

**ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND ANGLICAN CHURCH**

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*7th Sunday of Epiphany*

February 20, 2022

## 7th Sunday of Epiphany

February 20, 2022

10:00 a.m. Online Service Bulletin

### THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

**Processional:**        *Eternal Unchanging*

#394 HB

#### THE 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.

**People:**        **And also with you.**

**Celebrant:**    Almighty God,

**All:**            **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. Amen.**

#### GLORY TO GOD

**Celebrant:**    Glory to God in the highest,

**All:**            **and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father, Amen.**

**KYRIE:**        Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY (Prayer of the Day)

**All:**           **Almighty God, your Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving love. Renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

**THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

**First Reading:**       Genesis 45:3-11, 15

A READING FROM THE BOOK GENESIS

Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt.

And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest.

God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt.

Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, "Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have.

I will provide for you there--since there are five more years of famine to come--so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.' And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

The Word of the Lord.

**People:**       **Thanks be to God**

**PSALM:**       37:1-11, 39-40

**REFRAIN:**   **Put your trust in the Lord and do good.**

Do not fret because of the wicked; do not be envious of wrongdoers, for they will soon fade like the grass, and wither like the green herb. Trust in the LORD, and do good; so you will live in the land, and enjoy security. R

Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the

LORD; trust in him, and he will act. R

He will make your vindication shine like the light, and the justice of your cause like the noonday. Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him; do not fret over those who prosper in their way, over those who carry out evil devices. R

Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath. Do not fret--it leads only to evil. For the wicked shall be cut off, but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land. R

Yet a little while, and the wicked will be no more; though you look diligently for their place, they will not be there. But the meek shall inherit the land and delight themselves in abundant prosperity. R

The salvation of the righteous is from the LORD; he is their refuge in the time of trouble. The LORD helps them and rescues them; he rescues them from the wicked, and saves them, because they take refuge in him. R

**People:            Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.**

**Second Reading:**    1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

A READING FROM THE FIRST BOOK OF CORINTHIANS

But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain.

But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. So, it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonour, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power.

It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus, it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit.

But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven.

Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven. What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

The Word of the Lord.

**People:            Thanks be to God**

**The Holy Gospel:**    Luke 6:27-38

## THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO LUKE

**People:        Glory to You Lord Jesus Christ**

"But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt.

Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you. "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them.

If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again.

But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

"Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

The Gospel of Christ.

**People:        Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ**

**SERMON:**    The Rev. Canon Simon Bell

### **Resurrection in the midst of malicious intent**

**Genesis 45:3-11, 15; Psalm 37: 1-11, 39-40; I Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50; Luke 6:27-38**

Paul, in talking of the resurrection, reminds us that with the Gospel what is sown as perishable, is raised as imperishable or eternal; what is sown in dishonour, is raised in glory; what is sown in weakness, is raised in power; what is sown in the imperfection of the physicality of our human weakness is raised in the perfection of our spiritual identity. Rather than seeing this as a dualism of good and evil, what we need to see is a contrast of intention by God.

When we are in the midst of a hateful relationship, when others devalue who we are, when we are being taken for a ride, the victim of abusive behavior and when others keep taking advantage of us it is hard to see a situation resolving in a healthy and just way. It is much more instinctual for us to put up our defenses, to hunker down or to create some distance than it is for us to embrace those who make us into victims or to see what we are going through with any sense of hope.

The point of the resurrection is that even when life is dragging us headlong to destruction and death, at some moment there is a turning point when we realize the redemptive work of God in our lives and the lives of those responsible for our victimization. It is then that we realize that the resurrection Christ

calls us to, is not simply true when we throw off our mortal coil, but part of our ongoing reality as we strive to be faithful to the Gospel.

## **Joseph**

I am sure most of us are somewhat aware of the Biblical character of Joseph, even if it is from Andrew Lloyd Weber's "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat". Well, we meet Joseph as the second youngest of twelve brothers who are born to nomadic pastoralist called Jacob. He comes to prominence because of his father's favoritism – the "coat of many colours" – and his dreams of grandeur that irritate his older brothers no end. We might remember that they intended to kill him and dump him down a disused well, but eventually sell him off into slavery. He ends up in Egypt where his fortunes change with every wind that blows and he goes from "respected slave", to prisoner, to dream interpreter to Pharaoh's trusted financial adviser and administrator as he takes on the care of Egypt in preparation for an extensive drought.

It is while he is in the midst of this powerful position of care-taker of the welfare of the entire Egyptian Kingdom, that his own family fall on hard times and they are forced to come begging for assistance. Initially his brothers are not aware of whom he is, but by a few twists and turns of good fortune he gains the opportunity to reveal who he truly is to them. We enter the story today when they are in the midst of that discovery and then his brothers are dumbstruck and feel a great sense of dismay when they realize that their evil intentions and jealousy has finally caught up with them. It is then that they realize that the boot is now on the other foot, and he has the power to trample them into the dust. But, rather than taking his revenge, Joseph extends an embrace, "Come closer to me." He reminds them of what they have done – their abuse is not forgotten or swept under the carpet – "you sold me in slavery." Yet in that same utterance are his words of invitation, "And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourself, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve your life."

In Joseph's own resurrection narrative – as the one who has known human frailty, dishonour, weakness and imperfection - there is permanence, glory, power and perfection because of what God has done in and through him. In the midst of the dismay of his brothers he offers them that same resurrection and, by extension, offers it to his entire father's household.

You see for Joseph it would be all too easy for him to have given up in despair when he was dumped down the well by his brothers or sold into slavery or accused of a wrong he did not commit or when he was in prison. It would have been just as easy for him to believe that God was done with him when he had the good fortune of being sold into a wealthy Egyptian household and given incredible responsibility or when given favour when he had interpreted the dreams of other jail mates or when he was summoned to interpret Pharaoh's dreams or when he was given the responsibility of managing the welfare of the entire Egyptian Kingdom.

But Joseph had the foresight to realize that his resurrection story was not done when life had turned out good for him and for the Kingdom of Egypt – as significant as that was. It was only when he had to face the very people who had set him on this course that would over-run his entire life, did he realize that his resurrection story was really their resurrection story.

## **Resurrection – going beyond what is normal**

Sometimes I wish Jesus had just said "nice stuff" that was not as challenging. I wish Jesus had just asked us to be nice, considerate and well-behaved citizens. I wish Jesus has just affirmed it when we were good to the other nice people and affirming of our joint neighbourliness.

In contrast, he told us to love our enemies, to do good to those who hated us, to bless those who cursed us, to pray for those who abuse us, to turn the other cheek if struck, to give our shirt to somebody who

has stolen our cloak, to give to those who beg from us, to not ask after our goods if another takes them, to do to others as we would have them do to us if we were just as selfish and just as rude and just as abusive and just as thieving.

As Jesus points out, there is no challenge in loving those who love us or doing good to those who do good to us or lending to those from whom we wish to receive. The real challenge – the actions that make the resurrection real – is going way beyond that. Jesus reminds us that God is “kind to the ungrateful and the wicked” – namely us- and that we embody the hope of the resurrection when we as merciful as God is. We exercise mercy whenever we do not give people what they deserve, but rather forgive them their human frailty – their perishable, dishonoured, weak and physically limited self – and invite them to share in the new life of the resurrection.

This is only possible because we, like Joseph, have known the resurrection in spite of what others have done to us. As much as they may have treated us as objects “for sale” or disposal, rather than a dignified human being with infinite worth, God has offered us the resurrection life that we might share it with others.

And, like Joseph, this does not mean that we “forgive and forget” or sweep their abusive and selfish behaviour under the carpet of social niceties. But rather, even in the midst of naming their harm and recognizing their destructive tendencies, inviting them into the hope of the resurrection as we know it.

**People:        Amen**

**(Time allowed for Silent Reflection.)**

## THE APOSTLE’S CREED

Celebrant:    Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

**All:            I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## INTERCESSIONS AND THANKSGIVINGS

### #13 INCARNATION

(In joy and humility let us pray to the creator of the universe, saying, “Lord, grant us peace.”)

Celebrant:    By the good news of our salvation brought to Mary by the angel, hear us, O Lord.

**People:        Lord, grant us peace.**

Celebrant: By the mystery of the Word made flesh, hear us, O Lord.

**People: Lord, grant us peace.**

Celebrant: By the birth in time of the timeless Son of God, hear us, O Lord.

**People: Lord, grant us peace.**

Celebrant: By the manifestation of the King of glory to the shepherds and magi, hear us, O Lord.

**People: Lord, grant us peace.**

Celebrant: By the submission of the maker of the world to Mary and Joseph of Nazareth, hear us, O Lord.

**People: Lord, grant us peace.**

Celebrant: By the baptism of the Son of God in the river Jordan, hear us, O Lord.

**People: Lord, grant us peace.**

Celebrant: Grant that the kingdoms of this world may become the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; hear us, O Lord.

**People: Lord, grant us peace.**

#### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:

Celebrant: 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.)*

Celebrant: 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.**

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.

**People: Amen.**

#### THE PEACE:

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People: And also with you.**

### **THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST**

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS:

**All:** **Merciful God, accept all we offer you this day. Lead us to love you with all our heart, and to love all people with your perfect love. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: #3

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 who 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 God and Father of all.

In fulfilment 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.

**All: 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: 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, Father and Son, with the Holy Spirit in the holy Church, now and for ever.

**People: Amen.**

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER:

Celebrant: And now, as our Saviour has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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. 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 BREAD #6:

Celebrant: We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

**All: God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.**

AGNES DEI – Lamb of God

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world. Have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world. Have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world. Grant us peace.**

### THE COMMUNION

Communion Hymns:

Communion:	<i>Jesus the Joy of Loving Hearts</i>	#70 HB
	<i>Shepherd of Souls</i>	#85 HB

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

**All: Gracious God, in the eucharist we celebrate your love for us and for all people. Grant that strengthened by these holy gifts, we may show your love in our lives, and know its fulfilment in your presence. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

#### THE 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. Amen.**

#### THE BLESSING:

**Celebrant:** May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen.**

**NOTICES:** DAILY DEVOTIONS – team of writers at Good Shepherd, St Margaret’s and Trinity – contact Norm Savill [nsavill@bell.net](mailto:nsavill@bell.net) to be included or check the parish websites.

VESTRY – St Margaret’s Vestry is on the 28 Feb at 12:00 both in-person and via Zoom.

SHROVE TUESDAY – 1<sup>st</sup> of March – Pancakes to Go – call the parish office for details

ASH WEDNESDAY – 2<sup>nd</sup> of March – Signing with Ashes at 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. in person and on-line services

#### LENTEN STUDIES GROUPS;

**The “I am” in John’s Gospel** – for six Thursday of Lent between 12:00 and 1:00 at St Margaret’s starting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March. In-person in the church and on-line.

**Faith in the City:** Conversations in Urban Theology – for the six Friday’s of Lent between 12:00 and 1:00 at Trinity starting on the 4<sup>th</sup> of March. In-person in the church and on-line. Lunch to go.

#### MINI MEALS SALE – Trinity ACW

Trinity ACW do a fundraiser for local Barrie charities by selling prepared meals. They include: **Shepherd's Pies** -Lg. \$7.00/ Sm. \$5.00; **Meat Pies** – Lg. (6") pie - \$7.00/ Sm. (4") pie - \$5.00; **Soups** - Squash, asparagus, beef barley, or bean and bacon -- \$6.00; **Potato Pancakes**, 2 per pkg. - \$1.00. Please **call Mae at 705 734 1888** to place your order and arrange for pickup. Pickup is also available after Church on Sundays but must be ordered ahead.

THE DISMISSAL:

Celebrant: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

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Service of Morning Prayer taken from the The Book of Alternative Services. Copyrite1985 by the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada.

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**Assisting Father Simon today:**

Celebrants/Preacher: Rev. Canon Simon Bell  
1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Laura Johnston  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Pauline Cook  
Gospel: Peter Beckett  
Prayers: Lorraine Chew  
Server: Beth Steffler  
Chancel: Margaret Paradis, Michelle Sinclair  
Sidespersons: John Snow, Kevin Lemoine

**This morning in our worship we remember in our prayers those of our family and friends who have immediate needs and concerns:**

Ruby & Kirk; Cecilia Mowat & Tanya Bowskill; Rose Court; Kim Middaugh; Lorraine W; Cathy Cole; Vayda; Colleen; Wilma; Barb Semsch; Sally; Daniel Leibovich; Steve & Jade; Donna & Ray Wilson; Jim & Barb Tomkins; Stephen Bertelsen; Ron and Karen; Braedy; Gabrielle & Dom & family;

Karyn; Shane & Shelly Finnigan & Families; Rose McIntyre; Rev. Janet Mitchell; Dave & Winnie Fulcher; Cole; Martin Bertelsen; Lorraine W.; Sharron Snider; Peter Hubbard; Sally Smith; Marilyn Lloyd; Theresa & Pete; Valerie; Darlene Jessem; Doreen; Brenda Jessem; Brenda & Brian; Derek; Jaxon Croft; Sean.

**The names below are people in need of ongoing prayers for various reasons so we ask you to please continue to pray for them and their continuing need of God's healing touch and grace:**

Donna & Ray Wilson; Mark Ralston; Jackson; Phil & Kathy C.; Bob Anderson; Nancy Perault; Marco Romita & Rose; Sharon Z; Adesh; Lisa Marie; Sophia L.; Joyce Antony; Bill & Cathy Gray; Alvin Maynard; Dave Lawrence; Livia & Neil Purcell; Sheila Green; Carrie Snow; Sheri Scott; Carl; Mark & Erin; Wally Raymond; Christine; Audrey Moody; Lynda Raye; Garn Mennell; Lee & Jeannie Martin; Michelle Sinclair and mom; Jane & Ron Lewis; Marilyn Foley; Bill Snow; Deborah Hall; Owen; Jen Galicinski; Arlene; Joan Gough; Margie Mills; Eunice Merrett; Jean Wallace; Nancy Dodds; Wendy Goodyer; Do Saunders; Jefferson Jr.; June Osolin; Tanya Wade-Vargas.

**In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for:**

The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & the Middle East

**In the Toronto Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for:**

Social Justice and Advocacy Committee