

**St. John's Anglican Church, Ida
Parish of Ida and Omemee**

**The Fifth Sunday in Lent
A Service of Morning Prayer**

March 22, 2026

Welcome to Worship this morning!

*We invite you to participate fully in the service,
and to remain following the service for Soup and Sandwiches
during this week's Coffee Hour.*

*Children are welcome to attend our Children's Program
or to remain with their families.*

*As we worship, at any time during the service, please assume
whatever physical position is best for you.*

The Gathering of the Community

*I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever lives
and believes in me shall never die. (John 11:25, 26)*

Opening Hymn CP318 *Rejoice Today with One Accord*

**Rejoice today with one accord,
sing out with exultation;
rejoice and praise our mighty Lord,
whose arm hath brought salvation.**

**His works of love proclaim
the greatness of his name,
for he is God alone
who hath his mercy shown;
let all his saints adore him!**

**When in distress to him we cried,
he heard our sad complaining.
O trust in him, whate'er betide;
his love is all-sustaining.**

**Triumphant songs of praise
to him our hearts shall raise;
now every voice shall say,
“O praise our God always”;
let all his saints adore him!**

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

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
His mercy endures for ever.

Almighty God,
**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.**

Confession and Absolution

Dear Friends in Christ, as we prepare for the Paschal Feast, continuing in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers, let us make our hearts ready to renew the covenant of our baptism. Let us kneel before our Creator and Redeemer.

Please kneel as you are able.

Let us ask God to bring to light the things now hidden in darkness, and to disclose to us the secret purposes of our hearts. And most especially, let us remember the covenant of our baptism and test our hearts and conscience to know how faithfully we have striven to safeguard the integrity of God's creation, respecting, sustaining and renewing the life of the earth.

Silence is kept.

Prayer of Confession

Most merciful God,
**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.**

Absolution

Almighty God, have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us
from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness,
and keep us in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Kyrie Eleison (*sung*)

**Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us.**

The Collect of the Day

Let us pray.
Almighty God,
**your Son came into the world to free us from sin and
death. Breathe upon us with the power of your Spirit, that
we may be raised to new life in Christ, and serve you in
holiness and righteousness all our days; through the
same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

A brief silence is kept. You are invited to kneel or stay seated for the prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray:

**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 forever.
Amen.**

Loving God,
**thank you for life. Thank you for making us and loving us.
Thank you for bringing us together to learn about you.
Please bless our Sunday School teachers and children,
and help us all to know you better. We pray in the name of
Jesus. Amen.**

Children's Hymn *BB699 Saviour, Teach Me Day by Day*
(Tune CP160)

**Saviour, teach me day by day,
love's sweet lesson—to obey;
sweeter lesson cannot be,
loving him who first loved me.**

**With a child's glad heart of love,
at thy bidding may I move;
prompt to serve and follow thee
loving him who first loved me.**

**Teach me thus thy steps to trace,
strong to follow in thy grace;
learning how to love from thee;
loving him who first loved me.**

**Love in loving finds employ,
in obedience all her joy;
ever new that joy will be,
loving him who first loved me.**

**Thus may I rejoice to show
that I feel the love I owe;
singing, till thy face I see,
of his love who first loved me.**

The Proclamation of the Word

We listen and reflect on God's word.

God of the living word,
**give us the faith to receive your message,
the wisdom to know what it means,
and the courage to put it into practice.
In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

The First Reading

A reading from the Book of Ezekiel (37:1-14)

The hand of the LORD was on me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. He asked me, "Son of man, can these bones live?"

I said, "Sovereign LORD, you alone know."

Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD! This is what

the Sovereign LORD says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the LORD.”

So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them.

Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to it, ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Come, breath, from the four winds and breathe into these slain, that they may live.’” So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army.

Then he said to me: “Son of man, these bones are the people of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.’ Therefore prophesy and say to them: ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: My people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. Then you, my people, will know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the LORD have spoken, and I have done it, declares the LORD.’”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm (130)

**Out of the depths have I called you, O Lord;
Lord, hear my voice;
let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.**

**If you, Lord, were to note what is done amiss,
O Lord, who could stand?**

**For there is forgiveness with you;
therefore you shall be feared.**

**I wait for you, O Lord;
my soul waits for you;
in your word is my hope.**

**My soul waits for you, O Lord,
more than sentinels for the morning,
more than sentinels for the morning.**

**O Israel, wait for the Lord,
for with the Lord there is mercy;
with whom there is plenteous redemption,
and who shall redeem Israel from all their sins.**

The Psalm Prayer

Rescue us, O God, for whom we wait, from the depths of depression and despair. May we trust in your mercy, know the fullness of your redemption, and share in the glory of your kingdom; through our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Second Reading

A reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans (8:6-11)

The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God.

You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

After he had said this, he went on to tell them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up.”

His disciples replied, “Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better.” Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep.

So then he told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead, and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.”

Then Thomas (also known as Didymus) said to the rest of the disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”

On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home.

“Lord,” Martha said to Jesus, “if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask.”

Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.”

Martha answered, “I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.”

Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?”

“Yes, Lord,” she replied, “I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.”

After she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary aside. “The Teacher is here,” she said, “and is asking for you.” When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet entered the village, but was still at

the place where Martha had met him. When the Jews who had been with Mary in the house, comforting her, noticed how quickly she got up and went out, they followed her, supposing she was going to the tomb to mourn there.

When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. "Where have you laid him?" he asked.

"Come and see, Lord," they replied.

Jesus wept.

Then the Jews said, "See how he loved him!"

But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. "Take away the stone," he said.

"But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days."

Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?"

So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me."

When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face.

Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go."

Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

We sing:

**Bring us, O Christ, to share the fullness of your joy;
baptize us in the risen life
that death cannot destroy.**

**Three-personed God, fulfil the promise of your grace,
that we, when all our searching ends,
may see you face to face.**

The Sermon *Phil Winslow*

A silence is held for reflection following the sermon.

We Respond to God's Word

*The offering plates will not be passed during the service.
They will be available on the tables at the front and back
of the church.*

Offertory Hymn *There is a Hope*

**There is a hope that burns within my heart,
that gives me strength for ev'ry passing day.
A glimpse of glory now revealed in meager part,
yet drives all doubt away.
I stand in Christ, with sins forgiv'n
and Christ in me, the hope of heav'n.
My highest calling, and my deepest joy,
to make His will my home.**

**There is a hope that lifts my weary head.
A consolation, strong against despair—
that when the world has plunged me in its deepest pit,
I find the Saviour there.
Through present suff'rings, future's fear,
He whispers courage in my ear;
for I am safe in everlasting arms,
and they will lead me home.**

Musical Interlude

**There is a hope that stands the test of time,
and lifts my eyes beyond the beck'ning grave
to see the matchless beauty of a day divine,
when I behold His face.
When suff'rings cease, and sorrows die,
and ev'ry longing satisfied;
then joy unspeakable will flood my soul,
for I am truly home.**

**When suff'rings cease, and sorrows die,
and ev'ry longing satisfied;
then joy unspeakable will flood my soul,
for I am truly home.**

As you are able, please remain standing.

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray.
Giver of life,
**your son has destroyed the power of death
for all those who believe in him.
Accept all we offer you this day
and strengthen us in faith and hope;
through Jesus Christ, the Lord of all the living.
Amen.**

The Apostles' Creed

Let us confess the faith of our baptism.

**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.**

The Prayers of the People

Either kneeling or sitting, let us pray.

In our prayers, we give thanks for God's goodness;
we pray for others as well as for ourselves;
and we offer our lives in Christ's service.
All this we do because we believe in the presence among us
of our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and in the mighty power of the Holy Spirit.

After each Intercession:

Lord, in your mercy.
Hear our prayer.

Gracious God,
you have heard the prayers of your faithful people. You know our needs before we ask and our ignorance in asking. Grant our requests as may be best for us. This we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We Go into the World to Praise and Serve God

Please stand as you are able.

Almighty God, with longing in our hearts for your Reign of Peace, make us eager to obey you, until your purpose is accomplished and the earth is filled with your glory.

Look at your hands, see the touch and the tenderness.
God's own for the world.

Look at your feet, see the path and the direction.
God's own for the world.

Look at your heart, see the fire and the love.
God's own for the world.

Look at the cross, see God's Son and our Saviour.
God's own for the world.

This is God's world.
And we will serve God in it.

Gracious God,
in you we live and move and have our being. Guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life, we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight, in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Closing Hymn *Magnificent, Marvelous, Matchless Love*

**Magnificent, marvelous, matchless love;
too vast and astounding to tell.
Forever existing in worlds above,
now offered and given to all.
Oh fountain of beauty eternal;
the Father, the Spirit, the Son.
Sufficient and endlessly generous:
magnificent, marvelous, matchless love.**

**Creation is brimming with thankfulness,
the mountains, exultant they stand;
the seasons rejoice in Your faithfulness,
all life is sustained by Your hand.
You crown every meadow with colour.
You paint every shade in the sky.
Each day the dawn wakes as an encore of:
magnificent, marvelous, matchless love.**

*How great, how sure;
His love endures forevermore.
Magnificent, marvelous, matchless love.*

**What grace, that you entered our brokenness;
You came in the fullness of time.
How far we had fallen from righteousness,
but not from the mercies of Christ.
Your cross is our door to redemption;
Your death is our fullness of life.
That day, how forgiveness flowed as a flood:
magnificent, marvelous, matchless love.**

*How great, how sure;
His love endures forevermore.
Magnificent, marvelous, matchless love.*

**United in Your resurrection,
You lift us to infinite heights.
Could anything sever or take us
from magnificent, marvelous, matchless love.**

*How great, how sure;
His love endures forevermore.
Magnificent, marvelous, matchless love.*

*How great, how sure;
His love endures forevermore.
Magnificent, marvelous, matchless love.*

The Benediction

**May the peace of God our heav'nly Father,
and the grace of Christ the risen Son,
and the fellowship of God the Spirit
keep our hearts and minds within His love.
And to Him be praise for His glorious reign,
from the depths of earth to the heights of heav'n.
We declare the name of the Lamb once slain:
Christ eternal, the King of kings!**

**May this peace which passes understanding,
and this grace which makes us what we are,
and this fellowship of His communion
make us one in spirit and in heart.
And to Him be praise for His glorious reign,
from the depths of earth to the heights of heav'n.
We declare the name of the Lamb once slain:
Christ eternal, the King of kings!**

The Dismissal

**Go into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
Thanks be to God.**

A Warm Welcome to all

Are you new to St. John's? We are so glad you have joined us today for worship. We encourage you to stay for coffee hour and introduce yourself to one of the clergy.

Would you like a visit? We'd be happy to visit with you at your home, in a coffee shop or at the church for pastoral conversation and/or home communion at your request. Please call the office and one of the clergy will get back to you. 705.944.5350

If you experience a pastoral emergency (someone in the hospital or in urgent need) you can call our priest, The Rev. Canon Susan Spicer at 705.886.0057

Are you on the parish mailing and email list? If you would like to be, please let the office know.

Our Leaders Today

<i>Officiant</i>	The Rev. Densie Byard
<i>Preacher</i>	Phil Winslow
<i>Music Director & Pianist</i>	Linda Parsons
<i>Organist</i>	Sylvia Amesbury
<i>Crucifer</i>	John Amesbury
<i>Reader</i>	Bette Holder
<i>Intercessor</i>	Kim Bagg
<i>Technical Team</i>	Hayley Bagg and Ben Conrad

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A community church in the Anglican Tradition.

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