

St. James Cathedral Connections

Sunday, March 15, 2026

Practice, Not Perfection in Lent from Canon Kristen Pitts

This far into Lent, 40 days can feel longer than expected, and missing a day may bring guilt. But Lent is not about perfection. It's about practice. Missing a day (or a week!) does not mean we have failed at faithfulness any more than a musician who misses a day of exercises has failed at their art. Instead, these moments give us the opportunity to return—and in the lifelong journey of faith, returning to God is itself a valuable practice.

What's On

March 17 at 2:00pm • Cybersecurity & Online Fraud – Lecture Room

Join the York Group for an engaging presentation on Cybersecurity and Online Fraud. RCMP Cst. Nikolay Kyosev will share insights from his experience investigating scams and financial crimes. Everyone is welcome. No RSVP. Details: stjamescathedral.ca/community/york-group

March 19 & 26 from 1:15pm-2:00pm • Choral Meditations for Lent

Join us for lunchtime concerts of sacred music and reflection sung by members of the Cathedral Choir and friends. Each 45-minute concert features a centerpiece work of 15th–16th century polyphony on Lenten themes, highlighting lesser-known English and European composers, alongside shorter motets and thematic poetry readings. These meditations offer a time of repose and spiritual reflection, with rare early music gems.

Thursday, March 19: "Mary" - Featuring Robert Fayrfax: *Maria plena virtute*

Thursday, March 26: "At the Cross" - Featuring John Browne: *Stabat mater*

Until March 22 • Faithfulness in the Midst of Suffering during Lent

All are invited to reflect on the Book of Job. Contact info@stjamescathedral.ca or call (416) 364-7865 Ext. 221 to register for the online small group on Wednesdays at 7:00pm.

Questions for Week 4: "Out of the Whirlwind" (Job 38–41)

1. God responds to Job with questions rather than explanations. Why do you think God chooses this way of speaking?
2. After hearing God speak from the whirlwind, Job becomes silent and humble. What do you think caused this change in him?
3. What does God's speech teach us about the difference between God's perspective and our own?
4. God never explains Job's suffering, yet Job learns to trust God more deeply. What might it mean for us to trust God even when we don't get answers?

☀ What's Next ☀

March 27 at 6:00pm • Family Fun Night

Families, children, and youth of all ages are invited to join us for an evening of fun, food, and fellowship! Dinner and light refreshments provided. RSVP: stjamescathedral.ca/familyfunnight/

March 29 • Support the Annual Hot Cross Bun Fundraiser

Support the essential work of the Drop-In program in providing health and foot care clinics. Palm Sunday sales after the 9:00am & 11:00am services. 3 buns for \$5. Cash, credit/debit.

April 3 from 12:00pm to 2:00pm • Step by Step: a Kids' Journey through Holy Week

Children in Grades 1-8 are invited to join in this 2-hour program of stories and hands-on activities that explore Jesus's final days in Jerusalem. RSVP here: stjamescathedral.ca/holyweek2026

April 5 • Easter for Everyone & Annual Egg Hunt

Join us for a special Easter afternoon for families and children. At 1:30pm, we will gather for *Easter for Everyone*, a 30-minute family-friendly service featuring the Children's Community Choir and our Annual Easter Egg Hunt at 2:00pm. RSVP: stjamescathedral.ca/easter

April 26 at 11:00am • St. George's Society

We will welcome members of the St. George's Society to the Choral Eucharist at 11:00am.

April 26 at 4:30pm • Diocesan Confirmation Service

Join us as we celebrate Holy Confirmation and share in this joyful occasion.

May 23 & 24 • Doors Open 2026

Mark your calendars! We are looking forward to welcoming thousands of visitors over the Doors Open weekend at St. James Cathedral and St. James Cemetery. More to come, stay tuned.

☀ What's Needed ☀

March 27 from 9:00am to 12:00pm • Palm Cross Making

Please join the members of the Altar Guild in the West Aisle of the Cathedral to help make the crosses for Palm Sunday. To RSVP, please get in touch with Yosola at yosiegal@hotmail.com

March 28 & 29 • Annual Hot Cross Bun Fundraiser – Volunteers Wanted

Volunteers are needed on March 28 (dough and bun-making sessions) and March 29 (bake, frost, and sell on Palm Sunday). Register here: stjamescathedral.ca/hotcrossbuns

April 5 at 2:00pm • Annual Easter Egg Hunt - Volunteers Needed

We need help hiding/replenishing eggs, supervising the hunt, or serving refreshments. No experience needed, all ages welcome. Contact Karyne Whalen at kwhalen@stjamescathedral.ca

Drop-In • Call for Spring & Summer Volunteers

Free on Fridays? The Drop-In welcomes your support. Details: Kathy Biasi- Outreach Manager at kbiasi@stjamescathedral.ca, 416-364-7865 Ext. 221 or stjamescathedral.ca/dropin

All are welcome to join us for Holy Week and Easter services at St. James



Palm Sunday: March 29

8:00am: Said Eucharist
9:00am: Sung Eucharist. *Blessing of the Palms; Passion Reading from Matthew*
11:00am: Choral Eucharist. *Blessing of the Palms; Passion Reading from Matthew*
4:30pm: Choral Evensong

Holy Monday: March 30

8:00am: Holy Eucharist
8:30am: Morning Prayer (in-person/online)
12:15pm: Holy Eucharist
6:00pm: The Way of the Cross, followed by a reading of “Lent” by Mary Druce

Holy Tuesday: March 31

8:00am: Holy Eucharist
8:30am: Morning Prayer (in-person/online)
11:00am: Chrism Mass
6:00pm: The Way of the Cross

Holy Wednesday: April 1

8:00am: Holy Eucharist
8:30am: Morning Prayer (in-person/online)
12:15pm: Holy Eucharist
6:00pm: “TeneBrass” *A Service of Shadows, Tenebrae & Brass*

Maundy Thursday: April 2

8:30am: Online Morning Prayer
7:00pm: Maundy Thursday Liturgy
Holy Eucharist; Institution of the Lord’s Supper; Foot Washing; Stripping of the Altar; Watch at the Altar of Repose and reading of “Lent” by Mary Druce

Good Friday: April 3

11:00am: Confessions at St. George’s Chapel
12:00pm-2:00pm: Children & Youth program – Good Friday for Kids (New - Please RSVP)
12:00pm-3:00pm: Good Friday Liturgy

Holy Saturday: April 4

8:30pm: The Great Vigil of Easter with Holy Baptism

Easter Day: April 5

8:00am: Said Eucharist
9:00am: Sung Eucharist
11:00am: Choral Eucharist
1:30pm: Easter for Everyone with Children’s Community Choir (New)
2:00pm: Easter Egg Hunt (Please RSVP)
4:30pm: Choral Evensong

For more information and to RSVP (Good Friday for kids and Easter Egg Hunt), please visit:
stjamescathedral.ca/holyweek2026

This Week at St. James

Canon Kristen Pitts will be away from March 16-22.

Organ Recital: Tuesday at 1:00pm. Organist: Jean-Paul Feo (St. James Cathedral).

Scripture Circle: In-person on Wednesdays at 11:00am in the Cathedral Centre.

Drop-In: Fridays 1:30pm-3:30pm. Details: stjamescathedral.ca/community/dropin

Children's Choir: No rehearsal on March 21. Rehearsals resume on March 28 at 9:30am.

Info: stjamescathedral.ca/childrenschoir/

St. James Cathedral Sunday Services

We offer a range of services that reflect our Anglican heritage.

8:00am Said Eucharist Simple Communion service in traditional language

9:00am Worship Together All-ages Communion service with music*

11:00am Choral Eucharist Sensory-rich service with the Cathedral Choir & Sunday School*

4:30pm Choral Evensong Meditative prayer service with the St. James Cathedral Choir

**Please join us for Coffee Hour in Snell Hall after the 9:00am and 11:00am services.*

Next Sunday's Scripture: Mar. 22 – The 5th Sunday in Lent

Job 42:1-6, 10-17; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45

Weekdays at St. James

Morning Prayer (Online): Join us Monday-Saturday at 8:30am on YouTube or join our live Zoom Chapel Monday-Friday. Details: stjamescathedral.ca/morningprayer

Holy Eucharist: Monday-Saturday at 12:15pm in St. George's Chapel

St. James Cathedral: Open for prayer & tourism, 10:00am-3:00pm, Monday-Saturday

St. James Cathedral Centre: Open 9:00am-4:00pm, Monday-Friday

Weekly Newsletter: Sign up at stjamescathedral.ca. Confirm your email after registration

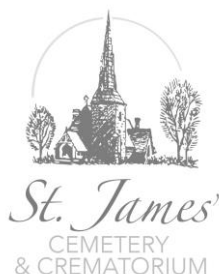
DID YOU KNOW?

St. James Cathedral is open for prayer from
10:00am - 3:00pm every Monday - Saturday.

Thank you for your support!

Your generosity ensures that St. James Cathedral remains a symbol of God's presence in our city.

Scan to donate or visit stjamescathedral.ca/donate/give-online/



St. James Cemetery & Crematorium

Monthly Eucharist First Wednesday of each month at 11:00am

Did you know? St. James Cemetery offers a full range of cremation and burial services. Pre-planning assures your wishes are honoured and provides support for your loved ones as they grieve. Our caring team is here to help. For more information, please visit stjamescemetery.ca or contact us at 416-964-9194 or cemetery@stjamescathedral.ca



*A Service of Readings and Songs
of Justice and Freedom*

March 15, 2026 at 4:30pm

The Cathedral Church of St. James

Diocese of Toronto • Anglican Church of Canada

Welcome to St. James Cathedral

This sacred land is the territory of several Indigenous Nations - the Wendat, the Haudenosaunee, and the Anishnaabe, and the Métis peoples, with special recognition to the Mississaugas of New Credit. We also acknowledge that we are on the shores of Niigaani-gichigami/Lake Ontario. This territory is governed by the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Treaty, an agreement between the Haudenosaunee Confederacy and the Anishnaabe Confederacy to peaceably share and sustain the life of the Great Lakes. In the spirit of that Treaty we seek to place at the centre of our gatherings the values of respectful reciprocity, diversity, peace, responsibility, and mutual aid.

Liturgical Note:

*In the context of Christian Liturgy, Israel does not refer to the current political state, but either to the historic Hebrews of the ancient Near East or, in Christian theology, to all people who put their faith and trust in Jesus Christ.
For more information, visit our website by clicking the QR code on the right.*



Want to stay informed about what is happening at your Cathedral?
Sign up for **E-Connections** on our website at www.stjamescathedral.ca
(scroll to the bottom of the page).

Questions? Speak to a sidesperson – the people wearing gold name tags.

Children & Families

Sunday School meets every week at the 11:00am service.
Please email Karyne Whalen at kwhalen@stjamescathedral.ca for more information.
For more information on our Children's Community Choir,
please email Director Cara Halpin at chalpin@stjamescathedral.ca

Accessibility

A Wheelchair Accessible All-gender Washroom is located
at the front of the Cathedral through the doors by the pulpit.
Assisted hearing devices are available from the sidespersons.

Coffee Hour

Please join us at Snell Hall following the 9:00am and 11:00am service.

Parking

There are a range of affordable parking lots available around the Cathedral.
Please see the leaflets at the back of the Cathedral or
online at stjamescathedral.ca/contact for more information.

Connect with the Cathedral

Visit our website at stjamescathedral.ca | Follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/stjamesto

*As this is a very public and open space, please be aware of your personal belongings.
Do not leave them unattended in the Cathedral or in the Cathedral Centre.*

Welcome to St. James Cathedral

<i>Officiant</i>	The Reverend Canon Dr. Stephen Fields <i>Vicar of St. James Cathedral & Sub-Dean of Toronto</i>
<i>Assisting Clergy</i>	The Reverend Matthew Waterman <i>Assistant Curate of St. James Cathedral</i>
<i>Readers</i>	The Reverend Matthew Waterman (1 st) Edwin Hawken (2 nd) Tina Conlon (3 rd) Brainerd Blyden-Taylor (4 th) Dorothea Merritt (5 th) Susan Ida Boucaud (6 th) Lucy Fields (7 th)
<i>Music Director & Organist</i>	Thomas Bell
<i>Associate Organist</i>	Jean-Paul Feo
<i>Wayne Vance Organ Scholar</i>	<i>Joshua Duncan Lee</i>
<i>Sung by</i>	Members of the Choir of St. James Cathedral

*Welcome! We are glad you have joined us for worship.
Please ensure that cell phones are muted.*

A Service of Readings and Songs of Justice and Freedom

Our practice at to stand for the choir processions and congregational hymns; to sit for Bible readings, and to kneel or sit for prayer. You are invited to assume postures that support your comfortable and prayerful engagement in this service.

Welcome

Hymn

All Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace;
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

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Opening Prayer

Phil Chick, Adapted

Officiant God of love, bless us as we strive to find our way to true racial reconciliation. Open our eyes to all that goes on around us that contribute to racial injustice. Grant us the knowledge to understand all that we do, both personally and as a society, which prevents us from recognizing and

defending the dignity of every individual, and especially at this time, those of colour who continue to feel the pain of exclusion much pain. Grant us the grace to reflect on our own actions and inactions that contribute to this pain. And grant us the strength to take action to alleviate this pain and end racial injustice in all its forms. In your name, we pray.

People **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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.**

Music **Nasadiki – Amen**

arr. Boniface Mganga

Choir I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the fellowship of the saints, the removal of sins, the resurrection of the body. Amen.

First Reading

Reader **Pharaoh Enslaves the Children of God**

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, 'Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land.' Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labour. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labour. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

(Exodus 1:8-14)

"If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor."

(Archbishop Desmond Tutu)

Thanks be to God.

Music **Senzeni Na?**
Choir Senzeni Na?

Traditional South African folk song

What have we done?

Second Reading

Reader **Moses is Sent to Liberate God's People**

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed.

Then Moses said, 'I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up.' When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, 'Moses, Moses!' And he said, 'Here I am.' Then he said, 'Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.'

He said further, 'I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. Then the LORD said, 'I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.'

(Exodus 3:1-10)

"Justice is what love looks like in public".

(Professor Cornel West)

Thanks be to God.

Music **When Israel Was In Egypt's Land**

African American spiritual;
arranger: Drew Rutz

All When Israel was in Egypt's land, let my people go!
oppressed so hard they could not stand, let my people go!

Refrain

*Go down, Moses, way down in Egypt's land;
tell old Pharaoh let my people go!*

The Lord told Moses what to do: let my people go!
to lead the Hebrew people through, let my people go! *Refrain*

They journeyed on at God's command let my people go!
They came at last to Canaan's land let my people go! *Refrain*

Lord, help us all from bondage flee, let my people go!
and let us all in Christ be free, let my people go! *Refrain*

Third Reading

Reader

Justice as the Order of the Universe

God has taken his place in the divine council; in the midst of the gods he holds judgement: 'How long will you judge unjustly and show partiality to the wicked? Give justice to the weak and the orphan; maintain the right of the lowly and the destitute. Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked.'

They have neither knowledge nor understanding, they walk around in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are shaken. I say, 'You are gods, children of the Most High, all of you; nevertheless, you shall die like mortals, and fall like any prince.' Rise up, O God, judge the earth; for all the nations belong to you! *(Psalm 82)*

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly."

(The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.)

Thanks be to God.

Music

Goodness Is Stronger Than Evil

Tune: Goodness Is Stronger

Choir

Goodness is stronger than evil; love is stronger than hate;
light is stronger than darkness; life is stronger than death.
Victory is ours, victory is ours through him who loved us.

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Fourth Reading

Reader

Amos Tells of God's Challenge to all who Profess Faith

Alas for you who desire the day of the LORD! Why do you want the day of the LORD? It is darkness, not light; as if someone fled from a lion, and was met by a bear; or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall, and was bitten by a snake. Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it? I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. Even though you offer me your burnt-offerings and grain-offerings, I will not accept them; and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon. Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. (Amos 5:18-24)

“The search for justice and security, the struggle for equality of opportunity, the quest for tolerance and harmony, the pursuit of human dignity - these are moral imperatives which we must work towards and think about on a daily basis.”
(The Aga Khan IV)

Thanks be to God.

Music

Come Now, O Prince of Peace

Tune: O-So-So

Choir

Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one body;
come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile your people.

Come now, O God of love, make us one body;
come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile your people.

Come now and set us free, O God, our Saviour;
come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile all nations.

Come, Hope of unity, make us one body;
come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile all nations.

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Fifth Reading

Reader

Mary Testifies to God's Liberating Work

And Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy

is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.’
(Luke 1:46-55)

“It is impossible to struggle for civil rights, equal rights for blacks, without including whites. Because equal rights, fair play, justice, are all like the air: we all have it, or none of us has it. That is the truth of it.”

(Maya Angelou)

Thanks be to God.

Music

Jesu Tawa Pano – Jesus We are Here

Choir

*Jesu tawa pano;
tawa pano mu zita renyu.*

Jesus, we are here;
we are here for you.

Text & Music: Patrick Matsikenyiri.
Text: © 1990,1996, General Board of Global Ministries.
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Sixth Reading

Reader

Jesus Proclaims the Salvation Plan

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.’

(Luke 4:14-19)

“Freedom and justice cannot be parceled out in pieces to suit political convenience. I don't believe you can stand for freedom for one group of people and deny it to others”.

(Coretta Scott King)

Thanks be to God.

Music

Choir

Jah is My Keeper

Jah is my keeper.

Jah is my health and my strength; so whom shall I fear?

He is the shield upon my right hand and my left hand;
of whom shall I be afraid?

Jah is my keeper.

Jah is my light and my salvation; so whom shall I fear?

He is my guide throughout this creation;
of whom shall I be afraid?

Jah is my keeper.

Jah is my guide in my resting and my rising; so whom shall I fear?

He is my shield when I step out and forward in,
of whom shall I be afraid?

Jah is my keeper.

Jah is my guide when Philistines come down on me! So whom shall I fear?

He is my shield when mine enemies come to devour me;
of whom shall I be afraid?

Jah is my keeper.

Jah is my guide in the pestilence of darkness; so whom shall I fear?

He is my shield from the vampire,
of whom shall I be afraid?

Jah, Jah, Jah, Jah is my keeper.

Text: Peter Tosh, para. Psalm 27;
Music: Peter Tosh, arr. Audley Davidson.

Seventh Reading

Reader

Paul Declares our Unity in Christ

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

(Galatians 3:23-29)

“Throughout history, it has been the inaction of those who could have acted; the indifference of those who should have known better; the silence of the voice of justice when it mattered most; that has made it possible for evil to triumph.”
(Emperor Haile Selassie)

Thanks be to God.

Music

Choir

Freedom Trilogy

Kyrie eleison,
Christe eleison,
Kyrie eleison.

Haleluya! Pelo tsa rona

Haleluya! Pelo tsa rona, di thabile kaofela.

*Ke Morena Jeso, ya re dumeletseng,
ya re dumeletseng ho tsamaisa evangedi.*

Siya hamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkos.

Siya hamba, hamba, siya hamba, hamba,

Siya hamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkos.

We are marching in the light of God.

We are marching, marching; we are marching, marching.

We are marching in the light of God

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me! I once was lost
But now am found, was blind but now I see.

Haleluya! Pelo tsa rona: South African traditional song; Amazing Grace text: John Newton;
Music arr. Paul Halley.

An offering will now be taken to support the life and ministry of the Cathedral.

A Reflection

A Prayer

Curate

In the effort to dismantle racism, we struggle with those institutions and systems that keep racism alive by perpetuating the lie that some members of our family are inferior and others superior. Create in each of us a new mind and heart that will enable us to see brothers, sisters and siblings in the faces of those divided by racial categories. Give us the grace and strength to rid ourselves of racial stereotypes that oppress some in our family while providing entitlements to others. Help us to create a nation that embraces the hopes and fears of oppressed people of color here and

around the world. Help us to heal our family, making us one with you and one another and empowered by your Holy Spirit.

People **Amen.**

Hymn at the Collection

Tune: Noël Nouvelet

All Jesus Christ is waiting, waiting in the streets;
no one is his neighbour, all alone he eats.
Listen, Lord Jesus, I am lonely too;
make me, friend or stranger, fit to wait on you.

Jesus Christ is raging, raging in the streets,
where injustice spirals and real hope retreats.
Listen, Lord Jesus, I am angry too;
in the Kingdom's causes, let me rage with you.

Jesus Christ is healing, healing in the streets;
curing those who suffer, touching those he greets.
Listen, Lord Jesus, I have pity too;
let my care be active, healing, just like you.

Jesus Christ is dancing, dancing in the streets,
where each sign of hatred he, with love, defeats.
Listen, Lord Jesus, I should triumph too;
where good conquers evil, let me dance with you.

Jesus Christ is calling, calling in the streets,
'Who will join my journey? I will guide their feet.'
Listen, Lord Jesus, let my fears be few;
walk one step before me, I will follow you.

Text: John L. Bell and Graham Maule; Music: Melody French (15th cent.).
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Offertory Prayer

Officiant God of grace, as we offer these tokens of our lives and labour, we remember the sacrifice of your Son who gave himself in death that we may live. May these gifts be used to bring hope to the weary, healing to the broken, and light to those in darkness, and may we be drawn ever closer to your loving heart. In Christ we pray

People **Amen.**

A Closing Prayer

Prayer by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr

Curate When our eyes do not see the gravity of racial justice, shake us from our slumber and open our eyes, O Lord. When out of fear we are frozen into inaction, give us a spirit of bravery, O Lord. When we try our best but say the wrong things, give us a spirit of humility, O Lord. When the chaos of this dies down, give us a lasting spirit of solidarity, O Lord. When it becomes easier to point fingers outwards, help us to examine our own hearts, O Lord. God of truth, in your wisdom, enlighten us. God of hope in your kindness, heal us. Creator of all people, in your generosity, guide us. Racism breaks your heart, break our hearts for what breaks yours, O Lord. Ever present God, you called us to be in relationship with one another and promised to dwell wherever two or three are gathered. In our community, we are many different people; we come from many different places, have many different cultures. Open our hearts that we may be bold in finding the riches of inclusion and the treasures of diversity among us. We pray in faith.

People **Amen.**

The Grace

Officiant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore.

People **Amen.**

The Dismissal

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

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