

**\*\*\* ALL PUBLIC WORSHIP AND PUBLIC GATHERINGS  
ARE CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE \*\*\***

**In our prayers...**

**In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer**, we pray for the Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui The Most Revd Paul Kwong - Archbishop of Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui & Bishop of Hong Kong Island

**In the Anglican Church of Canada**, we pray our Primate, Archbishop Linda Nichols, for our Metropolitan and Diocesan, Archbishop Anne Germond; for our Archdeacon, Glen, and for our parish clergy Fr. Aidan, Fr. Jeff and Bishop Andrews.

**In the Diocese of Algoma**, we pray St. Brice's, North Bay -The Rev. Dr. Peter Armstrong, The Ven. Marie Loewen (Hon.)

**We pray for reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples** Merciful God, you call us to loving relationship with one another. Be with us now as we seek to heal old wounds and find joy again in this relationship. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts of flesh. Give us the gifts of honesty and openness, and fill us with your healing power and grace. We ask this in Jesus's name.

**We pray for** the the following people for God's continued healing and strength during the coming week, especially - Canon Michael & Muriel Tamara, Nancy, Marshall, Bain, Kay, Mags, Dave Fowler, Annette ,Barbara, Claudette, Gerry, Jim, Mary Rose, Sarah, Jaqueline, Colin, Garfield, Catherine, George, David & Dan

**We pray for those** who are living in retirement residences or nursing homes, or who find it difficult to join us for church on Sundays; Milt Fleming, Karin Hoffman, Laurent Constantineau, Bessie Morgan, Sybil Crawford & Marlene Moulton. May they always feel God's presence in their lives.



**ANGLICAN CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION**

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**March 22, 2020**

*"In the same way, let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."  
(Matthew 5.16) - Archbishop Anne's Motto for 2020*

<b>Holy Eucharist:</b>	Sunday 9:00 am & 11:00 am Wednesday 9:30 am
<b>Morning Prayer:</b>	Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00 am
<b>Evening Prayer:</b>	Monday, Wednesday, Sunday 8:00 pm
<b>Messy Church:</b>	1st Wednesday of the month at 4:30 pm

**Welcome to our worship!**

It is good to have you here with us today. If you are visiting the Church of the Ascension for the first time, please know that the Anglican Church teaches that all who are baptized with water in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit are welcome to receive the sacrament at the time of communion.

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent**

10 am Holy Eucharist

**Collect of the day** BAS 291

**First Lesson** Ephesians 5:8-14

**Psalm** 23

**Holy Gospel** John 9:1-41

**Prayer over the Gifts** BAS 292

**Prayer after Communion** BAS 292

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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.

### **First Reading**

*A reading from Ephesians (Ephesians 5:8-14)*

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."

**Psalm 23 BAS 731 Refrain** - The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want.

### **Gospel**

*The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (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 be-come 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."

### **Prayer over the Gifts**

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.

### **Prayer After Communion**

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

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