



Eastern Synod
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

WORSHIP RESOURCES FOR THE SEASON OF LENT

TASK FORCE FOR THE
RESUMPTION OF IN-PERSON WORSHIP

CONTRIBUTORS

REV. ANNE ANDERSON
REV. DR. ELAINE BOONE
REV. SUSAN CLIMO
TREVOR HICKS
REV. JENNIFER HOOVER
REV. ALLEN JORGENSON
DEACON SCOTT KNARR
REV. CHRIS KREJLGAARD
REV. BROOKLYNN LANE
REV. DAVID MAGINLEY
REV. MARTIN MALINA
REV. PHILIP MATHAI
REV. DR. KIMBERLYNN MCNABB
TIM MCNABB
REV. DAN PHANNENHOUR
MERANDA PHANNENHOUR
REV. JOHN POLACOK
REV. JIM SLACK
REV. HEATHER SPENCER-STOLTZ
-
FAITH (OTTAWA)
PEACE (PICKERING)
RESURRECTION (HALIFAX)
ST. PETER'S (KITCHENER)
ST. PETER'S (BRODHAGEN)
ST. PHILIP'S (ETOBICOKE)
TRINITY (LONDON)
YOUNG CANADIAN LUTHERANS

TASK FORCE MEMBERS

REV. JASON D. ASHBY
REV. SUSAN CLIMO
REV. HILLA LAHTINEN
LAURIE KNOTT
REV. DR. MICHAEL PRYSE, BISHOP
REV. ADAM SNOOK, ASSISTANT TO THE BISHOP

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A PANDEMIC PRAYER FOR THE SEASON OF LENT (REV. SUSAN CLIMO)

Eternal God,
as we prepare to mark the season of
Lent during this ongoing season of
pandemic, it seems as if we have
been living Lenten lives for quite some
time now.

We are acutely aware of our
imperfection, frailty and mortality
without any ashes on our foreheads;
we already have been rending our
hearts in sorrow and worry, anger and
fear, discouragement and regret. We
are long past choosing something to
give up, because we (some much
more than others) have become quite
accustomed to giving things up:
freedom of movement, family
gatherings, seeing one another smile,
sitting in a coffee shop with a friend,
reveling in theatre and ballet, sporting
events and live music, communal
singing, a sense of security and
stability.

In this already long season of what
seems like Lenten living, guide us to
true observance: help us return to you,
our God, gracious and merciful, slow to
anger, abounding in steadfast love.

Lead us in turning our hearts and lives
around. Reorient us to follow the one
whose sacrificial love brings
resurrection hope for all and who
invites us to share that hope and love
through serving our neighbour.
In our Saviour's name we pray.

Amen

SYNOD-WIDE LIVESTREAMED ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

Bishop Michael and his Assistants invite you to gather for an Eastern Synod-Wide Livestreamed Ash Wednesday Worship Service at 6:30pm EST (7:30pm AST). Those gathered for this unique Synod-Wide worship opportunity will be invited to impose their own ashes (if ashes have been provided by their local congregation), or make a sign of the cross on their own forehead.

All worship materials and links will be available on the Eastern Synod Website one week in advance. A recording will also be available after the livestream has ended.

Confession & Forgiveness I

As circumstances allow, gather some snow and place it in the baptismal font

As we gather,
may we be honest with you, O God,
and with all of our sisters and brothers.

Silence

God of the cold, dark days of winter...
**wake us from the slumber of apathy and despair
that we might follow your lead
as we confront injustice and fear.**

Silence

God of the approaching, verdant spring...
**turn our dry and lifeless hearts
to tender and compassionate ones,
that we might enter your season of love and mercy.**

Silence

God of death...
**As we grieve the deaths of loved ones
and contemplate our own demise,
help us catch a glimpse of you
in the shadows of our sorrow and grief.**

Silence

God of life...
**Remind us that you alone
transform death into life,
that we might cling to you,
and witness Easter's surprise.**

May the Creator
turn us from the end of things
to new beginnings.
May the Son of grace
free us from our guilt and sin.
And + may the Spirit
coax us to joyful faithfulness.

Amen

At the close of worship allow time for participants to experience what has happened to the snow

Rev. Jim Slack

ST. PETER'S TV MINISTRY

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Kitchener ON has graciously agreed to share pre-recorded selections from their TV Ministry for use by congregations. These videos can be incorporated into your mediated or in-person worship services. Videos can be downloaded directly through our BOX Resource Library as they become available.

Permission is granted for the use of these materials during the season of Lent. Negotiated agreements with artists require videos to be removed from all virtual platforms at the end of Lent.



Confession & Forgiveness II

Rev. Brooklynn Lane

Three in one God,
Creator, Child, and Holy Spirit, ✚
We give thanks for your mercy and ask for forgiveness.
Amen.

A moment for silent reflection

Loving God,
Forgive us.

We have neglected to see the face of Christ in our neighbour.
We have walked past the person begging on the street and neglected to recognize their humanity.

We have become estranged from humanity, forgetting the web of life connects us all.
Forgive us.

We are quick to anger,
to cast judgement,
and our words pierce like swords when we speak from these places.
We let fear, doubt, and unknowingness guide our actions.
Forgive us.

We confess our self-centeredness, need to succeed, and capitalistic-like thinking has turned us from you and your message of justice and love.
Forgive us.

God who meets us in the face of each person we meet,
Who paints the sky with colours that calm the soul,
Who creates a soundscape of rushing rivers,
Who gives grace to the world through the winds of the Holy Spirit,
Open our hearts to be transformed and changed.

You are forgiven.

Through the love of God, in the name of God, ✚ your sins are forgiven.
Baptism remains forever.
God's love is here!

Inspiring God, guide us to be agents of change, knowing that our decisions, our actions and inactions affect all people. Help us to have the courage and strength to move forward, to let our hearts and minds be overflowing with love, grace, and a deep awareness that you are with us, guiding us on the journey.

Compassionate God,
Three in one. – ✚
Amen



KYRIE 2021

Deacon Scott Knarr has composed a new Kyrie, and has shared this timely resource for congregational use. Permission is granted to congregations to copy for local use only. Additional permission details are printed on the first page of the resource. A recording of this resource will be uploaded to the BOX Resource Library when available.

Confession & Forgiveness III

Rev. Jennifer Hoover

Blessed be the holy Trinity,
+ever creating,
ever transforming,
ever enlivening,
source of love and liberation,
our heart and our home. **Amen**

We are unfinished. Our universe is unfinished. We confess the ways in which we attempt to limit God's creative power working in and through us.

Silence

Creating God, shape us into fruitful co-creators and faithful stewards of your design, liberated by your covenant to bless and be a blessing.

In Jesus we have met the one who, with his very life, showed us the power of love to transform the lives of all who are vulnerable. We confess the ways in which we steadfastly cling to our rights and entitlements, refusing to be changed, or even touched, by the world's pain.

Silence

Transforming Christ, move us from comfort to courage, from empathy to engagement, from prayer to policy change.

All things belong together; we are many, and we are one. We confess the ways in which we have allowed separation-from *God-within-me*, from *God-within-you*, from *God-within-creation*- to define us.

Silence

Enlivening Spirit, breathe into us the breath of your grace that we may release our hold on the fear and arrogance that keeps us from knowing wholeness.

Silence

Beloved, God's forgiveness is fulfilled in Christ. Because we are unfinished, we are ever being recreated. Because we have met Jesus, we are ever being transformed. Because we are both many and one, we are ever being enlivened with the Spirit's power-the grace of God, in whom we live and move and have our being. Forgiveness, grace, and love are yours to have ✚ and yours to share, now and always. **Amen**

VIRTUAL CHOIRS



The congregation of **Peace (Pickering)** has provided a number of recorded virtual choir resources for inclusion in mediated or in-person worship.

The congregations of **Trinity (London), Faith (Ottawa) and St. Peter's (Brodhagen)** have collaborated to provide a number of recorded virtual choir resources for inclusion in mediated or in-person worship.

Congregations are responsible for obtaining any necessary licenses for the broadcasting/streaming of these resources.

Prayers of the Day I-VI

Rev. John Polacok

General Lenten Prayer of the Day

O God, may we resist the temptation to find our rest in places that drown out the cries of injustice. May those voices of pain penetrate our hearts, and echo in our ears this Lenten season. May they wake in us the call of your Holy Spirit, to actively meet these tortured strains with love, justice, mercy and compassion in the name of Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

Prayer of the Day - Lent 1

Holy God, gracious Father, in the beginning of all that is, you blessed humanity, and established a covenant with all creatures. You showed time and again your faithfulness and steadfast love for all you have made. As we enter this season of Lent, remind us that as you shower the earth with life giving rain you shower us with the waters of baptism; new life open to us through your grace and mercy, your love and provision in Christ Jesus. Lead us by your Spirit to choose your will, working for justice, and moved by love and kindness for neighbour, to walk humbly with you each day, through Jesus Christ our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. **Amen**

Prayer of the Day – Lent 2

O God, through Abraham and Sarah you showed us the firmness of your covenant so that all the ends of earth would remember and turn to you. May we, on our Lenten journey, turn to you now, trusting that you will accomplish what you promise to accomplish, and confessing that Jesus is the Messiah, lead us to take up our Lord's way of the cross, shattering the illusions that we can save ourselves, for the sake of him who died for us and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God, now and forever. **Amen**

Prayer of the Day – Lent 3

Holy God, you taught your people to live in community by being honest, trustworthy, faithful and respectful of life, family and property. Awaken in us the call of your Spirit that your love would continue to give light to our eyes, and bring voice to our lips; that we might see not as the world sees, but through your eyes, and to speak not as the world speaks, but with your voice. Responsive to the world's cries of injustice, the desperation of the needy, the anger of the wronged, and the despair of the hopeless, may we start overturning some temple tables of our own, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. **Amen**

Prayer of the Day – Lent 4

O God, when your people, the Israelites, were in the wilderness you delivered them from their distress by healing them, and when we were dead in sin you acted through your grace to make us alive again in Christ. Living then as new creations in him and with him, may we reflect your grace at work in our lives, confident and trusting in your love for us, and for all that you have made through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord who lives and reigns with your and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. **Amen**

Prayer of the Day – Lent 5

O God, you have written the law of love on the hearts of your people. Led by the Holy Spirit may we treasure the law of love as Christ before us treasured it, living lives of trusting and loving obedience to you; knowing that one day we will be a part of the harvest of salvation where everyone will be gathered to discover the goodness and fullness of life in your kingdom of peace, through your Son Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. **Amen**

Prayer of the Day VII

Rev. Chris Krejlgard

God of the journey,

As we travel with you toward the cross this Lenten Season, you call us into a time of reflection and repentance. Open our eyes to the needs of the world and the ways of righteousness as we walk in the power of your love. **Amen**

RESOURCES FROM TREVOR HICKS COMPOSITIONS

When We Call Upon Your Name is an anthem of hope that was written at the height of the first wave of the coronavirus pandemic. It is inspired by 2 Corinthians 4:8-9 and includes a repeated paraphrase of that scripture. It is intended to be versatile and effective as a solo or an ensemble choral piece that uses the harmonic options in the score.

Father in Heaven We Pray is one of the twelve hymns from Trevor's collection of congregational hymns entitled 'We Come to Worship.' It uses the imagery of journey, ships, and the unpredictable ocean to paint a picture of the tumultuous paths we encounter in life and how God navigates us through them. The symbolism of ships and the church goes way back. This text can alternatively be paired with the tune BETHANY, better known as "Nearer My God to Thee."



This new setting of **The Lord's Prayer** is Trevor's first new piece of 2021 and marks the first piece of a new collection of prayers and biblical songs set to new music. Trevor reflects: "Understanding the pandemic as a time of renewal when we worship in new ways, there is something to be said about maintaining that what is familiar. With that in mind, my idea to write a new musical setting of The Lord's Prayer was born."

These resources are available as scores, or in pre-recorded video format through our BOX Resource Library. OneLicense users are asked to please report your usage. Otherwise, Trevor Hicks Compositions grants permission for the use of this music in worship.

Eucharistic Prayer I

Rev. Allen Jorgenson

Blessed are you, Holy God
At the creation of the cosmos, of sea and skies, of sun and stars
You anchored mountains deep...
From a mountain top you gave tablets to Moses
Before a mountain cave in sheer silence
you passed before your servant Elijah
Your prophet Micah called the mountains as
witnesses
And on mountains still,
on mountains springing forth from tectonic shifts
You meet your people in silence, in stone, in that
stark strength
Where earth meets heaven
Where granite and slate, where chasm and canyon
proclaim your praise
And so fittingly you made a mountain to be
The seat for your Son who spoke
From a mount, of blessing:
Blessed, are we, for
In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people
for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
And so we remember Mary's labour and Jesus' birth,
Mary's mothering and Jesus' life,
Mary's tears and Jesus' death;
Mary's hope and Jesus' resurrection.
We remember and rejoice and wait with her
At the mount of his ascending, lending
Our prayers to all saints awaiting God's Reign:
Christ's coming again and again.
Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit
That the comforter might comfort us
That Heaven might reign for righteousness sake
That we might rejoice, and be glad, knowing that we are blessed
Blessed indeed because you answer us as we pray: Our Father...

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

Rev. Dr. Elaine Boone has prepared a series of lectures entitled, **Looking Into The Wardrobe** on the topic of "The Chronicles of Narnia" by C.S. Lewis. Three recorded resources are shared as a study tool for use in congregations.

Peace Lutheran Church invites you to join them for a series of Lenten discussions on ZOOM with Rev. David Maginley each Wednesday in Lent at 7pm. **You're Not Who You Think You Are: Lent And The New You** will explore the topics of Ego, Baptism, Bodies, Redemption, Crisis and Resurrection.

This program is funded through the Eastern Synod Mission Grant program.



Eucharistic Prayer II

Rev. Philip Mathai

God our Creator, in you we, with all of creation, find our source.
Yet, from the very beginning we rebuffed your love in various ways,
We lorded over the weak and powerless and those that were different among us and over
the created order.

But you reached out in love and faithfulness to us, through the ages.

In Jesus Christ, your Son, we experience the embodiment of divine love, justice and grace:
As he became one among us,
Had the boldness to cross boundaries of creed, race, and political and religious power,
He was not cowed down by the powers that be in confronting social, racial, and
misogynistic injustice,
He socialized with and befriended the poor, outcasts and the rejected of his times,
Leading to his ultimate sacrifice of himself on the cross.

In the night he was betrayed, Jesus was celebrating the Passover with his friends. During
the meal, he took bread, gave thanks to God for their physical nourishment, broke the
bread and gave it to his disciples at the table with him, saying, "This is my body that has
been broken for you, receive this in faith and remember that I died for you."

After they had finished eating he distributed the wine, saying, "This wine represents the
covenant of forgiveness and love God has made with you, receive this in faith and
remember that I died for you."

Gracious God, as we break the bread and pour the wine, we remember the poor, the
oppressed, the racialized, and the whole world reeling under the yoke of the pandemic.
We remember that Christ's body was broken so that the hungry might be nourished, the
oppressed set free, the racialized experience equity, and the sick experience healing,
rejuvenated with the bread and wine of new hope and new life.

Empower us, O God, to be like Jesus Christ.

Gathering God, we have shared the bread and wine as members of the one body of
Jesus Christ; gather us as your people to share one another's burdens and pains and be
that healing presence in the world, striving for justice, peace, equity and love for all people
and the created order; let us be that family of hope connected by cords that cannot be
broken.

Gather us, O God, as one in Jesus Christ.

Sanctifying God, may the Holy Spirit bless this meal as we partake of it, grant us that spirit
of repentance and send us out into our broken world as your presence of healing and
love.

Amen



LENTEN SELECTIONS FROM ELW

Tim McNabb, Music Director at Resurrection Lutheran Church in
Halifax, NS has undertaken the pandemic project of recording all the
hymns in the ELW. Tim's creative re-imaginings of beloved Lenten
hymns are offered for use by congregations.
Videos for inclusion in mediated or in-person worship can be
downloaded directly through our BOX resource library.

Blessing I

Rev. Heather Spencer

Friends,
we've been travelling the wilderness for over a year now,
and once again we're entering/continuing in the wilderness we call Lent.
We'll follow paths that may seem threatening at times
but promise nuggets of grace when and where we least expect it.
As we journey,
remember you are never alone in the twists and turns of the valleys.
Lift your heart to embrace the mysteries to be revealed.
May Creator be your strong protector,
Redeemer your cool, refreshing water,
and Spirit be your trustworthy guide.
Walk in peace as you discover the Way.
And may God's holy angels accompany you and meet your sojourning needs,
✠ now and forever. **Amen**

Blessing II

Rev. Martin Malina

God of silent creation,
Son of healing touch,
Spirit of desert-leading,
Bless ✠ our Lenten journey.

Blessing III

Rev. Martin Malina

To the pilgrim a promise:
For God's power revealed in suffering and dying,
Loving God embraces all.
For Christ cross-bound in us,
Serving water, bread and towel to one in need.
For Spirit ✠ dying and rising again,
Growing resurrection love, light and life in you.
Forever, to go in peace and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

Blessing IV

Rev. Martin Malina

May dreams of blessed reunion accompany your days
In God's name, the Creator
May friends and strangers embracing, and loud voices singing, be our vision
In God's name, Jesus Christ
May prayers for health and new life inspire hope and joy
In God's name, the Holy Spirit. Amen

LENTEN RESOURCES FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES



Rev. Anne Anderson, and the community of thirdspace_ have shared a **VIRTUAL CALENDAR** to mark the days of the season of Lent. Similar to a traditional "Advent Calendar", this Lenten resource invites participants to mark the season through daily pictures and devotions.

Meranda and Rev. Dan Pannenhour have produced a series of videos for children and families. These monthly **BIBLE BUNCH** videos are further enhanced by accompanying activity sheets. Videos, and print resources, are offered to congregations with permission to share.

Young Canadian Lutherans continue to produce a number of timely resources that can be streamed via their YouTube Channel ([CLICK HERE](#)), and on Social Media. In addition, they regularly host virtual gatherings for youth and young adults in the Eastern Synod and across the ELCIC.

Resurrection Lutheran Church, Halifax offers "Friday Friend" videos which can be streamed via their YouTube Channel ([CLICK HERE](#)).

Rev. Dr. Kimberlynn McNabb also invites you to participate in a weekly DIY Church Craft following the theme, "In Community".

To Click Hyperlinks:
Press CTRL + Click Link

Other resources for Children and Families
[ENGAGE WORSHIP](#)
[ILLUSTRATED MINISTRY](#)
[SALT PROJECT](#)

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