, Donald, Shirley, Clara, Jeff, Aaron, MacKenzie, Rhett, Jan Ken, Lee, Maria, Deborah, Fred, Anne, Sherri, Carol.
3. **……………………………………………..**

## We need you to help feed our neighbourhood! The freedom Centre has joined with Cambridge Community Table to offer a meal to our community twice a month on Tuesday night. We need volunteers: Food Preparation, set up, take down, meet and Greet. Every hour you can give once or twice a month. Call for information 519-591-6518 or email rosemary@freedomcentre.ca.

1. **……………………………………………..**
2. Move with Robert(Free Exercise Class Mondays 1 – 2 pm, YMCA Certified Fitness Instructor – Wear exercise shoes/bringwater/no registration required/ arrive by 12:45 pm – Trillium United Church, Cambridge)
3. **……………………………………………..**
4. **“Praying the Catechism”** – A season of intentional prayer for Lent & Easter - **Wednesdays at 7PM on Zoom** from **February 21 to May 15**. Join Pastor Laura on zoom each Wednesday for conversation and mutual support as we work our way through “Praying the Catechism” this Lenten and Easter seasons.
5. **……………………………………………..**

**Titanium Spatula Lunch Sunday February 25 after worship** - Calling all men to pull out their their favorite desert recipe to prepare and be voted on for the best desert in 2024. There will be a Chili lunch prior to the main desert event. There is a sign-up list in the Narthex to help with either providing food items for lunch or help with the clean-up.

**……………………………………………..**

1. **March 9, 2024 – 10:00 am to noon. White Owl Sugarbush Adventure** (featuring land-based learning with Indigenous Educator Dave Skene & Outdoor Educator Nathan Mantey. Join us at White Owll Sugarbush, 1388 Stauffer Dr. Kitchener. Bundle up & learn on the land. Free. All ages welcome. Families encouraged. Sign-up via Eventbrite or email admin@featherandcross.org
2. **……………………………………………..**
3. **April 16, 2024 Public Lecture – The Gospel of Peace** (John Dear – Priest/Peace Activist/Author; Nonviolence in the tradition of Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr. – No Charge (donations welcome); copies of ‘The Gospel of Peace’ will be available $25 (cash). All Saints Lutheran Anglican Church, 210 Silvercreek Parkway N. Guelph.
4. **……………………………………………..**

**Presiding Pastor: Laura Sauder**

**Organist & Director of Music: Bradley Moggach**

**Assisting Minister: Barb Burden**

**Reader: John Leonard**

**Welcome remarks**

**Call to Worship**

P: Come,

with your gifts and your needs,

***C: to take a place in beloved community.***

P: Come,

with your accomplishments and your failures,

***C: to be real with each other and to learn interdependence.***

P: Come,

with your plans and your questions,

***C: empowered by Jesus to let go, to make space, to see God’s kingdom here.***

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Gathering Hymn: ELW # 696 ‘Jesus Calls Us; o’er the Tumult’

1 Jesus calls us; o'er the tumult

 of our life's wild, restless sea,

 day by day his clear voice sounding,

 saying, "Christian, follow me*"*:

2 As of old Saint Andrew heard it

 by the Galilean lake,

 turned from home and toil and kindred,

 leaving all for Jesus' sake.

3 Jesus calls us from the worship

 of the vain world's golden store,

 from each idol that would keep us,

 saying, "Christian, love me more."

4 In our joys and in our sorrows,

 days of toil and hours of ease,

 still he calls, in cares and pleasures,

 "Christian, love me more than these."

5 Jesus calls us! By your mercy,

 Savior, may we hear your call,

 give our hearts to your obedience,

 serve and love you best of all.

*(Title: Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult; Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-1895; Public Domain; Music:* *William H. Jude, 1851 – 1922; Public Domain; Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Greeting**:

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always.

***C: And also with you.***

**Prayer of Confession:**

I invite you to be seated, as we join in a time of confession

P: Loving God, you offer us life in your kingdom, beginning today.

But your invitation asks much of us, and honestly we’re not sure.

We’ve spent so long believing we have to look out for ourselves,

make our own way in the world without depending on anyone else.

We’ve learned to always be the ones who help,

and never the ones who need help.

We’ve filled our homes and our lives with everything we could ever need,

and grown proud of our self-sufficiency

without ever thinking of those whose labor makes our lives possible.

You say it is impossible to enter your kingdom while carrying all of this,

and you ask us to leave all that behind to live your way.

We confess our sadness at the thought… *(silence)*

We ask for your forgiveness and help… *(silence)*

We like to think we can do anything, that our lives are in our control,

but the truth is that on our own, we cannot make our way into your way of truth and life.

***C: Which is why together we pray,***

***Give us hearts able and willing to trust you.***

***Give us minds ready to let go of the things that allow us to hedge our bets***

***and rely on ourselves instead.***

***Give us hands ready to love our neighbor in tangible ways, even when it costs us everything.***

***Look on us with love, we pray,***

***and may your love make us courageous enough for true community,***

***depending on you and one another***

***and so seeing your kingdom come among us, even now.***

***Amen.***

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**Choir Anthem**

**Prayer of the Day:**

We often come to you, Lord, asking the wrong question.

Yet every time, you look at us with love,

and redirect us to your more excellent way.

Today we come acknowledging we aren’t even sure what to say,

and we trust you will guide us

through our confusion,

through our amazement,

through our resistance,

through our defensiveness,

into not only new understanding,

but a new way of living in your kingdom here and now.

Amen.

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**Lenten Acclamation: ACS Setting 12 *(sung)***

Nothing in all creation can separate us from the love of God.

Nothing in all creation can separate us from the love of God.

*\*From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress.*

**Reader**:

The Holy Gospel according to **Mark, the 10th chapter.**

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

May we be equipped by these words to walk in love for God, ourselves, our neighbours, all people, and all God’s creation.

As Jesus continued down the road, a man ran up, knelt before him, and asked, “Good Teacher, what must I do to obtain eternal life?”

Jesus replied, “Why do you call me good? No one is good except the one God. You know the commandments: *Don’t commit murder. Don’t commit adultery. Don’t steal. Don’t give false testimony*. Don’t cheat. *Honor your father and mother.”*

“Teacher,” he responded, “I’ve kept all of these things since I was a boy.”

Jesus looked at him carefully and loved him. He said, “You are lacking one thing. Go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor. Then you will have treasure in heaven. And come, follow me.” But the man was dismayed at this statement and went away saddened, because he had many possessions.

Looking around, Jesus said to his disciples, “It will be very hard for the wealthy to enter God’s kingdom!” His words startled the disciples, so Jesus told them again, “Children, it’s difficult to enter God’s kingdom! It’s easier for a camel to squeeze through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter God’s kingdom.”

They were shocked even more and said to each other, “Then who can be saved?”

Jesus looked at them carefully and said, “It’s impossible with human beings, but not with God. All things are possible for God.”

Peter said to him, “Look, we’ve left everything and followed you.”

Jesus said, “I assure you that anyone who has left house, brothers, sisters, mother, father, children, or farms because of me and because of the good news will receive one hundred times as much now in this life—houses, brothers, sisters, mothers, children, and farms (with harassment)—and in the coming age, eternal life. But many who are first will be last. And many who are last will be first.” (CEB)

The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.\***

**Engaging with the Story**

**Mark 10:17-31 – Letting Go**

A man comes to Jesus asking what he must do to obtain eternal life. First Jesus tells him to follow God’s commandments. But when the man says he already does this faithfully, Jesus issues a second challenge. Jesus tells the man to sell all that he owns and to give the money to the poor. Not surprisingly, when he hears this, he goes away saddened and dismayed. It’s only at this point in the story do we find out that this is because the man has many possessions.

In many Bible translations, this story is given the heading: “A Rich Man’s Question.”1 When we have that title already in mind before hearing this story it can impact how we hear Jesus’ words. About whether this story applies to us, or not. I know I don’t think of myself as rich. But the story doesn’t actually describe the man as rich – it says he has many possessions. And that’s something most of us living in this materially wealthy culture can relate to.

Even those of us who seek to live minimalist lives, we have many possessions we wouldn’t want to live without. But according to Jesus, having many possessions is a barrier to obtaining eternal life. So what do we do with this? Do we need to sell everything we own and give the money to the poor?

It’s curious to note that as this story unfolds, Jesus changes the topic…sort of. The man’s question was about obtaining eternal life, but when Jesus reflects on this interaction with the disciples he changes the focus to the Kingdom of God, which is kind of the same but also different.

In this story, it’s pretty clear that when the man asks about eternal life he’s talking about life after this one. And as one Biblical scholar comments, eternal life is really only a pressing question for someone who is comfortable enough in this life to think beyond putting bread on the table today.2

The Kingdom of God, on the other hand, is a broader concept. It includes the life after this one but begins in this life, right here right now. For Jesus, the Kingdom of God is about life in the beloved community. It’s about life in the new kind of community – the new family – that his ministry was creating. A community that relies on one another; that takes care of each other; that provided a safeguard against the insecurity and precarity that characterized life under the Roman Empire.

Even though we’re living some 2000 years after Jesus walked this earth, we also know something about living in a time of precarity and insecurity.

I recently finished listening to the 2023 CBC Massey Lectures by filmmaker and writer Astra Taylor.3 It was the title that caught my attention the very first time I heard them advertised – “The Age of Insecurity.” It spoke right to my heart. This is certainly a time when many of us are feeling that sense of insecurity. Having just come through a global pandemic, dealing with inflation and a housing crisis, the changes we’re experiencing with our climate.

What’s interesting about insecurity, Taylor says, is that we all feel it – whether we have a lot of resources or just a few. Given the time we’re living in, even the wealthiest people feel insecure – as if even what they have could be taken away. Her take is that this shared experience of insecurity can actually be a gift if we can recognise insecurity as something that unites us across economic lines. The Massey Lectures are published in book form as well, and the subtitle for the book gets at this idea – “Coming Together While Things Fall Apart.”

For Taylor, and for Jesus, the answer to a world that demands competition and creates disparity is community. The antidote is recognizing our responsibility to and our need for one another.

Jesus tells the man to sell his possessions not because possessions are inherently bad. What is bad about having many possessions is that they make you believe that you don’t need other people. They make you believe that you don’t need God. And on one level, you don’t really need other people or God if you can take care of yourself. It’s about possessions, but a deeper level this is about self-sufficiency and self-reliance.

The thing about security is, it won’t ever come from circling the wagons. It won’t ever come from taking care of our own needs, while others are lacking. If we want to feel secure. If we want to feel connected. If we want to flourish, it will only come when we learn to loosen our grip on our possessions – both literally, but also on a spiritual level. Paradoxically, true security is only found in letting go.

Because when we loosen our grip on our possessions, we make ourselves vulnerable. We give up our control over situations.4 We have to rely on other people. And this, I think, is what Jesus was inviting the rich man into. It’s a scary thing to let ourselves be vulnerable. There’s a very real risk that we will get hurt. AND, being vulnerable is the only way to experience true love and connection.

It’s so important not to miss the fact that before Jesus tells the man to sell all that he has, Jesus looked at him carefully and loved him. Jesus has compassion for this man, knowing that this is something that will be really hard for him to live into. This is something hard for us to live into, especially in this materialistic, consumeristic world. But Jesus loves us too. And when we can let go. When we can make space. When we can loosen our grip. We will encounter Jesus’ loving presence as we let ourselves rely on others and others rely on us. We will discover that with God, things we could never imagine are indeed possible.

This Lenten season our worship theme is “Together: In the Way of Jesus.” As we continue making our way through Mark’s Gospel, we will be paying particular attention to what Jesus’ teachings mean for us as a community. As we journey ‘Together in the way of Jesus,’ I love that our story on this first Sunday in Lent leads us to think about what it means to be in community with one another. What it means to be a community of faith in our wider community. That it pushes us to ask: what are we willing to let go of, or to loosen our grip on, in order to find out?

We’re in the midst of a significant journey of exploration together as we dream and imagine and listen for where God is calling us next. It’s exciting – and it will be challenging – especially as we get to points when decisions will need to be made. It will be important to remember that even when we don’t all agree, we are in this together. To remember that we seek to be blessed community for one another and for our neighbours. To recognise there are things we will have loosen our grip on or let go of, if we want to move forward in faith together.

We don’t ever find out what happened to the rich man. He went away sad and dismayed, but Jesus did end the conversation by inviting the man to come and follow him. And I can’t but wonder if maybe, after some time to process these words, he did just that. To our ears, Jesus’ ask does indeed feel impossible. But we are invited to trust that with God, nothing is impossible. That with God, letting go is something we can do and know that we will be ok. May it be so. AMEN.

1 <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+10%3A17-31&version=CEB>

2 BibleWorm Podcast Episode 526 “The Eye of the Needle (Mark 10:17-31).” February 11, 2024.

3 <https://www.cbc.ca/radiointeractives/ideas/2023-cbc-massey-lectures-astra-taylor>

4 BibleWorm Podcast Episode 526 “The Eye of the Needle (Mark 10:17-31).” February 11, 2024.

**Hymn of the Day: ACS # 922 ‘When We Are Tested’**

1 When we are tested and wrestle alone,

 famished for bread when the world offers stone,

 nourish us, God, by your word and your way,

 food that sustains us by night and by day.

2 When in the desert we cry for relief,

 pleading for paths marked by certain belief,

 lift us to love you beyond sign and test,

 trusting your presence, our only true rest.

3 When we are tempted to barter our souls,

 trading the truth for the pow'r to control,

 teach us to worship and praise only you,

 seeking your will in the work that we do.

4 When we have struggled and searched through the night,

 sorting and sifting the wrong from the right,

 Savior, surround us with circles of care,

 angels of healing, of hope, and of prayer.

*(Title:**When We Are Tested; Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947; Text © 1996 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music: Irish Traditional; Public Domain; Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Prayers of Intercession:**

A: For you all things are possible, O God,

and so we come with both praise and prayer.

A brief silence.

Your blessings abound, and even when we misidentify them, still you give us every good gift. We thank you for your grace that calls us again and again. Grace that saves and reconciles and invites and transforms. We thank you for your Body, the Church. For this community in which we learn and grow, worship and serve,

where we can be real and vulnerable, practicing sharing the love and grace you so freely give. For all we have received, and all that we have to offer, we give you thanks. Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

Too many people have no safe place to be real. Vulnerability is too often seen as weakness to be exploited. Our neighbors don’t always have the same choices available to us. May your compassion become the norm in how we treat one another. May your strength take the place of the human need to posture and manipulate. And may your vision for justice grow into reality. Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

We lift up to you those who keep the letter of the law and pray you would inspire them to enter the spirit of the common good as well. We lift up to you those who do not recognize the consequences others bear for their choices and pray you would open their eyes and hearts to see. Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

We lift up to you those who are caught up in the trap of flattery and quid pro quo and pray you would set them free to seek and serve without needing to win or lose. We lift up to you those who have lost friends or family as they follow your path of authenticity and interdependence, and pray you would strengthen them with the companionship of your Spirit. Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

We lift up to you those who find it difficult to imagine a different way of life, and pray you would reveal the beauty of your kingdom’s narrow way. We lift up to you those who aren’t ready, and who turn away from your call with sadness. Continue to nudge them with possibility and hope. Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

We lift up those in need of your powerful healing love. We pray especially for each beloved child of yours on our prayer list, and those we name before you now aloud or silently in our hearts… Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

And while we lift up so many others, we also pray for ourselves, for we see ourselves in so many of these prayers, O God. Show us how to follow you more faithfully,

how to create a community where all are welcome and beloved,

how to trust you and one another with our needs as well as our strengths,

how to enter your kingdom life now. Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

We ask with trembling hearts and open hands,

trusting that first or last or somewhere in between

you will bring us more fully into your presence that we may reflect your love into the world,

through the power of your Holy Spirit —

for whom nothing is impossible.

**Amen.**

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**Share the peace of Christ:**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

**Offering**

**Offering Hymn: ELW # 685 ‘Take My Life, That I May Be’ (verses 4 – 6)**

4 Take my silver and my gold,

 not a mite would I withhold;

 take my intellect and use

 ev'ry pow'r as thou shall choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine,

 it shall be no longer mine.

 Take my heart, it is thine own,

 it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour

 at thy feet its treasure store;

 take myself, and I will be

 ever, only, all for thee.

*(Title: Take My Life, That I May Be; Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879, alt.; Public Domain; Music: William H. Havergal, 1793 – 1870; Public Domain; Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Offering Prayer:**

Jesus, you are the bread of life

and the host of this meal.

Bless these gifts that we have gathered

that all people may know your goodness.

Feed us not only with this holy food

but with hunger for justice and peace.

We pray this in your name.

**Amen.**

**You are invited to prepare your table with bread and wine, or crackers and juice, whatever is available to you, so that you may participate in the meal.**

**Meal: Click here for the communion liturgy from worship on YouTube:**

[**https://youtu.be/kmZJQiBM8QY**](https://youtu.be/kmZJQiBM8QY)

**Great Thanksgiving: ACS Setting 12: ‘Dialogue…’ (page 36) (spoken)**

The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give our thanks and praise**

**ACS Setting 12: ‘Preface…’ *(Lent) (spoken)***

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places

give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,

through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts

and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,

that, renewed in the gift of baptism,

we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,

with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**ELW Setting 12: ‘Holy, Holy, Holy…’ *(page 36 )***

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of pow’r and God of might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.\*

**Thanksgiving at the Table:**

On the night before he showed us the full extent of his love,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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 forever. Amen.

**Invitation to Communion:**

This is Christ’s table where all are fed and none go hungry. Come, taste, and see that the Lord is good.

I invite those at home, and those in the building communing by fellowship cup, to take your bread or cracker as we say together, “The body of Christ, given for us.”

And, as we take our cup we say, “The blood of Christ, shed for us.”

**Communion Music: ELW # 471 ‘Let Us Break Bread Together’ *&***

 **ELW # 325 ‘I Want Jesus to Walk with Me’**

**ELW # 471 ‘Let Us Break Bread Together ‘**

Let us break bread together on our knees;

let us drink wine together on our knees.

When I fall on my knees,

with my face to the rising sun,

O Lord, have mercy on me.

*(Title: Let Us Break Bread together; Text: African American spiritual; Public Domain; Music:* *African American spiritual; Public Domain*

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**ELW # 325 ‘I Want Jesus to Walk with Me’**

1 I want Jesus to walk with me;

 I want Jesus to walk with me;

 all along my pilgrim journey,

 Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

2 In my trials, Lord, walk with me;

 in my trials, Lord, walk with me;

 when my heart is almost breaking,

 Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

3 When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;

 when I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;

 when my head is bowed in sorrow,

 Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

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P: May the body and blood of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ strengthen you, and keep you, in his grace.

***C: Amen.***

**Prayer after Communion:**

Generous God,

at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace.

As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread,

now make us one loaf to feed the world;

in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.Amen.\*

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**Blessing:**

Entering the kingdom of God in this life may feel impossible —

but for God, all things are possible.

May you trust in the gracious mercy of God,

heed Christ’s call to let go of self-reliance

and allow the Spirit to bring you into true community,

that together we may indeed be the Body of Christ +

in and for the blessing of the world. Amen.

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**Sending Hymn: ELW # 798 ‘Will You Come and Follow Me’ *(The Summons)***

1 "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?

2 "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 pray'r

 in you and you in me?

3 "Will you let the blinded see

 if I but call your name?

 Will you set the pris'ners 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?

4 "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?"

5 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.

*(Title: Will You Come and Follow Me; Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949; Text © 1987 Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music: Scottish traditional; arr. © 1987 Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.1358. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Dismissal:**

A: Let go, make space, and go in peace to love and serve God and our neighbours.

***C: Thanks be to God.\****

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