



A Service of Morning Prayer for
The Third Sunday in Lent (7 March 2021)

A Prayer for Community

Lent is a journey of return to God. It is a walk in the wilderness.

Almighty and ever living God, you invite us deeper into your world, your people, your Lent. May this be a season of outward focus, seeking you in those places and people we all too often neglect or forget.

May our time together of music, prayer and scripture reading inspire us in our Lenten pilgrimage, and send us out renewed and refreshed for service; may we become beacons of truth and compassion, hope and peace, to the world that God so loves. **Amen.**



Hymn 5: Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies

1. Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise!
Triumph o'er the shades of night:
Dayspring from on high, be near;
Daystar, in my heart appear.

2. Dark and cheerless is the morn
unaccompanied by thee;
joyless is the day's return
till thy mercy's beams I see,
till they inward light impart,
glad my eyes and warm my heart.

3. Visit then this soul of mine,
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
fill me, Radiance divine,
scatter all my unbelief;
more and more thyself display,
shining to the perfect day.



Territorial Acknowledgment

For thousands of years, First Nations people have walked on the lands that we now call Canada; their relationship with the land was, and remains today, at the centre of their lives and spirituality.

In this holy time and place, we acknowledge with respect that we gather on the traditional, ancestral territories of the Abanaki and Mohawk first peoples. We pray for a spirit of truth and genuine reconciliation with our indigenous brothers and sisters.

**May the living Christ lead us
all on pathways of
reconciliation and peace.**



Confession and Absolution

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbour.

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 on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.



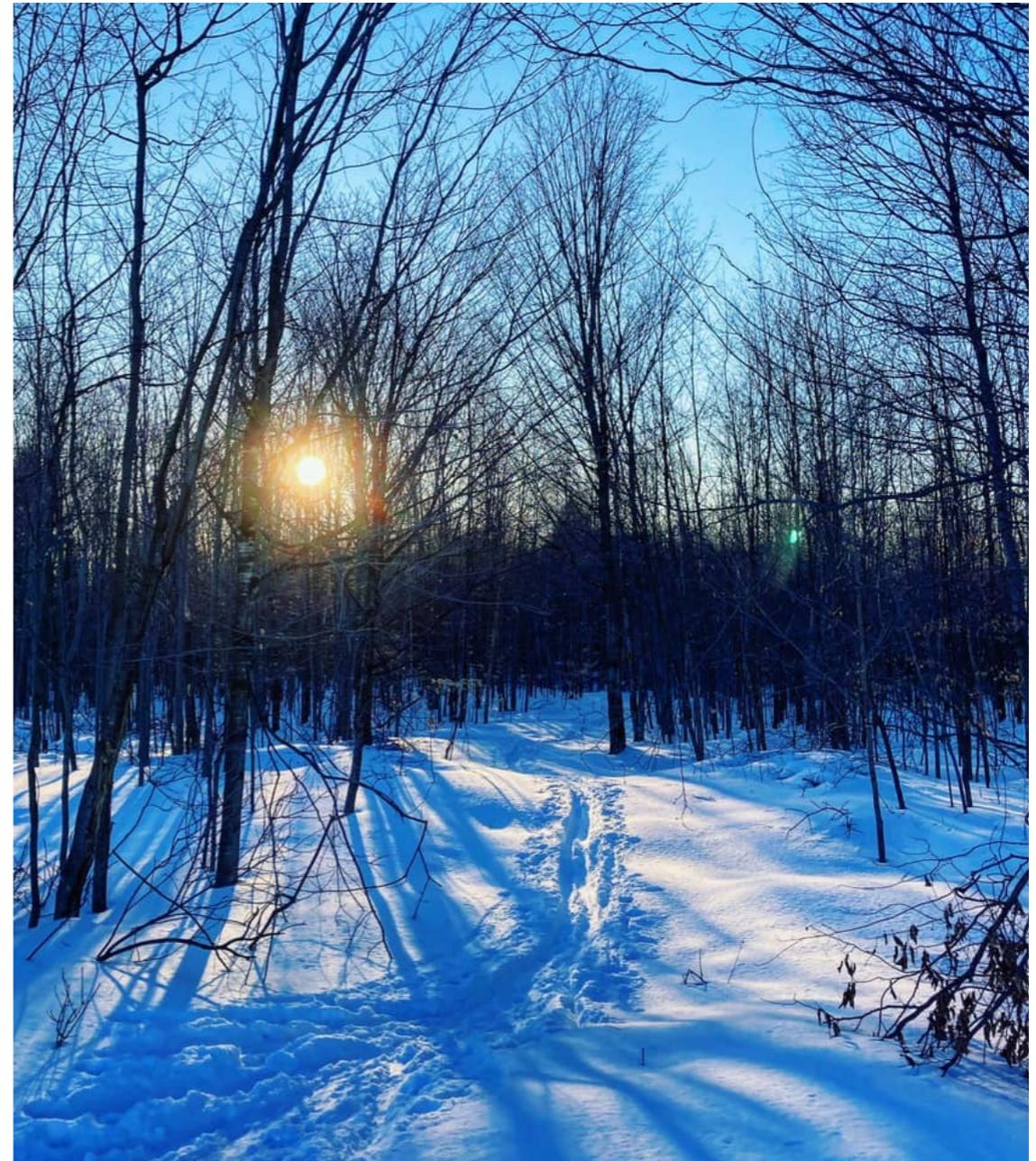
Opening Responses

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

Worship the Lord in the beauty of
holiness.
O come, let us worship.



LAUDATE OMNES GENTES

All peoples, praise the Lord.



Ostinato Chorale

Mixed Voices

$\text{♩} = 63$

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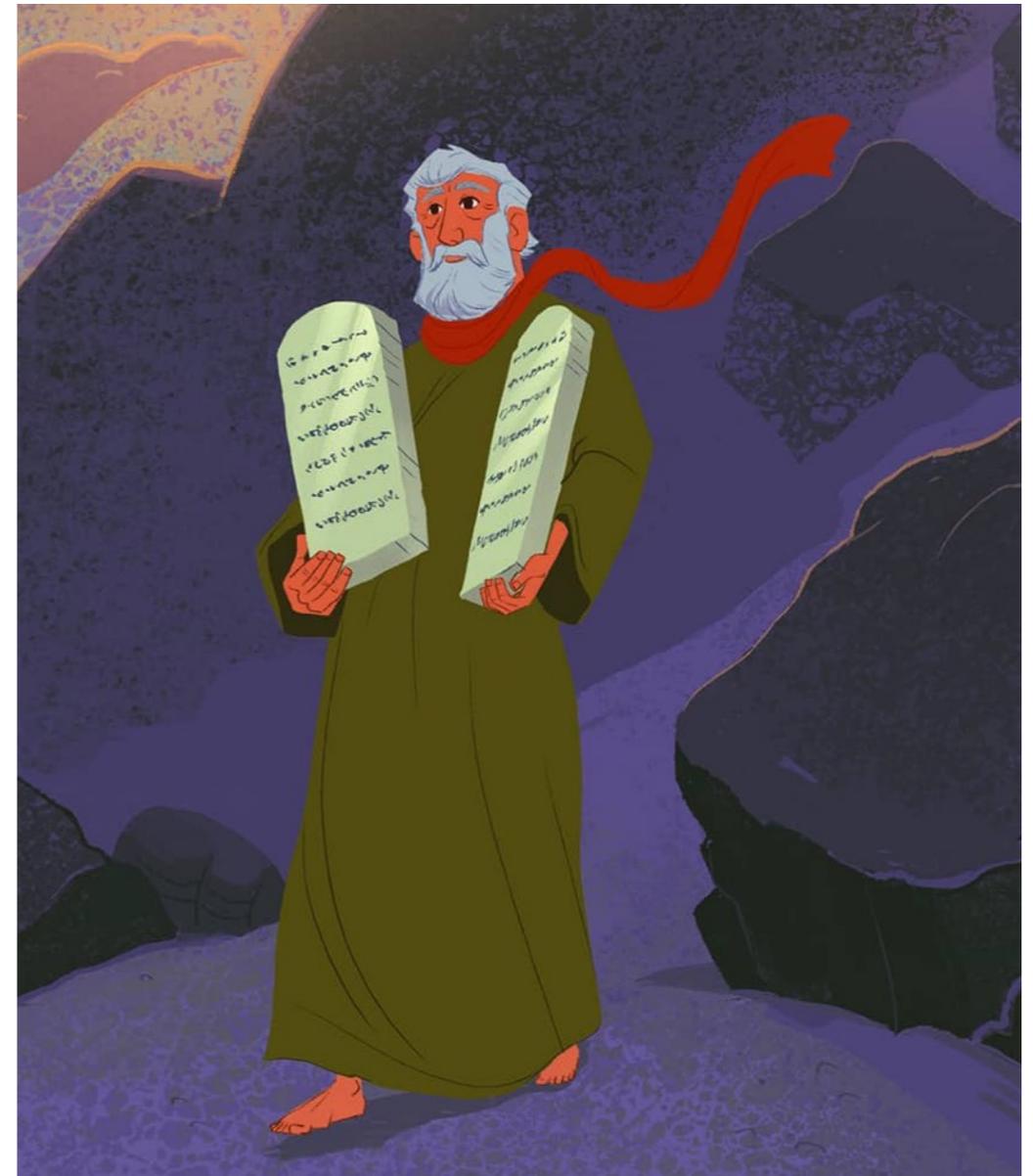
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Exodus 20:1-17

Then God spoke all these words: I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it. Honour your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.



Psalm 19

Refrain 2

Geoffrey Shaw

Psalm 19

Unison

Glo - ry and praise to God whose word brings life!

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the vault of the sky reveals God's handiwork.

One day speaks to another, and night shares its knowledge with night;

And this without speech or language, their voices are not heard.

But their sound goes out to all the lands, and their words to the ends of the earth. REFRAIN.

In the heavens God has picked a tent for the sun, which comes out like a bridegroom from under the canopy, like an athlete eager to run the race.

Its rising is at one end of the sky, it runs its course to the other, and there is nothing that is hidden from its heat.

God's law is perfect, refreshing the soul,

God's instruction is sure, giving wisdom to the simple.

God's precepts are right, rejoicing the heart,
God's commandment is pure, giving light to the eyes.

God's fear is clean, enduring forever,
God's judgments are true, every one of them righteous;

More desirable than gold, even much fine gold,
Sweeter also than honey, put honey from the comb. REFRAIN.

By them is your servant warned,
For in keeping them there is great reward.

But who can discern unwitting sins,
O cleanse me from my secret faults.

Keep your servant also from presumptuous sins, lest they get the better of me.

Then shall I be clean and innocent of great offence. REFRAIN.

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.



Hymn 529: God, My Hope on You Is Founded

1. God, my hope on you is founded,
You my faith and trust renew.
Through all change and chance you
guide me
only good and only true.
God unknown, you alone
calls my heart to be your own.

2. Human pride and earthly glory,
sword and crown betray our trust;
Though with care and toil we build them,
tower and temple, fall to dust.
But your power, hour by hour,
is my temple and my tower.

3. Daily does the Almighty Giver
bounteous gifts on us bestow;
God's desire for us delights us,
pleasure leads us where we go.
Here at hand, love takes stand,
joy awaits God's sure command.

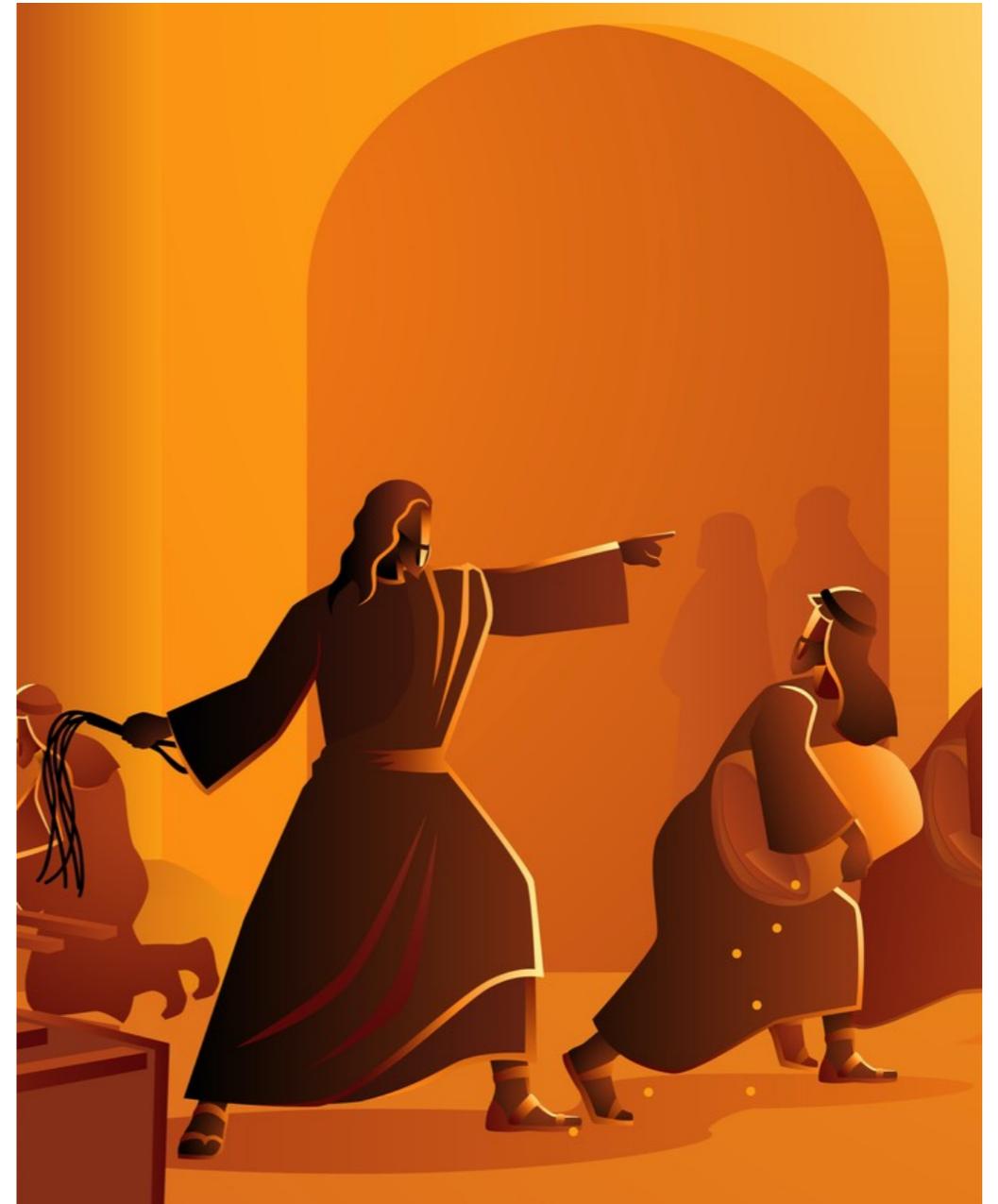
4. God's great goodness lasts forever,
Deepest wisdom, passing thought:
splendour, light, and life attending,
beauty springing out of naught.
Evermore from God's store
new-born worlds rise and adore.

5. Still from earth to God eternal
sacrifice of praise be done,
high above all praises praising
for the gift of Christ the Son.
Christ, you call one and all:
ye who follow shall not fall.

John 2:13-22

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me."

The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.



The Sermon

Lay Reader
Randy Gates
(Grace Church,
Sutton)



Affirmation of Faith

1. **We believe** in God the Father,
God Almighty by whose plan,
earth and heaven sprang to being,
all created things began.

We believe in Christ the Saviour,
Son of God in human frame,
virgin-born, the child of Mary,
upon whom the Spirit came.

2. Christ, who on the cross forsaken,
like a lamb to slaughter led,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
he descended to the dead.

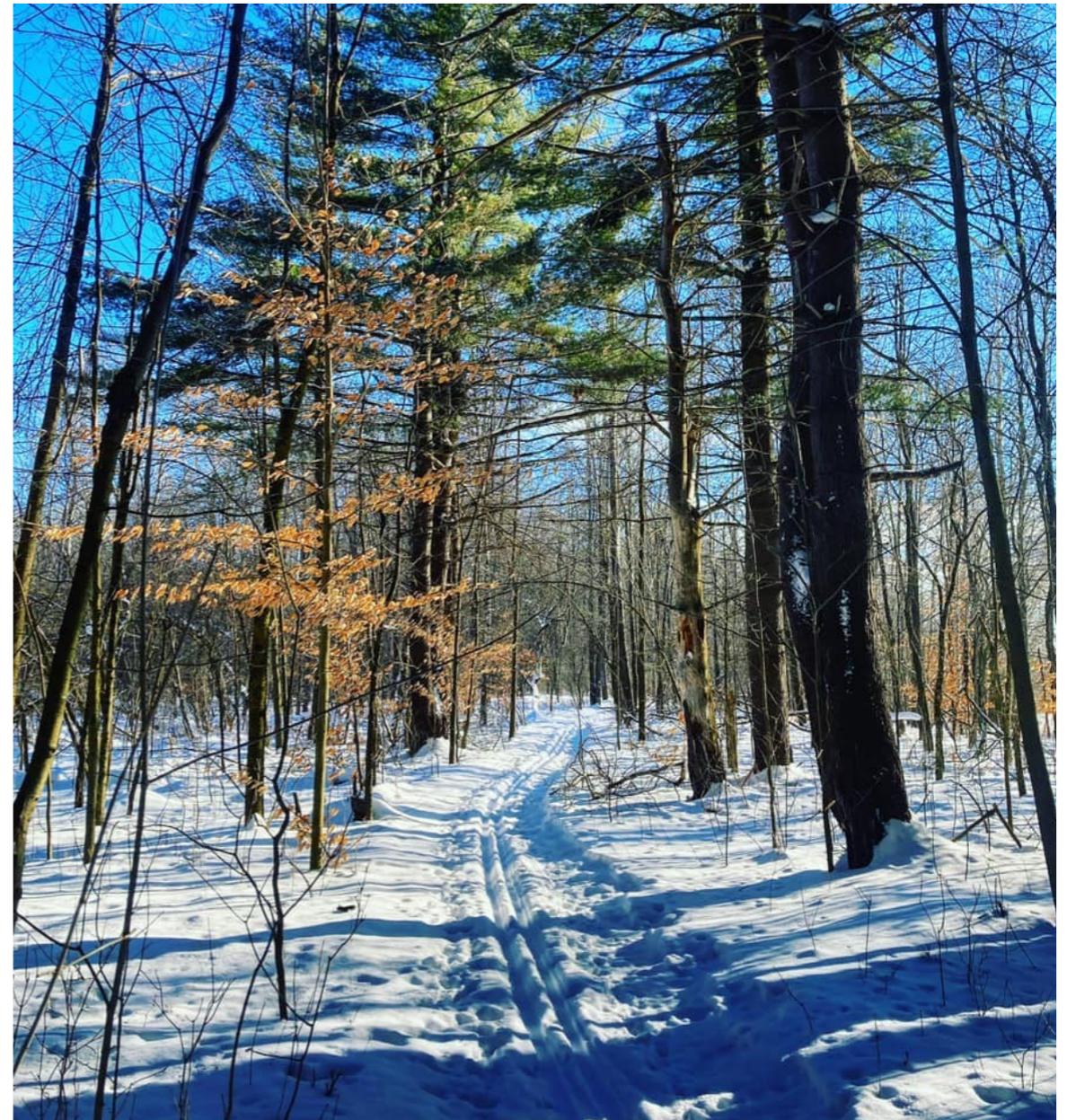
We believe in Jesus risen,
heaven's king to rule and reign,
to the Father's side ascended
'Till as judge he comes again.

3. We believe in God the Spirit;
in one Church, below, above:
Saints of God in one
communion, one in holiness and love.
So by faith, our sins forgiven,
Christ our Saviour, Lord, and friend,
we shall rise with him in glory
to the life that knows no end.



The Prayers of the People

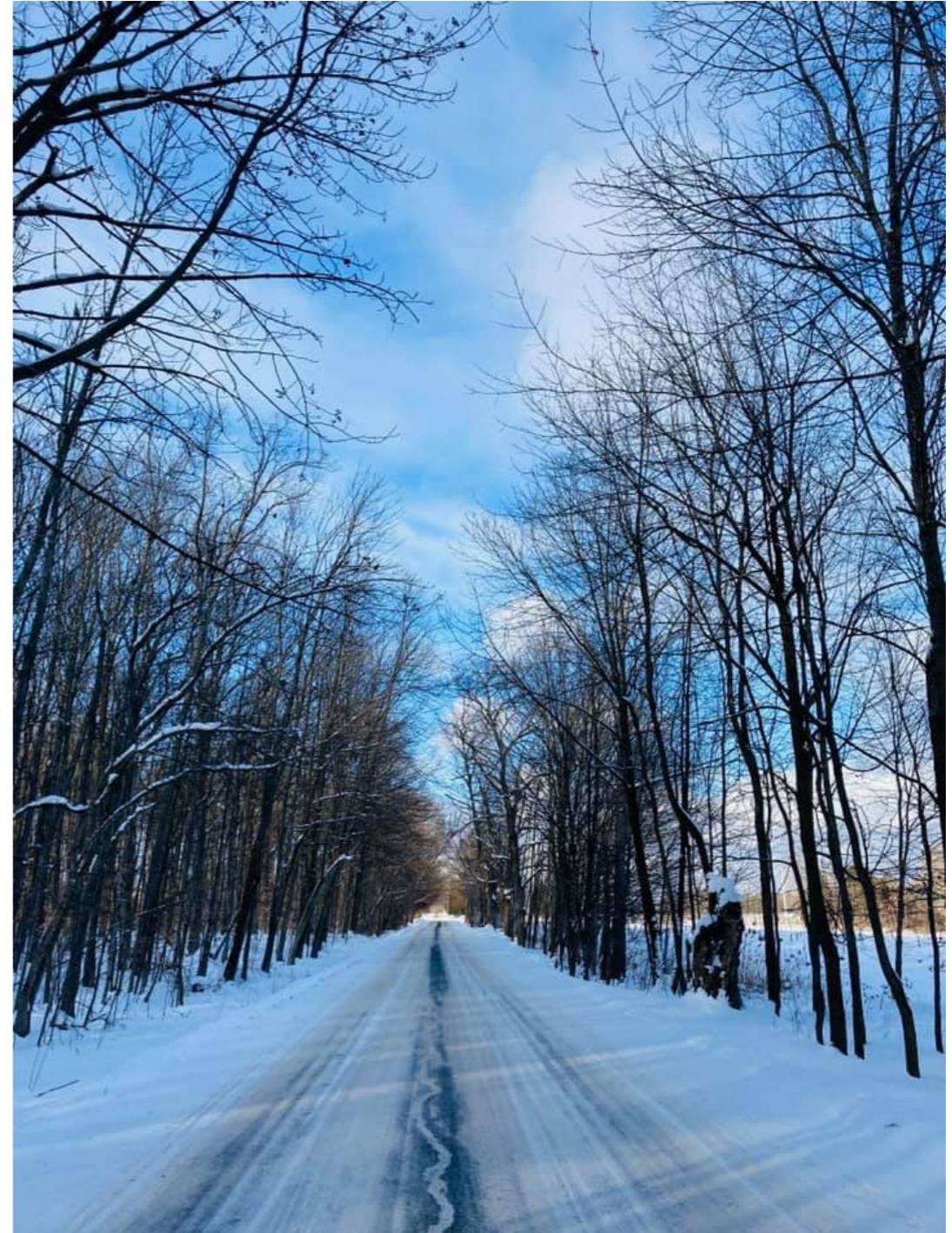
Led by the Rev. Deacon
Judy Ball (Mansonville)



The Collect of the Day

God of the covenant, give us zeal to discern the foolishness and the wisdom of this present age, so that we may proclaim Christ crucified; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

Amen.



The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

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.

Notre Père, qui es aux cieux, que ton nom soit sanctifié, que ton règne vienne, que ta volonté soit faite sur la terre comme au ciel. Donne-nous aujourd'hui notre pain de ce jour. Pardonne-nous nos offenses, comme nous pardonnons aussi à ceux qui nous ont offensés. Et ne nous laisse pas entrer en tentation mais délivre-nous du mal. Car c'est à Toi qu'appartiennent le règne, la puissance et la gloire, pour les siècles des siècles. Amen.

Hymn: Diposer Supreme

1. Disposer supreme, and judge
of the earth,
Who choosest for thine the weak
and the poor,
To frail earthen vessels, and things
of no worth,
Entrusting thy riches which ay shall endure;

2. Throughout the wide world their
message is heard,
And swift as the wind it circles the earth;
It echoes the voice of the heavenly Word,
And brings unto mortals the hope
of new birth.

3. Their cry thunders forth, 'Christ
Jesus is Lord',
Then Satan doth fear, his citadels fall:
As when those shrill trumpets were raised at
thy word,
And one long blast shattered proud Jericho's
wall.

4. O loud be the call, and stirring the sound,
To rouse us, O Lord, from sin's deadly sleep;
May lights which thou kindlest in
darkness around,
The dull soul awaken, her vigil to keep.

5. All honour and praise, dominion
and might,
To thee, 'Three in One, eternally be,
Who pouring around us thy glorious light,
Dost call us from darkness thy glory to see.

Dismissal and Grace

Strengthened in Word and song, in prayer and meditation, go out to proclaim the good news of the Gospel; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be upon you this day, and always. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

