



# St. George on Yonge Anglican

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Thursday, April 17, 2025

7:30 p.m. – Communion with washing of the feet &  
solemn stripping of the Sanctuary

## *Welcome*

*Hearing Assistive Devices and Large Print service leaflets are available  
Please ask an usher for assistance*



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### The Gathering of the Community

#### How it began

*Reader* They gathered in an upper room to share a meal. And the names of the apostles were these: Simon, called Peter; his brother Andrew; James and his brother John – the sons of Zebedee; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus; Thaddaeus; Simon the patriot; and, Judas Iscariot.

And also the women who travelled with him: Mary of Magdalene; Joanna; Susanna.

Seeing that we are surrounded with such a great cloud of witnesses to faith – those who ran their race before us and have entered into their rest, we join with them now to praise your name.

For the first apostles, and for all those who have kept the light of the gospel burning down the centuries, we give thanks. For those who went before us and passed the light on to us, especially those whom we remember now ... we give thanks.

Come, Lord Jesus, take your rightful place as host at this, your table.

#### Hymn #54 “Bread of the World, in Mercy Broken”

Text by Reginald Heber

Bread of the world, in mercy broken,  
Wine of the soul in mercy shed,  
by whom the words of life were spoken,  
and in whose death our sins are dead:  
look on the heart by sorrow broken;  
look on the tears by sinners shed,  
and be thy feast to us the token  
that by thy grace our souls are fed.

#### Opening Prayer

*Celebrant* God of our journey, God of surprise, God with us, as the day ends and the shadows lengthen we draw together to be with your Son, just as those first disciples gathered in an upper room all those centuries ago little knowing what was about to happen.

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On this holy night we meet in trust. We meet in expectation, even if we do not know what to expect, or for what we should hope. God of the changing seasons, God who meets us on the road to Emmaus, we listen in silence, and wait for your voice...

**All**      **Amen.**

## The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading:

Exodus 12:1–14

*Reader*      A reading from the Book of Exodus.

<sup>1</sup>The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: <sup>2</sup>This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. <sup>3</sup>Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. <sup>4</sup>If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbour in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. <sup>5</sup>Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. <sup>6</sup>You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. <sup>7</sup>They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. <sup>8</sup>They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. <sup>9</sup>Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. <sup>10</sup>You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. <sup>11</sup>This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the Lord. <sup>12</sup>For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgements: I am the Lord. <sup>13</sup>The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

<sup>14</sup>This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 116:1,9–17

**Refrain:**

I will lift up the cup of sal - va - tion.

I love the Lord, because he has heard  
the voice of my supplication,  
because he has inclined his ear to me  
whenever I called upon him.

I believed, even when I said,  
“I have been brought very low.”  
In my distress I said,  
“No one can be trusted.”

**Refrain**

How shall I repay the Lord  
for all the good things he has done for  
me?

I will lift up the cup of salvation  
and call upon the name of the Lord.

**Refrain**

I will fulfil my vows to the Lord  
in the presence of all his people.  
Precious in the sight of the Lord  
is the death of his servants.

**Refrain**

O Lord, I am your servant  
and the child of your handmaid;  
you have freed me from my bonds.

I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving  
and call upon the name of the Lord.

**Refrain**

I will fulfil my vows to the Lord  
in the presence of all his people.  
In the courts of the Lord’s house,  
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.  
Hallelujah!

**Refrain**

Second Reading:

I Corinthians 11:23–26

**Reader** A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

<sup>23</sup> For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, <sup>24</sup> and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, “This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” <sup>25</sup> In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” <sup>26</sup> For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

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

## Acclamation

*Cantor* Your words, O Lord, are spirit and life; You have the words of everlasting life.

*People* **Your words, O Lord, are spirit and life; You have the words of everlasting life.**

*Cantor* A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another as I have loved you.

*People* **Your words, O Lord, are spirit and life; You have the words of everlasting life.**

## Holy Gospel:

John 13:1–17,31b–35

*Subdeacon* The Lord be with you.

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

*Subdeacon* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

<sup>1</sup> Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. <sup>2</sup> The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper <sup>3</sup> Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, <sup>4</sup> got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. <sup>5</sup> Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. <sup>6</sup> He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" <sup>7</sup> Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." <sup>8</sup> Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." <sup>9</sup> Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" <sup>10</sup> Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you." <sup>11</sup> For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

<sup>12</sup> After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you?" <sup>13</sup> You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. <sup>14</sup> So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. <sup>15</sup> For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. <sup>16</sup> Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. <sup>17</sup> If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them . . ."

<sup>31b</sup> . . . Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup> If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify

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him at once. <sup>33</sup> Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' <sup>34</sup> I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

*Subdeacon* The Gospel of Christ.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

The Sermon

*A time for silent reflection is kept.*

## **Prayer before foot washing**

*Reader:* On the night before his death, Jesus set an example for his friends by washing their feet, an act of humble service. He taught that strength and growth in the life of the kingdom of God come not by power, authority, or even miracle, but by such lowly service.

So we are invited to come to this table – with empty hands and dirty feet.

We are invited to come as a guest, set free to serve each other,  
and be served by God.

## **Hymns during Washing of the Feet**

**Hymn #500 "Sister, Let Me Be Your Servant"**

Text by Richard Gillard

1 Sister, let me be your servant,  
let me be as Christ to you;  
pray that I may have the grace to  
let you be my servant too.

2 We are pilgrims on a journey,  
fellow travellers on the road;  
we are here to help each other  
walk the mile and bear the load.

3 I will hold the Christ-light for you  
in the nighttime of your fear;  
I will hold my hand out to you,  
speak the peace you long to hear.

4 I will weep when you are weeping;  
when you laugh I'll laugh with you.  
I will share your joy and sorrow  
till we've seen this journey through.

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5 When we sing to God in heaven,  
we shall find such harmony,  
born of all we've known together  
of Christ's love and agony.

6 Brother, let me be your servant,  
let me be as Christ to you;  
pray that I may have the grace to  
let you be my servant too.

**Hymn #553 "Ubi Caritas et Amor"** I John 4:16b; English paraphrase from Taizé Community (France)

Live in charity and steadfast love,  
live in charity; God will dwell with you.

**Repeat as needed.**

## The Peace

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*Celebrant* The peace of Christ be always with you.

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

## The Celebration of the Eucharist

**Offertory Hymn #74 "For the Bread Which You Have Broken"** Text by Louis Fitzgerald Benson

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|--|---|
| 1 For the bread which you have broken,<br>for the wine which you have poured,<br>for the words which you have spoken,<br>now we give you thanks, O Lord. | 3 in your service, Lord, defend us;<br>help us to obey your word;<br>in the world to which you send us,<br>let your kingdom come, O Lord! |
| 2 By these pledges that you love us,<br>by your gift of peace restored,<br>by your call to realms above us,<br>consecrate our lives, O Lord:             |   |

## The Prayer over the Gifts

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Gracious God, we spread this table to remember the loving sacrifice of Jesus Christ, your Son. Accept all we offer you this day. Bind us together in his love and in the love he has commanded us to bring one another; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

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*Celebrant* It is indeed right to give you thanks, God most holy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. For on this night he took a towel, and taking the form of a servant washed the feet of his disciples. He gave us a new commandment that we should love one another as he has loved us. Knowing that his hour had come, in his great love he gave this supper to his disciples to be a memorial of his passion, that we might proclaim his death until he comes again, and feast with him in his kingdom. Therefore earth unites with heaven to sing a new song of praise; we too join with angels and archangels as they proclaim your glory without end:

*Celebrant* Accept our praises, heavenly God, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood; who on this very night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

*All* **To you be glory and praise for ever.**

*Celebrant* In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

*All* **To you be glory and praise for ever.**

*Celebrant* Therefore, holy God, we remember now his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.  
Christ is the bread of life:

*All* **When we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
we proclaim your death and resurrection, Lord Jesus,  
until you come in glory.**

*Celebrant* Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **To you be glory and praise for ever.**

## 9

*Celebrant* Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, God Almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

*All* ***Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.***

### **The Lord's Prayer** [Michael Leach]

*Celebrant* As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,

*People* **Our Father in heav'n, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And 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.**

### **The Breaking of the Bread #7**

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*Celebrant* We break this bread,

*People* **Communion in Christ's body once broken.**

*Celebrant* Let your Church be the wheat which bears its fruit in dying.

*People* **If we have died with him, we shall live with him; if we hold firm, we shall reign with him.**

### **Lamb of God** [Hymn #690]

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*People* **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**

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*Celebrant* The gifts of God for the People of God.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

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#### ***All are welcome to receive communion with us***

*As the ushers pass your pew, please line up in the centre aisle.*

- ***To receive a blessing***, as you reach the priest with the bread, cross your arms over your chest. Return to your seat after receiving the blessing.
- ***To receive the bread***, hold your hands in front of you, palms up.

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- *To receive the wine from the cup, take the bottom of the cup and the base and guide it to your mouth.*
  - *If you prefer to take only the bread, you may indicate this to the cup bearer by crossing your arms over your chest, or simply walking past them.*
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## Communion Hymn #64 “Author of Life Divine”

Text by John Wesley

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|--|--|
| 1 Author of life divine,<br>who hast a table spread,<br>furnished with mystic wine<br>and everlasting bread,<br>preserve the life thyself hast given,<br>preserve the life thyself hast given,<br>and feed and train us up for heaven. | 2 Our needy souls sustain<br>with fresh supplies of love,<br>till all thy life we gain,<br>and all thy fulness prove,<br>and, strengthened by thy perfect grace,<br>and, strengthened by thy perfect grace,<br>behold without a veil thy face. |
|--|--|

## Prayer after Communion

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*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*People* **O God, on the night he was betrayed Jesus washed the feet of his disciples and gave himself in a meal of bread and wine. May we who celebrate these signs of his love, serve and give ourselves to others in his name and to your glory; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

## How it Ended

*Reader* After the meal Jesus and his disciples sang a hymn and they went out to the Mount of Olives. Jesus said to them, ‘All of you will run away and leave me, for the scripture says, “God will kill the shepherd and the sheep of the flock will be scattered”.’ Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane. He was arrested and they all forsook him and fled.

## Hymn #190 “Go to Dark Gethsemane”

[Tune: Petra: Hymn #522]  
Text by James Montgomery

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|---|--|
| 1 Go to dark Gethsemane,<br>ye that feel the tempter’s power.<br>Your Redeemer’s conflict see;<br>watch with him one bitter hour;<br>turn not from his griefs away;<br>learn of Jesus Christ to pray. | 2 Follow to the judgement hall;<br>view the Lord of life arraigned.<br>O the wormwood and the gall!<br>O the grief his soul sustained!<br>Shun not suffering, shame, or loss;<br>learn of him to bear the cross. |
|---|--|

- 3 Calvary's mournful mountain climb;  
 there, adoring at his feet,  
 mark the miracle of time—  
 God's own sacrifice complete.  
 "It is finished," hear him cry;  
 learn of Jesus Christ to die.

## The Solemn Stripping of the Sanctuary

Poem:

*Reader*

Sit here while I pray  
 The sorrow in my heart is so great,  
 It almost crushes me  
 Stay here and keep watch with me

God, I have shown you glory on earth;  
 I have finished the work you gave me

I have given my disciples your message  
 And the world...it hated them.

Yet I don't pray  
 That they may be taken out of the world  
 I pray that they may be kept from evil

Silence.

Sleeping, Peter?  
 Can you not even keep awake for an hour?

Father I pray not only for my friends,  
 But for all who believe their words.

I pray that they may be one,  
 Just as you and I are one.

Father the world does not know you,  
 But I know you and they know you.

So that the world may believe  
 That you sent me  
 May they be one...

May they be one...

Peter, keep watch and pray.  
 Don't be drawn by temptation.  
 The spirit is willing,  
 but , oh , the flesh  
 The flesh is weak.

God...If it is possible  
 If it is possible...  
 Take away this cup of suffering from me  
 But let it not be what I want  
 Let it be what you want...

Are you still sleeping?  
 Are you still taking your ease?  
 The hour has come for the Son of Man  
 To be handed over

Are you still sleeping?

#### Garden Watch

*After his last meal, Jesus took his disciples with him out to a garden that overlooked the city of Jerusalem. Shortly afterward he went off to pray by himself. As he prayed, he wept and struggled with what would come next, following his arrest. He begged his friends: "Watch and pray with me."*

*So we do—we try. Let us enter this time of silence and reflection.  
 Stay as long as you like and depart in silence.*

#### Hymn "Stay with Me"

Text by Jacques Berthier

Stay with me,  
 remain here with me,  
 watch and pray,  
 watch and pray.

***Repeated.***

No offering is being taken as part of our liturgy tonight. However, there is a collection plate in the Narthex if you wish to make an offering.

## **Territorial Acknowledgement**

The land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee (ho-den-oh-show-nee) and Anishinabek (ah-nish-nah-bek) Nations, and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. This territory was the subject of the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement between the Iroquois Confederacy and the Ojibwe and allied nations to peaceably share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes. This territory is also covered by the Toronto Purchase. Today, Toronto is home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island.

We recognize the enduring presence of Indigenous peoples connected to and on this land. We are grateful for the opportunity to gather on this territory and work in this community, and we commit ourselves to the work of reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.