

April 24, 2021 – St. Mark

Celebrant & Preacher

The Rev. Robert Cooke

Music:

Brad Jefford

Vocals:

Michelle Smith

Reader:

Victoria Featherston

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Hymn: **Across the Lands**

**You're the Word of God the Father from before the world began.
Ev'ry star and ev'ry planet has been fashioned by Your hand.
All creation holds together by the power of Your voice.
Let the skies declare Your glory; let the land and seas rejoice!**

CHORUS

***You're the Author of creation;
You're the Lord of ev'ry one;
And Your cry of love rings out across the lands.***

**Yet You left the gaze of angels, came to seek and save the lost,
And exchanged the joy of heaven for the anguish of a cross.
With a prayer You fed the hungry; with a word You calmed the sea;
Yet how silently You suffered that the guilty may go free!**

**With a shout You rose victorious, wresting vict'ry from the grave,
And ascended into heaven, leading captives in Your way.
Now You stand before the Father, interceding for Your own;
From each tribe and tongue and nation, you are leading sinners home!**

Gathering of the Community

**Alleluia! Christ is risen,
The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

**May his grace and peace be with you.
May he fill our hearts with joy.**

Collect

Approaching God,
Granting us the birth pangs
Of a new age:
We give thanks for Saint Mark,
For the open ended gospel,
For the urgency of faith,
For the call to follow the Son of Man
Through the foundering of temples
And the rage of fallen powers;
By your Holy Spirit
Give us the words of vision
That will bring good news to our world;
Through Jesus Christ, the Chosen. Amen.

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God. ISAIAH 52:7-10

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church

Thanks be to God.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark:

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness; 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance

for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."
MARK 1:1-15

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

Silence

Creed

We are not alone,
we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

**who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

**to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,**

to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,

God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

Prayers of the People

Merciful God,

Strengthen us for service.

Confession & Absolution

You call us to share your holiness; we think we are not worthy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

You show yourself in the strangeness of the saints; we demand safe normality.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

You surround us with many witnesses; we hear what we want to hear.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

The peace of the crowded kitchen, of places of work, play and learning, of wherever your people walk in the many ways of earthy holiness: that is the peace we share with all your household and with all your ordinary saints.

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Offertory Hymn: **Seek Ye First**

**Seek ye first the Kingdom of God
And their righteousness
And all these things shall be added unto you
Allelu Alleluia**

**Ask and it shall be given unto you
Seek and ye shall find
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you
Allelu Alleluia
(instrumental)**

**You shall not live by bread alone
But by every word
That proceeds from the mouth of God
Allelu Alleluia**

**And if the Son shall set you free
You Shall be free indeed
You Shall know the truth, and the truth will set you free
Allelu Alleluia
(instrumental)**

**Trust in the Lord, with all your heart
The Lord will direct your path
In all your ways, acknowledge them
Allelu Alleluia**

**Seek ye first the Kingdom of God
And Their righteousness
And all these things shall be added unto you
Allelu Alleluia
Allelu Alleluia
Allelu Alleluia**

Eucharistic Prayer

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to God our Creator.

It is right to offer thanks and praise.

God of good news, we thank you for calling us

To an adventure of faith.

You made us in your image

To respond to your grace;

Your story came alive

With the children of Israel,

a promise was born

that one day

no face would be forgotten,

no body enslaved,

no spirit broken,

but all would join

the covenant of life.

You sent your Son

In solidarity with us,

Healing our sickness

And confronting our demons;

He bore the cross and rose again

To disclose our true humanity.

Therefore with St. Mark and all your unlikely saints,

With the church of many times and languages,

With those who have known you

Under different names

We sing the glorious liberty

Of all the children of God:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are

full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who

comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus, at supper with his friends, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, gave it to them, and said, "Take and 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."

Restore us, O God, let your face shine!

Loving and Holy One, recalling Christ's death and resurrection, we offer you these gifts, longing for the bread of tomorrow and the wine of the age to come. Therefore we proclaim our hope.

**Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life.
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Pour out your Spirit on these gifts that through them you may sustain us in our hunger for your peace.

We hold before you all whose lives are marked by suffering, our sisters and brothers. When we are broken and cast aside, embrace us in your love.

Restore us, O God, let your face shine!

May we remain open to wonder and mystery, to what is strange and new and precious in each child of God, that with Saint Mark and all the saints we might walk in the light of hope. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in God's new creation,
as our Saviour taught us, let us pray,

**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.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

Lord, we died with you on the cross.

Now we are raised to new life.

We were buried in your tomb.

Now we share in your resurrection.

Live in us, that we may live in you.

The gifts of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

The Communion

Communion Hymn: **Sister, Let Me Be Your Servant**

1. Sister, let me be your servant.

Let me be as Christ to you.

Pray that I may have the grace to

Let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on a journey.

Fellow travelers on the road.

We are here to help each other

Walk the mile and bear the load.

2. I will hold the Christ light for you

In the night time of your fear.

I will hold my hand out to you;

Speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping.

When you laugh, I'll laugh with you.

I will share your joy and sorrow

Till we've seen this journey through.

**3. When we sing to God in heaven,
We will find such harmony
Born of all we've known together
Of Christ's love and agony.
Brother, let me be your servant.
Let me be as Christ to you.
Pray that I may have the grace to
Let you be my servant, too.**

**4. Sister, let me be your servant.
Let me be as Christ to you.
Pray that I may have the grace to
Let you be my servant too.
Brother, let me be your servant.
Let me be as Christ to you.
Pray that I may have the grace to
Let you be my servant, too.**

*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, forever and ever. Amen.*

Blessing and Dismissal

Closing Hymn: **We Will Not Be Silent**

Out of the deep you lift us; **Lord we praise your Holy Name**
Safe from our enemies; **Lord we praise your Holy Name**
And when we call for mercy; **Lord we praise your Holy Name**
You save us from the grave; **Lord we praise your Holy Name; And**

We Will Not Be Silent; We Will Not Be Silent
We Will Not Be Silent; Lord we praise your Holy Name Oh
We Will Not Be Silent; We Will Not Be Silent
We Will Not Be Silent; Lord we praise your Holy Name

Your anger lasts a moment; **Lord we praise your Holy Name**
But your favour lasts for life; **Lord we praise your Holy Name**
With the morning come rejoicing; **Lord we praise your Holy Name**
Though we weep all through the night; **Lord we praise your Holy Name;**
And

Refrain

Lord to you we call for mercy; **Lord we praise your Holy Name**
If we fall where is the gain; **Lord we praise your Holy Name**
For as dust we cannot praise you; **Lord we praise your Holy Name**
Nor your faithfulness proclaim; **Lord we praise your Holy Name; And**

Refrain

From weeping into dancing; **Lord we praise your Holy Name**
From sorrow into joy; **Lord we praise your Holy Name**
Lord our hearts will not be silent; **Lord we praise your Holy Name**
We'll praise you forever more; **Lord we praise your Holy Name; And**

Refrain