

Holy Eucharist
Sunday March 20 at 10:00 am
The Third Sunday of Lent
St. Mary's la Prairie
36 2nd St. S.W. Portage la Prairie
204-857-3931 - stmarys1@shaw.ca
<https://stmaryslaprairie.ca>

We acknowledge that we meet on Treaty 1 Land, the traditional land of the Anishinaabe, Cree and Dakota people and the homeland of the Metis Nation. We are grateful for their stewardship of this land and their hospitality which allows us to live, work and serve God the Creator here

The community is called to attend to the presence of God by a tone from the sounding bowl.

The Gathering of the Community BAS p. 216

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

People **And also with you.**

Presider Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins
People **God's mercy endures for ever.**

Presider Almighty God,
People **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 Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Confession and Absolution BAS p. 217

Presider Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;
he welcomes sinners
and invites them to his table.
Let us confess our sins,
confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence is kept.

Presider Most merciful God,
People **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.**

Presider 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.
People **Amen.**

The Collect

God of infinite goodness,
throughout the ages you have persevered
in claiming and reclaiming your people.
Renew for us your call to repentance,
surround us with witnesses to aid us in our journey,
and grant us the time to fashion our lives anew;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

Hymn 388 Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken

1 Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God;
he whose word cannot be broken
formed thee for his own abode.
On the rock of ages founded,
what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
thou mayest smile at all thy foes.

2 See! The streams of living waters,
springing from eternal love,
well supply thy sons and daughters
and all fear of want remove.
Who can faint, when such a river
ever flows their thirst to assuage?
Grace, which like the Lord, the giver,
never fails from age to age.

3 Round each habitation hovering,
see the cloud and fire appear
for a glory and a covering --
showing that the Lord is near.
Thus they march, the pillar leading,
light by night, and shade by day;
daily on the manna feeding
which God gives them when they pray.

4 Saviour, if of Zion's city
I through grace a member am,
let the world deride or pity,
I will glory in thy name.
Fading is the world's best pleasure,
all its boasted pomp or show:
solid joys and lasting treasures
none but Zion's children know.

Isaiah 55:1-9

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 63:1-8 BAS p. 783

1 O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; *
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.

2 Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, *
that I might behold your power and your glory.

3 For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; *
my lips shall give you praise.

4 So will I bless you as long as I live*
and lift up my hands in your name.

5 My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, *
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,

6 When I remember you upon my bed, *
and meditate on you in the night watches.

7 For you have been my helper, *
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

8 My soul clings to you; *
your right hand holds me fast.

Corinthians 10:1-13

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, **2** and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, **3** and all ate the same spiritual food, **4** and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ.

5 Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

6 Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. **7** Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play.” **8** We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. **9** We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. **10** And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer.

11 These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come.

12 So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. **13** No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

Reader **The Word of the Lord.**
People. **Thanks be to God.**

The Proclamation of the Gospel

Reader The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**

634 Jesus, Remember Me

Jesus, remember me
when you come into your kingdom. X2

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus
Christ according to Luke
People **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Luke 13:1-9

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. **2** He asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? **3** No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. **4** Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? **5** No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.”

6 Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. **7** So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ **8** He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. **9** If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.
People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

634 Jesus, Remember Me

**Jesus, remember me
when you come into your kingdom. X2**

Message

Prayers of the People

Sisters and brothers, our God is faithful. Let us offer our prayers to God, saying, “God, your loving-kindness is better than life itself; **We bless you and we praise you.**”

O God, you are our God; eagerly we seek you; our souls thirst for you, our flesh faints for you, as in a parched and barren land. Refresh your Church, revive your Church with living water. God, your loving-kindness is better than life itself;

We bless you and we praise you.

Faithful God, be the comfort and strength of innocent victims and their families. We pray for all the victims of the war in the Ukraine. God, your loving-kindness is better than life itself;

We bless you and we praise you.

Great Mountain God, open our eyes to your presence in the world around us. Set the fire of your presence before us and lead our feet to holy ground. God, your loving-kindness is better than life itself;

We bless you and we praise you.

We pray, O God for the victims of sexual violence and abuse. Deliver them; heal their wounds and scars; restore the ability to trust. Purify our own hearts that we may honour and respect each other. God, your loving-kindness is better than life itself;

We bless you and we praise you.

O God, you are our helper; you hide us under the mighty shadow of your wings. Defend your children from all adversities which may happen to body or soul. We pray for all on our prayer list some of whom we name now: Bob Calder and family, Bill and Jane Human, Rod Knott, Jackson, Jason and Joyce Grant and Bev Towle in hospital God, your loving-kindness is better than life itself;

We bless you and we praise you.

God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, God of our mothers and fathers, feed us with spiritual food; refresh us with spiritual drink. Preserve us, with all your saints, forever. God, your loving-kindness is better than life itself; **We bless you and we praise you.**

Offertory Hymn 401 My Life Flows on in Endless Song

1 My life flows on in endless song,
 above earth's lamentation.

I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn
 that hails a new creation.

Refrain:

No storm can shake my inmost calm
 while to that Rock I'm clinging.

Since Love is lord of heaven and earth,
 how can I keep from singing?

2 Through all the tumult and the strife,
 I hear that music ringing;
it sounds and echoes in my soul;
 how can I keep from singing?

Refrain

3 What though the tempest 'round me roar,
 I hear the truth it liveth.
What though the darkness 'round me close,
 songs in the night it giveth.

Refrain

4 When tyrants tremble, sick with fear,
 and hear their death knells ringing;
when friends rejoice both far and near,
 how can I keep from singing?

Refrain

5 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,
a fountain ever springing.
All things are mine since I am his;
how can I keep from singing?

Refrain:

No storm can shake my inmost calm
while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Love is lord of heaven and earth,
how can I keep from singing?

Prayer over the Gifts

Celebrant Let us pray:

God our provider,
you have not fed us with bread alone,
but with words of grace and life.
Bless us and these your gifts,
which we receive from your bounty,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer (Eucharistic Prayer #2 BAS p. 196)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant We give you thanks and praise,
almighty God,
through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ,
our Saviour and Redeemer.
He is your living Word, through whom
you have created all things

By the power of the Holy Spirit
he took flesh of the Virgin Mary
and shared our human nature.
He lived and died as one of us,
to reconcile us to you,
the Source and God of all.

In fulfillment of your will
he stretched out his hands in suffering,
to bring release to those who place their
hope in you;
and so he won for you a holy people.

He chose to bear our griefs and sorrows,
and to give up his life on the cross,
that he might shatter the chains of evil
and death, and banish the darkness
of sin and despair.
By his resurrection he brings us into
the light of your presence.

Now with all creation we raise our voices
to proclaim the glory of your name.

(Sung)
All

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might.
Holy, holy holy, Lord
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full,
full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest,
hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in. the highest
hosanna in the highest.**

Celebrant Holy and gracious God,

accept our praise,
through your Son
our Saviour Jesus Christ;
who on the night he was handed over
to suffering and death,
took bread and gave you thanks,
saying, “Take, and eat:
this is my body which is broken for you.”

In the same way he took the cup,
saying, “This is my blood
which is shed for you.
When you do this,
you do it in memory of me.”

Remembering, therefore, his death
and resurrection,
we offer you this bread and this cup,
giving thanks that you have made us
worthy to stand in your presence
and serve you.

We ask you to send your Holy Spirit
upon the offering of your holy Church.
Gather into one
all who share in these sacred mysteries,
filling them with the Holy Spirit
and confirming their faith in the truth,
that together we may praise you
and give you glory
through your Servant, Jesus Christ.

All glory and honour are yours,
Creator and Redeemer,
with the Holy Spirit
in the holy Church,
now and for ever.

People

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant And now, as our Saviour Christ
has taught us, we are bold to say,
**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 those
who 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.**

The Breaking of the Bread (#7 BAS p. 213)

Celebrant We break this bread
All **Communion in Christ's body once broken.**

Celebrant Let your Church be the wheat
which bears its fruit in dying.
All **If we have died with him,
we shall live with him;
if we hold firm,
we shall reign with him.**

The congregation comes forward to retrieve a host, when all who wish have a host, masks are removed

The Celebrant says:

All **The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven.
Thanks be to God**

Then all consume their host. Once you have consumed the host please replace your mask.

The teaching of the Church is that the fullness of Christ is present in only one of the elements.

Prayer after Communion

Celebrant. Compassionate God,
you have fed us with the bread of heaven.
Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage;
may our fasting be hunger for justice;
our alms, a making of peace;
and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts;
through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.

Celebrant Glory to God,
All **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 love of Jesus
draw us to himself;
May the power of Jesus
strengthen us in his service;
May the joy of Jesus
fill our souls.
May the blessing of God,
Source of all being,
eternal Word and Holy Spirit
be amongst you and
remain with you and those you love
now and always. Amen

Closing Hymn 412 O God, Beyond All Face and Form

O God, beyond all face and form,
you willed it that creation's night
should blaze, and chaos still its storm
and birth a universe of light.
All things below, all things above
are formed of your eternal love.

The glory of the galaxies,
the beauty of a baby's hand,
the thundering of the restless seas,
the glory of the forest's stand —
all things below, all things above
are formed of your eternal love.

You gave our race both form and name,
and love for us was your intent;
then to a woman's womb love came,
and on a cross was wholly spent.
All things below, all things above
are formed of this incarnate love.

Of this great love all loves are born,
of self, of neighbour, and of earth.
By love shall night be turned to morn,
and death shall never conquer birth.
All things below, all things above
are formed of God's eternal love.

Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
All Thanks be to God.

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Announcements

A note on the prayer list

We will once more be including our prayer list. If there is someone on the list who should be removed please let me know. Likewise if you would like to add a name to the list please let me know. We will include five names from the list in our intercession each Sunday.

Prayer List

Bev Braden, Brad, Bob Calder, Erik, Jan and family, Anne Clairmont, Mason Clairmont, Vickie Donald, Linda Downing, Elaine, Gerald, Glenn, George, Joyce Grant, Bill and Jane Human, Rod Knott, Jackson, Jason, Jane, Jess, Julia, Jocelyn, Joe, Kelsey, Kirby, Myrtle Kenny, Fran Laakso, Malcolm, Maureen, Mavis, Michael Logan, Ivy Muir, Misty Potts, Phyllis Moar, Clive Morgan, Nori, Donna Pacholuk, Colten Pratt, Marcel Ricard, Rick, Marilyn Roteliuk, Jamie and Tryli Shorting, Scott, Eva Shewchuk, Sharon Skoropata, John Stairs, Bev Towle, Tammy and David and family, Wendy Twiss, Mary Wildfang, Vicki

Lenten Visual Display

These weapons are shown as signs of torture and cruelty. A crowing rooster symbolizes Peter's denial.

Vestry Meeting Thursday March 24 at 7pm in the Church Hall

Next Sunday's readings Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

The Thrift Shop has reopened Tuesday to Thursday from 10:30 am until 4 pm

Walk for St. Mary's Update

Hello everyone,

The weather in February was not particularly conducive to walking, but we did our best.

Two days were just too icy for us, and we took four days out to go to Saskatchewan to help Emmett celebrate his 8th birthday, and watch both children play in their respective hockey teams. So we "lost" 6 days for walking.

February:

Alan: 104.4 miles.

Average for both of us:
104.21 miles.

Mary: 104.02 miles

Total miles walked in 2022:

Alan: 250.2 miles.

Average for both of us:
246.28

Mary: 242.37 miles.

Hopefully the weather in March will be better!

Mary Marsh.

Habitat for Humanity is beginning to plan its next build in Portage la Prairie. If you are interested in affordable home ownership and want to know more about the criteria and application process, then you are encouraged to attend a Public Information Meeting on April 7, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the Portage Family Resource Centre (234 Princess Avenue next to the Cinema Centre). Everyone is welcome!

The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF) is joining their partners in ACT Alliance a global alliance of over 145 Churches from 120 countries in providing humanitarian assistance to those who are refugees because of the war. You can read more about a part of their activities here <https://actalliance.org/act-news/hungarian-interchurch-aid-sets-up-refugee-support-point-at-the-ukrainian-border/> If you would like to support this work financially you can donate on the PWRDF website here <https://pwrdf.org/> use the button at the top of the page or include a Cheque payable to St. Mary's but marked for PWRDF Ukraine relief in one of the blue PWRDF envelopes included in your set of parish envelopes.