

St. Philip's Anglican Church, Etobicoke

4th Sunday in Lent – March 15, 2026

10:30am

Holy Eucharist



We welcome you to worship this morning. Our celebration is joyful, reflective, playful and reverent, as we thank God for new life through Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Anglicans move in worship: kneeling, standing, crossing themselves, feeling the beat.

We invite you to join us in the Parish Hall after the service for refreshments and conversation (follow the path and the crowd through the cemetery).

Gathering of the Community

Welcome & Land Acknowledgement

Flowers today are to the honour and glory of God; and in loving memory of beloved husband Ian Clarkson given by Frances.

Creator, you made all people of every land in your image,
and entrusted them with the care of the earth.

**It is our responsibility to give thanks and respect
to those who first occupied this land we are upon.**

**We give thanks to the Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee,
and Anishinabek Nations,
and the Mississauga of the Credit First Nation:
the first peoples of this land.**

**We offer our respect
to those ancestors who may be buried in this land.**

We are also thankful for the gifts of the People of the land.

**Creator let us be of good mind
to reconcile the mistreatment of this land
and those who have been displaced.**

**Give us attentiveness
so that we may hear, and give thanks for,
Indigenous voices in our Anglican Church of Canada.**

**Give us sincere and open hearts
so that we may embrace the work of reconciliation
to which you call your Church.**

**With thankful and respectful hearts, we pray in Your name,
Your Son the Peacemaker and the Sacred Spirit. Amen.**

The prayer bell calls us to silent preparation

Hymn 502 *You Are Salt for the Earth* (the congregation sings **bold text**)

1. You are salt for the earth, O people:
salt for the kingdom of God!
Share the flavour of life, O people:
life in the kingdom of God!

Refrain

**Bring forth the kingdom of mercy,
bring forth the kingdom of peace;
bring forth the kingdom of justice,
bring forth the city of God!**

2. You are the light on the hill, O people:
light for the kingdom of God!
Shine so holy and bright, O people:
shine for the kingdom of God!

Refrain

3. You are a seed of the Word, O people:
bring forth the kingdom of God!
Seeds of mercy and seeds of justice
grow in the kingdom of God!

Refrain

4. We are a blest and a pilgrim people
bound for the kingdom of God!
Love our journey and love our homeland:
Love is the kingdom of God!

Refrain

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

And also with you.

Almighty God,

**to you all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from you 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.**

Collect of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God,
through the waters of baptism
your Son has made us children of light.
May we ever walk in his light
and show forth your glory in the world;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Breaking Open the Word

1st Reading - 1 Samuel 16:1-13
(See Leaflet)

Reader: Laju Bawo-Oteri

Psalm : 23 - The Lord's my Shepherd

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want
He makes me lie in pastures green
He leads me by the still, still waters
His goodness restores my soul

And I will trust in You alone
And I will trust in You alone
For Your endless mercy follows me
Your goodness will lead me home

He guides my ways in righteousness
And He anoints my head with oil
And my cup, it overflows with joy
I feast on His pure delights

And I will trust in You alone
And I will trust in You alone
For Your endless mercy follows me
Your goodness will lead me home

And though I walk the darkest path
I will not fear the evil one
For You are with me, and Your rod and staff
Are the comfort I need to know

And I will trust in You alone
And I will trust in You alone
For Your endless mercy follows me
Your goodness will lead me home.

2nd Reading - Ephesians 5:8-14
(See Leaflet)

Reader: Kennedy Stevens

♪ Open your ears, O faithful people,
Open your ears and hear God's word.
Open your hearts, O royal priesthood,
God has come to you.

God has spoken to the people,
Hallelujah!
God has spoken words of wisdom,
Hallelujah!
Torah ora, Torah ora,
Hallelujah!
Torah ora, Torah ora,
Hallelujah!

The Holy Gospel: John 9:1-41
(See Leaflet)

♪ They who have ears to hear the message,
They who have ears, now let them hear.
They who would learn the way of wisdom,
Let them hear God's Word.

God has spoken to the people,
Hallelujah!
God has spoken words of wisdom,
Hallelujah!
Torah ora, Torah ora,
Hallelujah!
Torah ora, Torah ora,
Hallelujah!

Sermon: The Reverend Mike Stuchbery

Affirmation of Faith

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
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.**

Prayers of the People

Leader : Greg Lane

We sit or kneel as we are most attentive for prayer.

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

A brief silence.

God, our shepherd, we pray that you guide the church. Lead Christians in our community and across the globe in right paths for your name's sake. Bless our clergy with the faith to follow you and lead your Church, especially Greg, our deacon; Mike, our Incumbent; Kevin, Ryscilla and Andrew our Bishops; Anne our Metropolitan; and Shane our Primate; Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God our provider, we cry out for this planet and the life it holds. Rescue endangered animals and plants, preserve threatened ecosystems, and save creatures from natural disasters. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God our sovereign, we plead for your peace on earth, especially where there is none. We pray for the people of Iran, Lebanon and the whole Middle East; and for Ukraine and Mexico. Bring an end to war and violence, and raise up leaders in governments, courts, businesses, schools, and community organizations who seek goodness and mercy. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God our healer, we call to you in our need. Uplift all who are made to feel unimportant, and transform the hearts of all infected by bigotry and prejudice. Care for all in special need this day, especially those close to our hearts. We pray for those we love who are facing urgent medical issues: Emmanuel, Karen, Mark, Brenda M, Robbie, James, Leah, Aiden and Laura; for those who live with ongoing medical concerns: Danny, Carley, Penny, Geoff & Carolyn, Teslyn, Grayson, Patrick & Daniel, Dave, Myrna, Ruth, Diana, Patricia J., David H., Fred, Jackson, Everton, Hugh, and Rachel; and for those who live in long-term care or with the challenges that come with age: Shirley B., Shirley H., Carmen, Jim, Herman & Gloria, Valerie, Mae, John & Eleanor, and Pauline. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God our friend, we praise you for the diversity of people among us.
Awaken us to share and receive the gifts we each possess, and stir up a
spirit of understanding, celebration, and welcome for all.
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God our home, we thank you for all who have died and completed their
baptismal journeys. Grant us faith to live until we too dwell in your house
forever. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and
salvation. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;
welcoming sinners and inviting them to this table.
Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence is kept.

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.

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

The Offertory

Hymn 352 *Amazing Grace*

1. **Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found:
was blind, but now I see.**
2. **'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!**
3. **The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.**
4. **Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.**
5. **When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we first begun.**

Prayer Over the Gifts

Let us pray.

God our provider,
you have not fed us with bread alone,
but with words of grace and life.
Bless us and these your gifts,
which we receive from your bounty,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

May God be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to God our Creator.

It is right to offer thanks and praise.

Eternal God, Source of all being,
we give you thanks and praise
for your faithful love.
You call us into friendship
with you and one another
to be your holy people,
a sign of your presence in the world.

When those we trust betray us,
unfailingly you remain with us.
When we injure others,
you confront us in your love
and call us to the paths of righteousness.
You stand with the weak,
and those, broken and alone,
whom you have always welcomed home,
making the first last, and the last first.
Therefore we raise our voices
with angels and archangels,
forever praising you and singing:

 *Holy, holy holy, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full, are full of your glory.
Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!
Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!*

*Blessed, blessed, blessed, blessed is the one
coming in the name, the name of the Lord.
Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!
Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!.*

Blessed are you, O Holy One:
when Hagar was driven into the wilderness
you followed her and gave her hope.
When Joseph was sold into bondage,
you turned malice to your people's good.
When you called Israel out of slavery,
you brought them through the wilderness
into the promised land.

When your people were taken into exile
you wept with them by the river of Babylon
and carried them home.

Restore us, O God, let your face shine!

At the right time you sent your Anointed One
to stand with the poor,
the outcast, and the oppressed.
Jesus touched lepers, and the sick, and healed them.

He accepted water from a woman of Samaria
and offered her the water of new life.
Christ knew the desolation of the cross
and opened the way for all humanity
into the redemption of your reconciling love.

On the night he was betrayed,
Jesus, at supper with his friends,
took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread,
gave it to them, and said, "Take and eat:
this is my body which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine,
and when he had given thanks,
he gave it to them,
and said, "Drink this, all of you:
this is my blood of the new covenant
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it,
do this for the remembrance of me."

Loving and Holy One,
recalling Christ's death and resurrection,
we offer you these gifts,
longing for the bread of tomorrow
and the wine of the age to come.
Therefore we proclaim our hope.

**Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life.
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Pour out your Spirit on these gifts
that through them you may sustain us
in our hunger for your peace.

We hold before you all whose lives are marked by suffering,
our sisters and brothers.

When we are broken and cast aside, embrace us in your love.

Restore us, O God, let your face shine!

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours,
O Source of all life, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray in the language closest to our hearts.,

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.

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread,

Communion in Christ's body once broken.

Let your Church be the wheat
which bears its fruit in dying.

**If we have died with him, we shall live with him;
if we hold firm, we shall reign with him.**

Communion, Anointing and Healing Prayer

As we go forward for Communion, we hold those in particular need of prayer for healing before God, we pray,

**Almighty God, who inspired Luke the physician
to proclaim the love and healing power of your Son,
give your Church, by the grace of the Spirit
and the medicine of the gospel,
the same love and power to heal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

Those worshipping at home are invited to pray the Prayer for Spiritual Communion:

*Jesus, I believe that you are present with us in the sacrament of bread and wine.
I love you and I desire your presence afresh in my life.
Since I cannot now receive the bread and wine of the altar,
come spiritually into my heart. I embrace you and unite myself to you;
never let me be separated from you. Amen.*

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

All who wish may come forward for prayer and anointing by our prayer team.

Server – Andrew Batte, Communion Assistant– Areana Maina

Hymn 179 vs. 1-6 *Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery*

1. **Tree of Life and awesome mystery,
in your death we are reborn;
though we you die in all of history,
still you rise with every morn,
still you rise with every morn.**
2. **Seed that dies to rise in glory,
may we see ourselves in you;
if we learn to live your story
we will die to rise anew,
we will die to rise anew.**
3. **We remember truth once spoken,
love passed on through act and word;
every person lost and broken,
wears the body of our Lord,
wears the body of our Lord.**
4. **Gentle Jesus, mighty Spirit,
come, inflame our hearts anew.
We may all your joy inherit
if we bear the cross with you,
if we bear the cross with you.**
5. **Christ you lead and we shall follow,
stumbling though our steps may be;
one with you in joy and sorrow,
we the river, you the sea,
we the river you the sea.**

- 6e. Give us eyes to see you clearly;
make us children of your light.
Give us hearts to live more nearly
as your gospel shing bright,
as your gospel shining bright.

Hymn 79 *Spirit, Open My Heart*

Refrain

Spirit, open my heart
to the joy and pain of living.
As you love may I love,
in receiving and in giving,
Spirit, open my heart.

1. God, replace my stony heart
with a heart that's kind and tender.
All my coldness and fear
to your grace I now surrender.

Refrain

2. Write you love upon my heart
as my law, my goal, my story.
In each thought, word, and deed,
may my living bring you glory.

Refrain

3. May I weep with those who weep,
share the joy of sister, brother.
In the welcome of Christ,
may we welcome one another.

Refrain

 Multi-Lingual Grace – *Praise God from whom all blessings flow*

English Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Swahili Watu wote duniani,
Mshangilieni Bwana:
Mtumikieni kwa furaha,
Njoni kwake kwa nyimbo.

Luganda

**Abantu bonna ab'ensi,
Mukama mumuyimbitr!
Mumutye, mumuwulire,
Mujje mumusanyukire.**

Igbo

**To Chineke, Onye-ngozi,
To Ya, ihe Nile n'uwa;
To Ya, usu nke di n'igwe,
To Nna, n'okpara, na Mo Nso.**

English

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God, all creatures high and low;
Give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word, and Spirit, one.**

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray.

God of our salvation,
we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls,
reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey.
Through the body and blood of your Son,
may we become Christ's body in the world,
bearing witness to your love for all creation,
through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

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.**

Final Blessing

May Christ who calls you to take up your cross,
give you strength to bear your own
and one another's burdens,
and the blessing of God our Creator, Redeemer,
and Giver of Life be with you always. **Amen.**

Hymn 412 *Go Make a Difference*



Refrain

**Go make a diff'rence
we can make a diff'rence
go make a diff'rence in the world. (repeat)**

**We are the salt of the earth,
called to let the people see
the love of God for you and me.
We are the light of the world,
not to be hidden but be seen.
Go make a diff'rence in the world.**

Refrain

**We are the hands of Christ
reaching out to those in need,
the face of God for all to see.
We are the spirit of hope –
we are the voice of peace.
Go make a diff'rence in the world.**

Refrain

**So let your love shine on,
let it shine for all to see.
Go make a diff'rence in the world.
And the spirit of Christ
will be with us as we go.
Go make a diff'rence in the world.**

Refrain

Dismissal

Followers of Jesus, inspired by the Holy Spirit,
serve the world God loves!

Thanks be to God.

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