



**St. Martin's Anglican Church**  
**March 30, 2025**  
**10:00 AM**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent**

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Welcome Team: John                      Chalice Bearers: Rob M, Sharon J

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 Reverend Shelly Pollard

Prelude:                        When Morning Gilds the Skies.

*Music by Joseph Barnby. CCLI #11469691. CCLI Streaming Licence 21657598*

Sentence:                      I will rise and go to my father, and I will say to him: Father I have sinned against heaven and before you.

*Luke 15.18*

**Opening Hymn:** 505                      Be Thou My Vision

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
naught be all else to me, save that thou art--  
thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
thou my great Father; thine own may I be,  
thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.

Riches I heed not, nor the world's empty praise;

thou mine inheritance, now and always:  
thou and thou only, first in my heart,  
high King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, when victory is won,  
may I reach heaven's joys, bright heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

*Text: Irish hymn (8<sup>th</sup> cent.); tr Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1890-1931); vers. Eleanor H. Hull (1860-1935), alt.  
Vers. © courtesy of the estate of Eleanor H. Hull and Chatto & Windus Ltd.  
Music: Melody Irish Trad.; arr. Martin Shaw (1875-1958), alt. Arr. © Oxford University Press.  
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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 Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **707 Trisagion**

Holy God,  
holy and mighty,  
holy immortal one,  
have mercy upon us.

Holy God,

holy and mighty,  
holy immortal one,  
have mercy upon us.

Holy God,  
holy and mighty,  
holy immortal one,  
have mercy upon us.

*Music; The Devine Liturgy. © 1977, 1982 St. Vladimir's Seminary Press. Adapt. Brigid Coult (1952-)©.  
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## **The Collect**

**Celebrant:** Gracious Father,  
whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came from heaven  
to be the true bread which gives life to the world,  
evermore give us this bread,  
that he may live in us, and we in him,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**All:** **Amen.**

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## **THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

**First Reading** JOSHUA 5:9-12

Reader: Alan M

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF JOSHUA

The Lord said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day. While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. On the day after the Passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

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

## PSALM 32

Celebrant: Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!

**All: Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

Celebrant: While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, because of my groaning all day long.

**All: For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

Celebrant: Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.

**All: I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.**

Celebrant: Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

**All: You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance.**

Celebrant: "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; I will guide you with my eye.

**All: Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."**

Celebrant: Great are the tribulations of the wicked; but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.

**All: Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord; shout for joy, all who are true of heart.**

Celebrant: Watch over us, loving God, and when we fall into sin teach us to acknowledge our guilt. May we forgive and be forgiven, for the sake of the one who was wounded for our transgressions, Jesus Christ your Son our Saviour.

**All: Amen.**

**Second Reading 2 CORINTHIANS 5:16-21**

Reader: Natasha B

A READING FROM THE SECOND LETTER OF PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS

From now on, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel**

*Please stand in body or in spirit for the Gospel*

**Communion Hymn: 553 Ubi Caritas et Amor**

Ubi caritas et amor,  
ubi caritas, Deus ibi est.

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

*CP 553-Ubi Caritas et Amor. Text: 1John 4:16b; Eng.para. Taize Community (France)  
Music: Jacques Berthier (1923-1994). Eng. Para and music © 1991 Les Presses de Taize.*

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**Gospel Reading LUKE 15:1-3, 11B-32**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

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

**All: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." So he told them this parable: "There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and travelled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands."' So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe - the best one - and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate. Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and

has come to life; he was lost and has been found."

Celebrant: The Gospel of Christ.

**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Gospel Hymn: 553 Ubi Caritas et Amor**

Ubi caritas et amor,  
ubi caritas, Deus ibi est.

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

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**Homily:**

The Rev Shelly Pollard

*Moment of Silent Reflection*

### **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: Selwyn N

## **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 in body or in spirit*

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

**All: And also with you.**

### **Offertory Hymn: 434 The Love of Jesus Calls Us**

The love of Jesus calls us  
our joyous praise to sing;  
our deeply felt thanksgivings  
we now together bring,  
for all God's many blessings,  
unasked yet still received,  
and for the generations,  
who faithfully believed.

The love of Jesus calls us,  
that we may always be  
companions on a journey,  
where all the world may see  
that serving Christ is freedom  
which time does not destroy;  
where Christ's command is duty,  
And every duty joy.

The love of Jesus calls us  
to go where he would go,  
to challenge all that limits,  
to change, to learn, to grow,  
to know that Christ has freed us,  
that prisons are no more;  
for those who seek his kingdom,  
Christ opens every door.

The love of Jesus calls us  
in swiftly changing days,  
to be God's co-creators

in new and wondrous ways;  
that God with men and women  
may so transform the earth,  
that love and peace and justice  
may give God's kingdom birth.

*CP 434 The Love of Jesus Calls Us.  
Text: Herbert O'Driscoll (1928-) ©.  
Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876)  
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## **Prayer over the Gifts**

*Please stand in body or in spirit*

Celebrant: God of mercy and compassion,  
your Word calls us home to faith and love.  
Accept all we offer you this day,  
in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

**All: Amen.**

## **THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST**

### **Eucharistic Prayer 4**

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 give our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: It is right to give you thanks and praise, O Lord, our God, sustainer  
of the universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

**All: Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Celebrant: At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home; by your will they were created and have their being.

**All: Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Celebrant: From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill; you made us the stewards of creation.

**All: Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Celebrant: But we turn against you, and betray your trust; and we turn against one another. Again and again you call us to return. Through the prophets and sages you reveal your righteous law. In the fullness of time you sent your Son, born of a woman, to be our Saviour. He was wounded for our transgressions, and bruised for our iniquities. By his death he opened to us the way of freedom and peace.

**All: Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Celebrant: Therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

### **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, Lord our God, for sending us Jesus, the Christ, who on the night he was handed over to suffering and death, took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, gave it to his friends, and said, "Take this, and eat it: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

In the same way, after supper, he took the cup of wine; he gave you thanks, 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."

**All: Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Celebrant: Gracious God, we recall the death of your Son Jesus Christ, we proclaim his resurrection and ascension, and we look with expectation for his coming as Lord of all the nations. We who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring you these gifts. Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this offering of your Church, that we who eat and drink at this holy table may share the divine life of Christ our Lord.

**All: Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Celebrant: Pour out your Spirit upon the whole earth and make it your new creation. Gather your Church together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, where peace and justice are revealed, that we, with all your people, of every language, race, and nation, may share the banquet you have promised; through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, all honour and glory are yours, creator of all.

**All: Glory to you for ever and ever. Amen**

### **The Lord's Prayer (Sung)**

Celebrant: As our Saviour taught us, let us 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.*

*Moment of Silence*

## **Breaking of the Bread**

*BAS 7*

**Celebrant:** We break this bread,

**All:** **Communion in Christ's body once broken.**

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

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

## **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- ).*

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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 Hymn: 500                      Sister, Let Me Be Your Servant**

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

Brother, let me be your servant,

Let me be as Christ to you.  
Pray that I might have the grace  
To let you be my servant, too.

CP 500-Sister, Let Me Be Your Servant.

Text: Richard Gillard (1953-).

Music: Melody Richard Gillard (1953-); arr. Betty Carr Pulkingham (1928-).

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**Anthem:** #46 Jesus, Tempted in the Desert

**Prayer after Communion**

*Please stand in body or in spirit*

Celebrant: Giver of life,  
you enlighten all who come into the world.  
Fill our hearts with the splendour of your grace,  
that we may perfectly love you  
and worthily praise your holy name,  
through Jesus Christ the Lord.

**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: 520 The King of Love my Shepherd Is

The King of love my Shepherd is,  
whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his  
and he is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow,  
my ransomed soul he leadeth,  
and where the verdant pastures grow,  
with food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish, oft I strayed,  
but yet in love he sought me,  
and on his shoulder gently laid,  
and home rejoicing brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill  
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;  
thy rod and staff my comfort still,  
thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight;  
thy unction grace bestoweth;  
and oh, what transport of delight  
from thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days,  
thy goodness faileth never;  
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise  
within thy house forever!

*CP 520-The King of Love my Shepherd Is.  
Text: PS. 23 para. Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877).  
Music: John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876); desc David Wilcocks (1919-).  
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## Dismissal



Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude: Spirit Of God, Descent Upon My Heart.

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

Honorary Assistant: The Rev. Richard Newland

Rector's Warden: Rob Mackay

People's Warden: David Bevan

Deputy Wardens: Art Slade & Ruth Sutton

Parish Administrator: Darlene Campbell

Music Director: Dr Alexandra Weiss

Sunday School Leader: Janis Lynch

Youth Leader: Natasha Baird

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*\*New Announcement*

**Sunday School** - Sunday School is every Sunday during the 10:00 AM service. All are welcome!



**\*Messy Church – Upcoming dates: Sat April 12<sup>th</sup> 10am – 11:30am, Sat May 24<sup>th</sup> 10am – 11:30am.**

St. Martin's now offers Messy Church. Come for a morning of fun for the whole family! This is an alternative service for busy families. A fun morning for the whole family. Crafts, games, stories, music and snacks! Please check our calendar for this event. If you would like to help or volunteer, speak to Rev. Shelly for more information.

**Mid-Week Service**

Join us for our BCP mid-week service Wednesdays at 10:30am. Refreshments will follow. All are welcome. Friendly reminder, Rev Shelly's day off is every Friday.

**UPDATE FROM PADDY MCLOON**

From January 1 to July 31, 2025, Paddy McLoon will be happy to continue to take your spare change with proceeds going to Y's WISH Shelter in Oshawa. Thank you so much for your continued generous support!

**Donations for St. Paul on-the-Hill Community Food Bank** - The Outreach Committee is asking for your help in filling the red wagon with your donations for the food bank. An Outreach volunteer will take the donations to

St. Paul on-the-Hill. Grocery gift cards are always greatly appreciated. For a comprehensive list, please visit this link to [St. Paul's-on-the-Hill Food Bank](#).



### **Spring Flowers Fundraiser - LAST DAY TO ORDER!**

Our Vandermeer Fundraiser is winding down. This **Sunday, March 30th** is the last day to order locally grown seasonal plants and gift cards in time for Easter and support St. Martin's at the same time! A portion of your money spent stays with our church. No order is too small!

And if you're worried about bringing in lilies or other plants that are not pet friendly, or you just don't want Easter flowers, remember you can buy a gift card that you can use at Vandermeer ANY TIME, and still support our church.

We can accept cheques made out to St. Martin's Church or cash.

Your purchases will be available for pickup at the church on the weekend of April 12-13. More specific details are on the letter attached to the order form.

Please return your completed form along with your payment to Lee L.

### **Easter Flowers**

To celebrate Easter our Altar Guild decorates the sanctuary with flowers. Please consider making a donation either "in memory of" someone or to honour those near and dear to your own heart. If you would like to make a dedication, please speak to Anne D. or contact the church office at [office@stmartinsanglican.ca](mailto:office@stmartinsanglican.ca) or 905-839-4257. Envelopes for Easter flower donations are also available at the welcome desk. The deadline for dedications is Wednesday, April 9th, 2025.

### **Palm Crosses**

On Friday April 11 at 10:00 am we will be making palm crosses for Palm Sunday. Everyone is welcome to participate. If you have wondered how these are made, fear not, instruction will be provided. For more information, please speak to Anne D.

### **\*Faith Formation**

Join us for 5 weeks of Faith Formation using the resource "And It was Good" from the Anglican Communion. "And It was Good" provides an opportunity to explore together two vital themes: Our understanding of and responsibility for creation, and taking seriously the commitment expressed in the Anglican Fifth Mark of Mission 'To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth'. "And It was Good" comes out of the ongoing work of The Bible in the Life of the Church project.

### **Session Four: Creation Blesses the Lord**

Read Psalm 104

Questions:

1. What surprised you about Psalm 104?
2. In what ways do we need to learn to live more in harmony with the seasons? What would need to change?
3. What can we learn from our Indigenous neighbours about living in harmony with creation?
4. How can we strive to safeguard creation?

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89250863235?pwd=S00yUExqenRLRHBFZVpsVIRQsXoxQT09>

We will meet on **Zoom on Tuesdays at 7pm beginning on March 11th**, and **in person on Wednesdays at 11:30am beginning on March 12th**. All are welcome to attend!

**\*Earth Month Activities:**

Earth Month begins in April. From reducing plastics to tree planting, to fun documentaries, and learning about bees from a beekeeper, there are plenty of ways to celebrate a clean and green community coming up in Ajax and Pickering during the month of April.

Below is a short list of activities in both communities with links to find out more information and register.

**1) Sustainable Home Expo:**

Come check out the Sustainable Home Expo and discover energy-saving rebates and tips for sustainable living!

**Date:** Friday, April 4

**Time:** 2pm-7pm

**Where:** McLean Community Centre

95 Magill Drive, Ajax

**Register:**

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/sustainable-home-expo-tickets-1270574465429?aff=oddtcreator>

**2) Free Screening of Biggest Little Farm Movie:**



Members from St. Martin's Stewards of Creation and Social Justice Committees invite you to join them to watch this movie.



This heartwarming documentary follows a couple as they leave city life behind to pursue their dream of sustainable farming. Experience their inspiring journey, filled with challenges, triumphs, and the beauty of nature, all on the big screen.

FREE, Pre-registration is required.

**When:** Wednesday April 16

**Where:** St. Francis Centre - 78 Church St. S, Ajax

**Time:** 6pm-8pm (doors open at 5:30pm)

Free popcorn, door prize draw

**Register here:**

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/the-biggest-little-farm-movie-screening-tickets-1273851968529?aff=oddtcreator>

**3) Earth Month Activities in Pickering**

Various dates and activities including

- Community Cleanup
- We Grow Food Workshop
- Honey Bee Workshop with Beekeeper Rachel
- Introduction to Vegetable Gardening
- Pickering Tree Planting
- Living Dinosaurs: Learn, Create, Protect (children's workshop- ages: 6 to 12)
- Growing Food on My City Lot

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Click on the link below for more information and to register:

<https://www.pickering.ca/property-roads-safety/sustainability-sustainable/earth-month/>

#### **4) Earth Month Activities in Ajax**

Various dates and activities through the month of April including:

- "Just Eat It" Documentary screening
- Reduce Your Plastics Workshop
- Nature in Your Neighbourhood
- Growing Vertical Vegetables
- Egg Carton Planters
- Community Tree Planting
- Compost Giveaway
- Guide to a Healthy Backyard: Tree Stewardship & Care
- Provincial Day of Action on Litter
- Spring Cleanup Challenge

Click on the link below for more information and to register:

[https://www.durhamregion.com/things-to-do/10-ways-to-celebrate-earth-month-with-ajax-green-living-days/article\\_8242b0c5-f09a-5606-8948-18e6e8cb69c6.html](https://www.durhamregion.com/things-to-do/10-ways-to-celebrate-earth-month-with-ajax-green-living-days/article_8242b0c5-f09a-5606-8948-18e6e8cb69c6.html)

1203 St. Martin's Drive, Pickering, Ontario L1W 1M9  
905-839-4257 [office@stmartinsanglican.ca](mailto:office@stmartinsanglican.ca) [www.stmartinsanglican.ca](http://www.stmartinsanglican.ca)