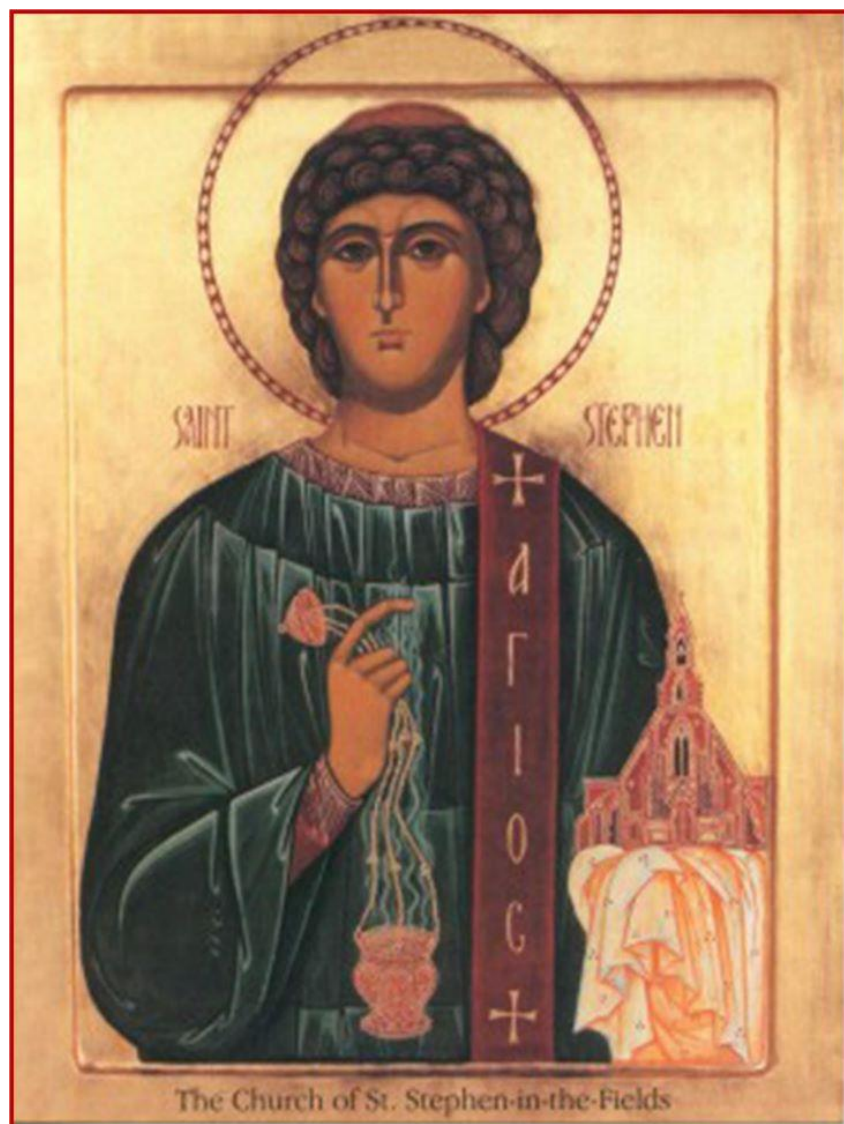


Church of Saint Stephen-in-the-Fields



Fourth Sunday of Lent - Laetare

Saturday March 18, 2023

SUNG MASS ON ZOOM AT 7 PM

**I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
those who follow me will have the light of life.**

John 8.12

Celebrant: The Rev'd Canon Maggie Helwig

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Introit: *Laetare Jerusalem (antiphon for the fourth Sunday of Lent)*

Rejoice, O Jerusalem: and come together all you that love her: rejoice with joy, you that have been in sorrow: that you may exult, and be filled from the breasts of your consolation. -- (Ps. 121.1) I rejoiced at the things that were said to me: we shall go into the house of the Lord. -- Rejoice, O Jerusalem . . .

Greeting

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

Response **And also with you.**

Land Acknowledgement

Celebrant Though people may be joining us from many regions, we acknowledge that the Church of St. Stephen-in-the-Fields stands on occupied land, the traditional territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit (an Anishnaabe people), the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, and the Wendat and Petun nations, land covered by the Dish With One Spoon wampum belt covenant. Treaty 13 and the Williams Treaty are also relevant to this territory.
We acknowledge that we have broken the treaties. We acknowledge the damage done by colonialism, and the role that our church has played in this, and we pledge ourselves to work for a future of justice and reconciliation.

Hymn 469: *Sing praises old and new*

FONDREN

- 1 Sing praises old and new; past and present join in one.
Old covenants renew; new commitments have begun.
God's soaring purpose spans ages lives and lands.
Christ's open, wounded hands past and present join in one.
- 2 Word, from the heart of God, costly, unexpected grace;
Love, making all things good, Light of all the human race;
hail, Wisdom, deep and vast, shining in Israel's past,
raising the least and last: costly unexpected grace!
- 3 Great Spirit make us wise; doors of promise open wide.
Though evil's deadly lies truth and goodness set aside,
faith never stands alone, hope rolls away the stone,
love makes your presence known, doors of promise open wide.

- 4 People of hope, be strong! Love is making all things new.
Lift our united song, show what faith can dream and do!
Come, Presence, ever near, revive us year by year.
Sing through our joy and fear, "Love is making all things new!"

Collect for Purity

Celebrant 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.

Response **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

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

Celebrant Most merciful God,

Response **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.**

Celebrant 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.

Response **Amen.**

Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

Response **And also with you.**

Trisagion

Mass in plainchant style

Cantor **Holy God, holy and mighty
Holy immortal one, have mercy on us.**

Collect of the Day

Celebrant 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.

Cantor **Amen.**

Collect of Lent

Celebrant Almighty and everlasting God,
you despise nothing you have made
and forgive the sins of all who are penitent.
Create and make in us new and contrite hearts,
that we, worthily lamenting our sins
and acknowledging our brokenness,
may obtain of you, the God of all mercy,
perfect remission and forgiveness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Cantor **Amen.**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

A period of silence is observed after each reading and the homily.

First Lesson: 1 Samuel 16.1-13

Reader A reading from the first book of the prophet Samuel.

The Lord said to Samuel, 'How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.' Samuel said, 'How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.' And the Lord said, 'Take a heifer with you, and say, "I have come to sacrifice to the Lord." Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.' Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, 'Do you come peaceably?' He said, 'Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.' And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord.' But the Lord said to Samuel, 'Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.' Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, 'Neither has the Lord chosen this one.' Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, 'Neither has the Lord chosen this one.' Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen any of these.' Samuel said to Jesse, 'Are all your sons here?' And he said, 'There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.' And Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.' He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, 'Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.' Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Reader The word of the Lord.

Response **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23 *Dominus regit me*



1 THE LORD is my shep-herd; /
I shall not be in^want.

- 2 **He makes me lie down in green pas-tures /
and leads me be-side still wa-ters.**
- 3 He revives my soul /
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
- 4 **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no e-vil; /
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they com-fort^me.**
- 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trou-ble me; /
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is run-ning ov-er.
- 6 **Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, /
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ev-er.**

Epistle: Ephesians 5.8-14

Reader A reading from the letter to the Ephesians.

For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, 'Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.'

Reader The word of the Lord.

***Response* Thanks be to God.**

Gradual – A Lent Prose

Cantor 1 Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us,
for we have sinned against thee.

To thee, Redeemer, on thy throne of glory:
lift we our weeping eyes in holy pleadings:
listen, O Jesu, to our supplications.

***Cantor 2* Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us,
for we have sinned against thee.**

Cantor 1 O thou chief cornerstone, right hand of the Father:
way of salvation, gate of life celestial:
cleanse thou our sinful souls from all defilement.

***Cantor 2* Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us,
for we have sinned against thee.**

Cantor 1 God, we implore thee, in thy glory seated:
bow down and hearken to thy weeping children:
pity and pardon all our grievous trespasses.

Cantor 2 **Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us,
for we have sinned against thee.**

Cantor 1 Sins oft committed, now we lay before thee:
with true contrition, now no more we veil them:
grant us, Redeemer, loving absolution.

Cantor 2 **Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us,
for we have sinned against thee.**

Cantor 1 Innocent captive, taken unresisting:
falsely accused, and for us sinners sentenced,
save us, we pray thee, Jesu, our Redeemer.

Cantor 2 **Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us,
for we have sinned against thee.**

Gospeller The Lord be with you.

Response **And also with you.**

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.

Response **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Holy Gospel: John 9.1-41

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, ‘Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?’ Jesus answered, ‘Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.’ When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying to him, ‘Go, wash in the pool of Siloam’ (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, ‘Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?’ Some were saying, ‘It is he.’ Others were saying, ‘No, but it is someone like him.’ He kept saying, ‘I am the man.’ But they kept asking him, ‘Then how were your eyes opened?’ He answered, ‘The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, “Go to Siloam and wash.” Then I went and washed and received my sight.’ They said to him, ‘Where is he?’ He said, ‘I do not know.’

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, ‘He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.’ Some of the Pharisees said, ‘This man is not from

God, for he does not observe the sabbath.’ But others said, ‘How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?’ And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, ‘What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.’ He said, ‘He is a prophet.’ The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, ‘Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?’ His parents answered, ‘We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.’ His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, ‘He is of age; ask him.’

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, ‘Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.’ He answered, ‘I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.’ They said to him, ‘What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?’ He answered them, ‘I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?’ Then they reviled him, saying, ‘You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.’ The man answered, ‘Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.’ They answered him, ‘You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?’ And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, ‘Do you believe in the Son of Man?’ He answered, ‘And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.’ Jesus said to him, ‘You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.’ He said, ‘Lord, I believe.’ And he worshipped him. Jesus said, ‘I came into this world for judgement so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.’ Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, ‘Surely we are not blind, are we?’ Jesus said to them, ‘If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, “We see”, your sin remains.

Gospeller The Gospel of Christ.

Response **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Homily Mtr Maggie Helwig

Nicene Creed

Celebrant Let us confess our faith, as we say,

Response **We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,-
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father.
With the Father and the Son
he is worshipped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Intercessions

Bidding As announced.

Response As announced.

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory hymn 435: *Take my life, and let it be*

MOZART

- 1 Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise.
- 2 Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet, and let them be swift and purposeful for thee.
- 3 Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from thee;
take my intellect, and use every power as thou shalt choose.
- 4 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.
- 5 Take my love: my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

Prayer over the Gifts

Celebrant God of light,
your Word brings to us a new vision of your glory.
Accept our offering of praise and thanksgiving,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Response Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer 3

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

Cantor And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

Cantor We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Cantor It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface of Lent

Celebrant Blessed are you, gracious God,
creator of heaven and earth;
we give you thanks and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who was tempted in every way, yet did not sin.
By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil,
and to live no longer for ourselves alone,
but for him who died for us and rose again.
Therefore with angels and archangels
and all who have served you in every age,
we raise our voices
to proclaim the glory of your name.

Sanctus and Benedictus

Mass in plainchant style

Cantor **Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Celebrant We give thanks to you, Lord our God,
for the goodness and love
you have made known to us in creation;
in calling Israel to be your people;
in your Word spoken through the prophets;
and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son.
For in these last days you sent him
to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world.
In him, you have delivered us from evil,
and made us worthy to stand before you.
In him, you have brought us out of error into truth,
out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death,
a death he freely accepted,
our Lord Jesus Christ took bread;
and when he had given thanks to you,
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples,
and said, "Take, 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."

Therefore, Father, according to his command,

***Response* we remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving
to you, Lord of all;
presenting to you, from your creation,
this bread and this wine.
We pray you, gracious God,
to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts,
that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ
and his blood of the new covenant.
Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice,
that we, made acceptable in him,
may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.
In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ,
and make them new,
and bring us to that city of light
where you dwell with all your children;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church,
and the author of our salvation;
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father,
now and for ever.

***Response* Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Robinson

Celebrant As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,

Cantor **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

Celebrant We break this bread,

Response **Communion in Christ's body once broken.**

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

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

Agnus Dei

Mass in plainchant style

Cantor **Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
grant us peace.**

Prayer after Communion

Celebrant Let us pray.
Father,
through your goodness
we receive your Son in word and sacrament.
May we always have faith in him,
Jesus Christ the Lord.

Response **Amen.**

Doxology

Celebrant Glory to God,
Response **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.**

Blessing

Celebrant May the God of mercy transform you by his grace,
and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Response **Amen.**

Hymn 454: *Revive thy work, O Lord*

CARLISLE

- 1 Revive thy work, O Lord, thy mighty arm make bare;
speak with the voice that wakes the dead, and make thy people hear.
- 2 Revive thy work, O Lord, disturb this sleep of death;
quicken the smouldering embers now by thine almighty breath.
- 3 Revive thy work, O Lord, create soul-thirst for thee;
and hungering for the bread of life O may our spirits be.
- 4 Revive thy work, O Lord, exalt thy precious name;
and, by the Holy Ghost sent down, our love for thee inflame.
- 5 Revive thy work, O Lord, and give refreshing showers.
The glory shall be all thine own; the blessing, Lord, be ours.

Dismissal

Deacon Go forth in peace, to love and serve the Lord.
Response **Thanks be to God.**

Announcements

Postlude

Trisagion, Sanctus & Benedictus, Agnus Dei, music: Mass in plainchant style

Lent Prose, mode v

The Lord's Prayer, music: McNeil Robinson II (1943-2015).

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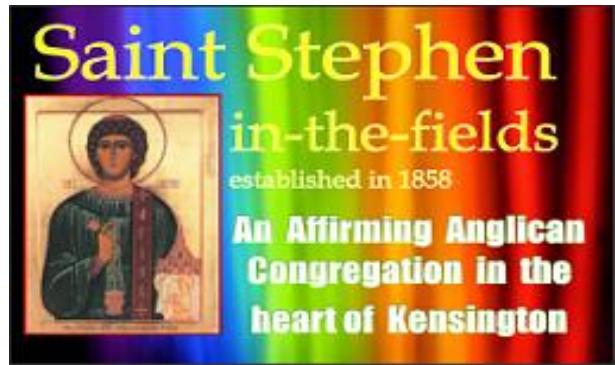
Hymn 435, text: Frances Ridley Havergal (1836-1879); music: composer unknown.

Hymn 454, text: Albert Midlane (1825-1909), alt.; music: Charles Lockhart (1738?-1815).

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If you want more information about the parish,
including our other weekly activities,
our website is www.saintstephens.ca



You can also visit us at
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