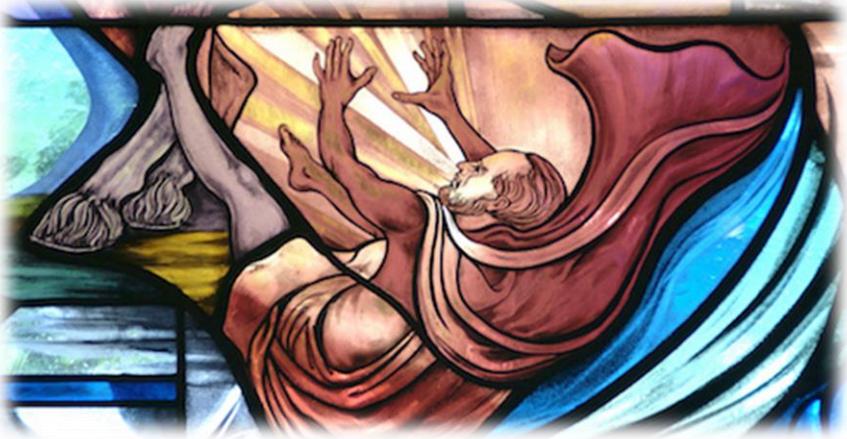




St. James
Anglican | Dundas



Conversion of Saint Paul

Sunday 24th January, 2021

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Saint James Church acknowledges that the land upon which we gather is the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe. This territory is covered by the Upper Canada Treaties and is directly adjacent to Haldimand Treaty territory. We seek a new relationship with the Original Peoples of this land, one based in honour and deep respect.

www.stjamesdundas.ca

Welcome to this time of worship

We gather as a community online, joined by the Spirit of God with one another as we hear scripture, sing praise, respond in prayer and celebrate and receive God's sacraments.

As you prepare to worship, in your space, make yourself comfortable and attentive to God's presence. Be still and quiet if your space allows. You may want to light a candle as a symbol that you are setting aside this time to join with your community of faith and receive the presence of Christ.

As we begin our time of worship, we hear

'By All You Saints Still Striving'

Welcome and Announcements

We are invited to a time of silence as we enter this time of worship.

The Gathering

One: In the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

One: Grace, mercy and peace, from God our Father and the
Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Collect of the Day

One: Almighty God,
who caused the light of the gospel
to shine throughout the world
through the preaching of your servant Saint Paul:

grant that we who celebrate his wonderful conversion may follow him in bearing witness to your truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All: Amen.

Proclamation of the Word

First Reading (Acts 26.9-23)

‘Indeed, I myself was convinced that I ought to do many things against the name of Jesus of Nazareth. And that is what I did in Jerusalem; with authority received from the chief priests, I not only locked up many of the saints in prison, but I also cast my vote against them when they were being condemned to death. By punishing them often in all the synagogues I tried to force them to blaspheme; and since I was so furiously enraged at them, I pursued them even to foreign cities.

‘With this in mind, I was travelling to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests, when at midday along the road, your Excellency, I saw a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, shining around me and my companions. When we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It hurts you to kick against the goads.” I asked, “Who are you, Lord?” The Lord answered, “I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. But get up and stand on your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you to serve and testify to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you. I will rescue you from your people and from the Gentiles—to whom I am sending you to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power

of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.”

‘After that, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, but declared first to those in Damascus, then in Jerusalem and throughout the countryside of Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God and do deeds consistent with repentance. For this reason the Jews seized me in the temple and tried to kill me. To this day I have had help from God, and so I stand here, testifying to both small and great, saying nothing but what the prophets and Moses said would take place: that the Messiah must suffer, and that, by being the first to rise from the dead, he would proclaim light both to our people and to the Gentiles.’

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word,

All: Thanks be to God

The Gospel *(St. Matthew 10.16-22)*

Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.

Cantor: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

One: God be with you

All: and also with you

One: Hear the Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Saint Mark

All: Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

‘See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. When

they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.

One: The Gospel of Christ

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Cantor: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Sermon *(Please take a seat)*

(A talk reflecting on the readings we have just heard)

The Prayers of the People

The response to the prayers is...

One: God of love,

All: Hear our prayer

The Confession and Absolution

One: Confessing our sin, let us return to the Lord and say:

All: Lord our God, in our sin we have avoided your call.

Our love for you is like a morning cloud,

Like the dew that goes away early.

Have mercy on us;

Deliver us from judgement;

Bind up our wounds and revive us;

In Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.¹

¹ From 'New Patterns for Worship'

One: May the Father of all mercies,
Cleanse us from our sins, and restore us in his image,
To the praise and glory of his name,
Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

The Peace (*please stand as you are able and comfortable*)

One: The Peace of Christ be always with you

All: And also with you

The Celebration of the Eucharist

The prayer over the gifts:

One: Almighty God,
as we celebrate this holy sacrament of our redemption
may your Spirit fill us with the light of faith;
by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving:

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts,

All: we lift them to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Living God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The priest offers the Eucharistic prayer...

..... Singing their hymn of unending praise:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full, are full of your glory!
Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest!**

The Prayer Continues.....

... Great is the Mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

The Eucharistic Prayer continues....

... All honour and glory are yours, now and forever.

All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

One: As Christ taught us, we pray together;

**All: 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 and 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 forever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

One: We break this bread to share in the body of Christ

**All: Though we are many we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

One: The gifts of God for the people of God,

All: Thanks be to God

Invitation to Spiritual Communion

Priest: Dear friends,
I invite you in this moment, wherever you may be,
to receive Christ,
in communion with the saints,
and the gathering of God's people,
unseen and yet present with us now.
Many are made one.

Priest: We receive you Lord Jesus Christ,
**All: we welcome your presence in us,
and together proclaim our love for you;
with our hearts, minds,
our souls and our strength,
with the saints we worship you,
with the angels we adore you,
with your whole Church we proclaim your reign.
Come to us, though many,
and make us one in you. Amen.**

Music or a Hymn

A hymn or piece of music is offered as we receive communion.

'Jesu, Joy of Our Desiring'

Communion

We receive communion spiritually in the silence of our own hearts and minds. One or more of the following prayers may be said...

One: I worship and adore you, Lord Jesus Christ,
present in bread and wine, and present in your people,
who are gathered in spirit.
In this moment I join with them to receive you in my heart,
and in our community.
May you, enthroned on the altar,
be now enthroned in my heart,
may you, present in bread and wine,
feed and renew my soul,
may you, who gives yourself to us again,
fill us with grace, and heavenly blessing.
Even as I am fed, may my hunger for you and for your reign of
justice and peace increase,
that I may, with your Spirit, work for that day when your
kingdom shall come on earth as it is heaven. Amen.

Or

One: Come Lord Jesus and make in my heart
your dwelling place and home.
I seek to love you with all my heart, mind, soul and strength,
and so, through your presence in bread and wine
I receive you afresh and praise you for you are my God.
As you fill me, so may my love for you and for all your people,
rise and overflow, that with joy and thanksgiving,
I may serve you in the world you love. Amen.

Or

One: 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.²

One: Holy Jesus we receive you in this moment,
giving you thanks and praise that you make yourself present
to all your people in the bread and wine of the Eucharist.
Transform our hearts that we may
shine as your light in dark places;
Where there is hatred, let us sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
Where there is sadness, joy.
And this all, in love for you. Amen.

Or

One: O Loving God, in union with Christian people throughout the
world and across the centuries gathered to make Eucharist,
hearing your holy Word and receiving the Precious Body and
Blood of your dear Son, I offer you praise and thanksgiving.
Even while separated from tasting the Bread of Heaven and
drinking the Cup of Life I pray that you will unite me with all
the baptised and with your Son who gave his life for us.
Come Lord Jesus, dwell in me and send your Holy Spirit that I
may be filled with your presence.
Jesus, as the hem of your garment, touched in faith, healed
the woman who could not touch your body, so may the soul of
your servant be healed, for though I cannot receive you in the
sacrament I can, through this offering of my prayer, receive
you in my heart; grant this for Christ's sake. Amen. ³

Prayers recommended for use by children:

One: Holy Jesus, thank you for loving us,
and thank you for the holy bread and wine that reminds us

² Based on a prayer by St. Alphonsus Maria de' Liguori

³ Adapted from a service of Spiritual Communion, Diocese of Chelmsford, Church of England

that you are always with us.
Come and live in our hearts,
so we may know your love,
and love others too. Amen.

Or

One: Jesus, you remind us in bread and wine
that you are near to us.
Bring me nearer to you every day,
and let me carry you in my heart,
to share your love with the world you made. Amen.

Or

One: Lord Jesus, thank you that you are always with me,
I pray that you would remind me
to welcome you to share every day with me.
Thank you for loving me.
I want to say that I love you too.

Or

One: Jesus, I want to follow you:
to see you more clearly;
love you more dearly;
and follow you more nearly.
So come into my heart,
so that we may share life together. Amen

Prayer after Communion

One: Father of all,
All: we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off,
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace and opened the gate of glory.
May we who receive Christ's presence,
live his risen life and bring life to others,

and may we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.

Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.⁴

Doxology

All: **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, for ever and ever! Amen!**

The Blessing and Dismissal

The priest asks for God's blessing upon us.

One: **Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.**

All: **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Music or a Hymn

Is offered as the priest and assistant leave the Chancel.

⁴ Adapted from Common Worship, Church of England, Holy Communion Order One.

Hymn

***Refrain: Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his glorious name!***

1. **Come, Christian people, sing your praises, shout!
if we are silent, even stones cry out.**

Refrain

2. **Jesus, you wept to see our human strife,
teach us compassion for each human life.**

Refrain

3. **Peace was your plea, and peace your loving theme,
let peace be our passport, peace a living dream.**

Refrain

4. **Great is the cost of walking on this road,
to follow and suffer with the Son of God.**

Refrain

5. **Worlds to be born and children yet to be
come, take up this song into eternity.**

Refrain