



St. Martin's Anglican Church
February 11, 2024
10:00 AM
Black History Month Service
Transfiguration

Welcome Team: David Bo and Shirley V

It is a great privilege to gather, share stories of faith and worship God on this beautiful territory, which we now know as Pickering, but which has been the site of human activity – and therefore storytelling and worship – for many thousands of years. We wish to honour the ancestral guardians of this land and its waterways: the Wendat, the Anishinabek Nation, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, the Mississaugas of Scugog, Hiawatha and Alderville First Nations. The treaties that were signed for this particular parcel of land are collectively referred to as the Williams Treaties of 1923. Today many Indigenous peoples, including the Métis Nation, continue to call this land home and act as its stewards, and this responsibility extends to all peoples, to share and care for this land for generations to come.

Celebrant: The Rev Shelly Pollard

Guest Organist: Alexandra Weiss

Guest Soloist: Denise Williams, Soprano

Prelude: Wayfaring Stranger

Southern American Folk Hymn, arranged by Brent Edstrom
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Sentence: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

Matthew 17:5

Opening Hymn: 397 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Praise the one who breaks the darkness
with a liberating light.
Praise the one who frees the prisoners,
Turning blindness into sight.
Praise the one who preached the gospel,
Healing every dread disease,
calming storms and feeding thousands
With the very bread of peace.

Praise the one who blessed the children
with a strong yet gentle word.
Praise the one who drove out demons
with a piercing two-edged sword.
Praise the one who brings cool water
to the desert's burning sand.
From this well comes living water,
quenching thirst in every land.

Praise the one true love incarnate:
Christ who suffered in our place.
Jesus died and rose for many
that we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness,
seeing what our God has done.
Praise the one redeeming glory,
praise the One who makes us one.

*CP 397-Praise the One Who Breaks. Text: Rusty Edwards (1955-). © 1987 Hope Publishing Co.
Music: A Repository of Sacred Music: Part Second., Harrisburg, 1813.
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THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

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

All: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Almighty God,

All: **to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Kyrie Eleison

Celebrant: Lord have mercy.

All: **Christ have mercy.**

Celebrant: Lord have mercy.

The Collect

Celebrant: Almighty God, on the holy mount you revealed to chosen witnesses your well-beloved Son, wonderfully transfigured: mercifully deliver us from the darkness of this world, and change us into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All: **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading **2 Kings 2:1-12**

Reader: Shirley V

A READING FROM THE SECOND BOOK OF KINGS

When the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent." Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent." Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father,

father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 50:1-6

Celebrant: The Lord, the God of gods, has spoken; he has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

All: Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, God reveals himself in glory.

Celebrant: Our God will come and will not keep silence; before him there is a consuming flame, and round about him a raging storm.

All: He calls the heavens and the earth from above to witness the judgement of his people.

Celebrant: "Gather before me my loyal followers, those who have made a covenant with me and sealed it with sacrifice."

All: Let the heavens declare the rightness of his cause; for God himself is judge.

Celebrant: Blessed are you, God of glory; you call us to give up all our vain attempts to reach you, and to come before you in thanksgiving for your great salvation, shown to us in Jesus Christ our Lord

All: Amen.

Second Reading 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Reader: Joe M

A READING FROM THE SECOND LETTER OF PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel *Please stand as you are able for the Gospel*

Gospel Acclamation: Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!

Halle, halle, halle - lujah!
Halle, halle, halle - lujah!
Halle, halle, halle - lujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Sing A New Creation 192

*Music: Melody Caribbean trad.; arr John L. Bell, 1990
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Gospel Reading Mark 9:2-9

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Mark.

All: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

Celebrant: The Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Acclamation: Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!

Halle, halle, halle - lujah!
Halle, halle, halle - lujah!
Halle, halle, halle - lujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Sing A New Creation 192

*Music: Melody Caribbean trad.; arr John L. Bell, 1990
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Homily:

The Rev Shelly Pollard

Musical Reflection Solo – Ain't That the Good News

Denise Williams, Soprano

Arranged by David Clenman C 1987, arr. for Joyce Britton.
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THE APOSTLES' CREED

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

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

Prayers of the People

Intercessor: Moyah M

Confession & Absolution

Celebrant: Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites us to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Moment of Silence

Celebrant: Most merciful God,

All: we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

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

All: Amen.

THE PEACE

Please stand as you are able

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

All: **And also with you.**

Offertory Hymn: 460 Shine Jesus Shine

Lord, the light of your love is shining,
in the midst of the darkness shining;
Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us;
Set us free by the truth You now bring us,
Shine on me, shine on me.

Shine, Jesus, shine;
fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze:
set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow:
flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth Your word, Lord,
and let there be light.

Lord, I come to your awesome presence,
from the shadows into your radiance;
by the blood I may enter your brightness;
search me, try me, consume all my darkness,
shine on me, shine on me.

Shine, Jesus, shine;
fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze:
set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow:
flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth Your word, Lord,
and let there be light.

As we gaze on your kingly brightness
so our faces display your likeness;
everchanging from glory to glory,
mirrored here may our lives tell your story,
shine on me, shine on me.

Shine, Jesus, shine;
fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze:
set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow:
flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth Your word, Lord,
and let there be light.

CP 460-Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining

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Prayer over the Gifts

Please stand as you are able

Celebrant: Holy God, receive all we offer you this day, and bring us to that radiant glory which we see in the transfigured face of Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Supplementary Eucharistic Prayer 2

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to offer thanks and praise.

Celebrant: Eternal God, Source of all being, we give you thanks and praise for your faithful love. You call us into friendship with you and one another to be your holy people, a sign of your presence in the world.

When those we trust betray us, unfailingly you remain with us. When we injure others, you confront us in your love and call us to the paths of righteousness. You stand with the weak, and those, broken and alone, whom you have always welcomed home, making the first last, and the last first.

Therefore, we raise our voices with angels and archangels, forever praising you and saying:

Sanctus

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.

CP 732 Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord. Music: Community Mass, Richard Proulx (1937-). ©1971, 1977 G.I.A. Publications, Inc. CCLI Copyright Licence 11469691. CCLI Streaming Licence 21657598

Celebrant: Blessed are you, O Holy One: when Hagar was driven into the wilderness you followed her and gave her hope. When Joseph was sold into bondage, you turned malice to your people's good. When you called Israel out of slavery, you brought them through the wilderness into the promised land. When your people were taken into exile you wept with them by the river of Babylon and carried them home.

All: Restore us, O God, let your face shine!

Celebrant: At the right time you sent your Anointed One to stand with the poor, the outcast, and the oppressed. Jesus touched lepers, and the sick, and healed them. He accepted water from a woman of Samaria and offered her the water of new life. Christ knew the desolation of the cross and opened the way for all humanity into the redemption of your reconciling love.

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus, at supper with his friends, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, gave it to them, and said, "Take and eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, “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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Loving and Holy One, recalling Christ’s death and resurrection, we offer you these gifts, longing for the bread of tomorrow and the wine of the age to come. Therefore we proclaim our hope.

All: Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life. Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Celebrant: Pour out your Spirit on these gifts that through them you may sustain us in our hunger for your peace. We hold before you all whose lives are marked by suffering, our sisters and brothers. When we are broken and cast aside, embrace us in your love.

All: Restore us, O God, let your face shine!

Celebrant: Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O Source of all life, now and for ever.

All: Amen.

*Eucharistic Prayers, Services of the Word, and Night Prayer,
Supplementary to The Book of Alternative Services, c. 2001 The Anglican Church of Canada*

The Lord’s Prayer (Sung)

Celebrant: As our Saviour taught us, let pray and sing,

All: Our Father in heaven hallowed be thy name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is 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 and the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen, amen, amen.

*Text: BAS page 211. Music: Sibbick arr. Lambert.
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Moment of Silence

Celebrant: We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.
All: **God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.**

THE COMMUNION

Agnus Dei

All: **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, grant us peace.

CP 745 Lamb of God.

*Music: Becket Gerald Senchur (1946-). ©1992 G.I.A. Publications, Inc.
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Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Prayer for Spiritual Communion (*for those who choose not to receive Communion, or are following the service online*)

Celebrant: Those wishing to do so may make their spiritual communion by joining in this prayer with me now:

All: **My Jesus, I believe that you are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you, and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.**

Communion Solos

Denise Williams, Soprano

Ho Everyone that Thirsts

Arranged by R. Nathaniel Dett (1882-1943)

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Let Us Break Bread Together

Words: Traditional. Music: arr. Carl Haywood (b. 1949), from

"The Haywood Collection of Negro Spirituals", Copyright 1992.

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Wade in the Water

Arranged by Mark Hayes (b. 1953)

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Prayer after Communion

Please stand as you are able

Celebrant: Holy God, we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. May we who are partakers of his table reflect his life in word and deed, that all the world may know his power to change and save. We ask this in his name.

All: Amen.

Doxology & Blessing

Celebrant: Glory to God,

All: whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, For ever and ever. Amen.

Celebrant: The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of his Son, Jesus Christ the Lord. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, remain with you and the ones you love now and forevermore.

All: Amen.

Announcements

Closing Hymn: 646 Voices United - We Are Marching (Siyahamba)

Siyahamba kukhanyen kwen-khos, siyahamba kukhanyen kwen-khos.
Siyahamba kukhanyen kwen-khos, siyahamba kukhanyen kwen-khos.
Siyahamba Oo,oo, siyahamba kukhanyen kwen-khos
Siyahamba Oo,oo siyahamba kukhanyen kwen-khos.

We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching Oo,oo, we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching Oo oo, we are marching in the light of God.

We are dancing in the light of God, we are dancing in the light of God.
We are dancing in the light of God, we are dancing in the light of God.
We are dancing Oo,oo, we are dancing in the light of God.
We are dancing Oo oo, we are dancing in the light of God.

We are singing in the light of God, we are singing in the light of God.
We are singing in the light of God, we are singing in the light of God.
We are singing Oo oo, we are singing in the light of God.
We are singing Oo oo, we are singing in the light of God.

We are praying in the light of God, we are praying in the light of God
We are praying in the light of God, we are praying in the light of God
We are praying Oo oo, we are praying in the light of God.
We are praying Oo oo, we are praying in the light of God.

We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching Oo oo, we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching Oo oo, we are marching in the light of God.

Voices United 646 We are Marching (Siyahamba).

*Words: South African trad. Song, 20th century trans. Anders Nyberg 1984.
Music: South African trad. Song. 20th century, arr. Anders Nyberg et al 1984
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Dismissal

Celebrant: Go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
Alleluia!

All: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Postlude: He's Got the Whole World In His Hands

*Traditional Spiritual. Arranged by Brent Edstrom
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*We welcome guest soloist, Denise Williams
Thank you for sharing your gift of music with us.*

Guest Soprano Denise Williams – Soprano Denise Williams, a 30-year veteran of the concert, opera, and theatre stage, has electrified audiences from Canada to Cuba, and many points in between. Moving effortlessly between vocal styles, she has worked with The Nathaniel Dett Chorale, The Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Toronto Mendelssohn Choir, Mirvish Productions, and most recently, the Orquesta Sinfonica de Oriente in Cuba.

Ongoing projects include WALK TOGETHER CHILDREN, a Cross-Cultural Concert Celebration of Black, Jewish, Muslim diaspora and MELANATTÉ a fusion of Classical and Romantic hits with a modern Black context, in collaboration with its brainchild, Rapsodius. “Denise Williams offers powerfully authentic renditions of the most beloved songs - all in a fresh, sometimes striking new musical context that will have audiences clamouring for more.” Rapsodius

Denise holds a BSc, ARCT Diploma in Singing, and a Masters in Community Music. She dedicates her time to leadership in the performing arts: as founding artistic director of the charitable theatre organization, No Strings Theatre, on the music theatre voice faculty of Sheridan College, and operating her Voices of Colour Music studio.

Denise is honoured to be on the 2024 list of 100 Black Accomplished Canadian Women Honourees.

St. Martin’s Anglican Church
The Rev. Shelly Pollard (she/her), Incumbent

Honorary Assistant: The Rev. Richard Newland
Rector’s Warden: Rob Mackay
People’s Warden: Moyah Morgan
Deputy Wardens: Elaine Watters & Denise Farrugia
Parish Administrator: Sharon Jones, ODT (she/her)
Music Director:
Sunday School Leader: Janis Lynch
Youth Leader: Moyah Morgan

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