

St. George's Anglican Church

The Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

February 16, 2025

Celtic Morning Prayer

Invitatory

Presider: In the beginning, before time, before people, before the world began.

All: God was.

Presider: Here and now, among us, beside us, clearer than air, closer than breathing.

All: God is.

Presider: In all that is to come, when we are turned to dust and human knowledge has been completed.

All: God will be.

Presider: Not despairing of earth, but delighting in it, not condemning the world, but redeeming it through Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit.

All: God was. God is. God will be.

Opening Prayer

Presider: Let us pray:

Lord God, early in the morning, when the world was young, you made life in all its beauty and terror, you gave birth to all that we know.

All: Hallowed be your name.

Presider: Early in the morning, when the world least expected it, a new born child crying in a cradle announced that you had come among us, that you were one of us.

All: Hallowed be your name.

Presider: Early in the morning surrounded by respectable liars, religious leaders, anxious statesmen, and silent friends, you accepted the penalty for doing good, for being God: you shouldered and suffered the cross.

All: Hallowed be your name.

Presider: Early in the morning a voice in the guarded graveyard and footsteps in the dew proved that you had risen, that you came back to those and for those who had forgotten, denied and destroyed you.

All: Hallowed be your name.

Presider: Early in the morning in the company of your church on earth and in heaven we celebrate your creation, your life, your death and resurrection, and your interest in us: so, to you we pray:

**All: Lord, bring new life where we are worn and tired.
New love where we have turned hard hearted.
Forgiveness where we feel hurt, and where we have wounded.
And the joy and freedom of your Holy Spirit where we are the prisoners of ourselves.
To all and to each where regret is real, God pronounces pardon and grants us the right to begin again. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Opening Hymn: #511 Lord Jesus, Think on Me (Southwell)

1 Lord Je - sus, think on me and purge a - way my sin:
2 Lord Je - sus, think on me, with man - ya care op - pressed;
3 Lord Je - sus, think on me, nor let me go a - stray;
4 Lord Je - sus, think on me, that, when the flood is past,
5 Lord Je - sus, think on me, that I may sing a - bove

from earth-born pas - sions set me free and make me pure with - in.
let me thy lov - ing ser - vant be and taste thy prom - ised rest.
through dark - ness and per - plex - i - ty point thou the heav - en - ly way.
I may the e - ter - nal bright - ness see and share thy joy at last.
to Fa - ther, Ho - ly Ghost, and thee the songs of praise and love.

Text: Synesius of Cyrene (365?-414); tr. Allen W. Chatfield (1808-1896).
Music: William Daman (1540-1591), *Psalmes*, 1579, alt.

SM
SOUTHWELL

Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-10

Reader: A reading from the Book of Jeremiah:

Thus says the Lord: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the Lord. They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse - who can understand it? I the Lord test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 1:

- 1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, *
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
- 2 Their delight is in the law of the Lord, *
and they meditate on his law day and night.
- 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; *
everything they do shall prosper.
- 4 It is not so with the wicked; *
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
- 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, *
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- 6 For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, *
but the way of the wicked is doomed.

Gospel: Mark 1:21-28

Reader: A reading from the gospel according to St. Mark

All: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Reader: They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, Jesus entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, 'What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.' But Jesus rebuked him, saying, 'Be silent, and come out of him!' And the unclean spirit, throwing him into convulsions and crying with a loud voice, came out of him.

They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, 'What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.' At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Presider: The Gospel of Christ

All: Praise be to thee, O Christ

Sermon: Rev. Victor Kischak

Response

Presider: Choose this day who you will serve.

All: We will choose the living God.

Presider: The road is narrow that leads to life;

All: We will walk the way of Christ.

Presider: Faith is not our holding on;

All: Faith is letting go.

Presider: We offer more than words, O God;

All: We offer you our lives.

Affirmation of Faith

Presider: Let us now affirm our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

All: I believe in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And of all things visible and invisible: And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, Begotten of the Father before all worlds; God, of God; Light, of Light; Very God, of very God; Begotten, not made; Being of one substance with the Father; Through whom all things were made: Who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, And was made man, And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead: Whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord, The Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the Resurrection of the dead, And the Life of the world to come. Amen.

Intercessions

Presider: Let us pray.

For the health and well-being of our nation, that all who are fearful and anxious may be at peace and free from worry.

Lord in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

Presider: For the isolated and housebound, that we may be alert to their needs, and care for them in their vulnerability.

Lord in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

Presider: For our homes and families, our schools and young people, and all who are in any kind of need or distress, especially lifting up all those on our hearts:

Lord in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

Presider: For a blessing on our city of Guelph, that our neighbourhoods may be places of trust and friendship, where all are known and cared for.

Lord in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

Presider: We commend ourselves, and all from whom we pray, to the mercy and protection of God.

Merciful Father,

**All: Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

**All: 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 them that 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.**

Closing Responses

Presider: Is it true that God loves the world?

All: Amen. This is true.

Presider: Is it true that God loves all people?

All: Amen. This is true.

Presider: Is it true that Jesus came to make all things new?

All: Amen. This is true.

Presider: Then let us go as those whom God has called, to bear witness to the love and justice of heaven, to be beacons of light and signs of transformation, for of such is the kingdom of heaven.

All: Amen.

Blessing

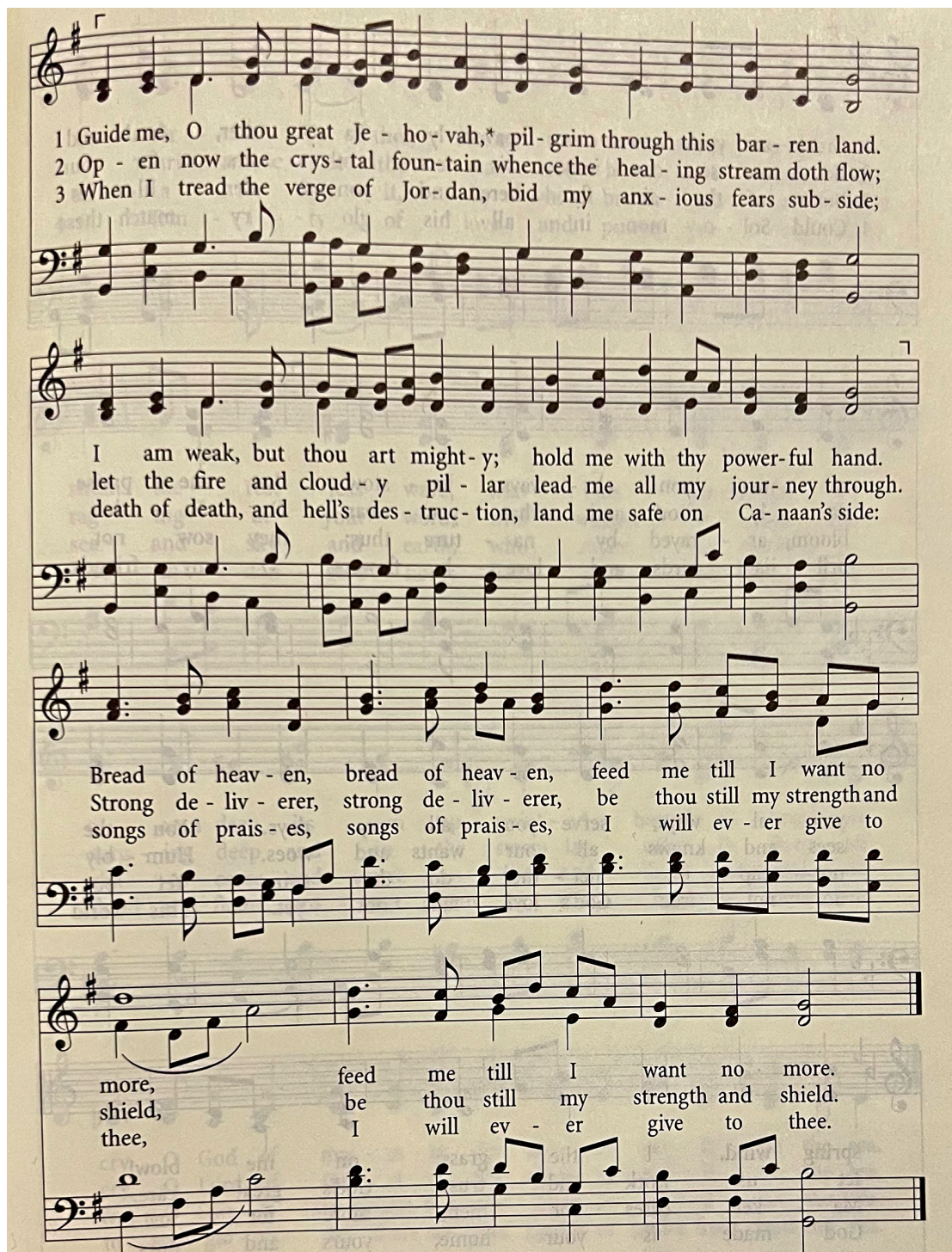
Presider: May the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you and remain with you, and those that you love,

All **and those that you should love,**

Presider: now and forever.

All: **Amen.**

Closing Hymn: #565 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah (Rhondda)



1 Guide me, O thou great Je-ho-vah,* pil-grim through this bar-ren land.
 2 Op-en now the crys-tal foun-tain whence the heal-ing stream doth flow;
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor-dan, bid my anx-ious fears sub-side;

I am weak, but thou art might-y; hold me with thy power-ful hand.
 let the fire and cloud-y pil-lar lead me all my jour-ney through.
 death of death, and hell's des-truc-tion, land me safe on Ca-naan's side:

Bread of heav-en, bread of heav-en, feed me till I want no
 Strong de-liv-erer, strong de-liv-erer, be thou still my strength and
 songs of prais-es, songs of prais-es, I will ev-er give to

more, shield, thee, feed me till I want no more.
 be thou still my strength and shield.
 I will ev-er give to thee.

Dismissal

All: May 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.