



**ROCK EUCHARIST**  
**THE MUSIC OF VAN MORRISON**  
**SUNDAY, MARCH 3, 2024, AT 7:00 P.M.**

The Church of the Redeemer:  
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**Opening Song: “Into the Mystic”** (*Van Morrison*)

*Led by the Musicians*

We were born before the wind  
Also, younger than the sun  
'Ere the bonnie boat was won  
As we sailed into the mystic

Hark now, hear the sailors cry  
Smell the sea and feel the sky  
Let your soul and spirit fly  
Into the mystic

Yeah, when that fog horn blows  
I will be coming home  
Yeah, when that fog horn blows  
I wanna hear it  
I don't have to fear it

And I wanna rock your soul  
Just like way back in the days of old  
Then magnificently we will float  
Into the mystic

**The Gathering of the Community**

*Please rise, as you are able*

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

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

*Priest:* The Lord be with you.

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

*Priest:* Let us pray. 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.**

*Priest:* Blessed be God who forgives all our sins;

*People:* **whose mercy endures forever.**

### **Collect of the Day**

*Priest:* Almighty God,  
alone we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves.  
When we are discouraged by our weakness,  
strengthen us to follow Christ,  
our pattern and our hope;  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever

*All:* **Amen.**

**The First Reading:** “Home” (*Richard Wagamese*)

*Please be seated*

Home is the culmination of my hopes and dreams and desires. Home is a feeling in the centre of my chest of rightness, balance, and harmony of the mind, body and spirit. Home is where the channel to Creator and the Grandmothers gets opened everyday and where life gains its focal point. To be away from it, even for a day, is that acute awareness. It is also knowing that home is what I bring to it, and in that is the sure and quiet knowledge that home is within me and always was.

*Reader:* Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

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

**Sequence Song:** “Sweet Thing” (*Van Morrison*)

*Led by the Musicians*

And I will stroll the merry way and jump the hedges first  
And I will drink the clear clean water for to quench my thirst  
And I shall watch the ferry boats and they'll get high  
On a bluer ocean against tomorrow's sky  
And I will never grow so old again  
And I will walk and talk in gardens all wet with rain  
Oh sweet thing, sweet thing

And I shall drive my chariot down your streets and cry  
'Hey, it's me, I'm dynamite and I don't know why'  
And you shall take me strongly in your arms again  
And I will not remember that I even felt the pain  
We shall walk and talk in gardens all misty and wet with rain

And I will never, never, never grow so old again  
Oh sweet thing, sweet thing

And I will raise my head up into the night time sky  
And count the stars that's shining in your eyes  
Just to dig it all and not to wonder, that's just fine  
And I'll be satisfied not to read in between the lines  
And I will walk and talk In gardens all wet with rain  
And I will never, ever, ever, ever grow so old again  
Oh sweet thing, sweet thing

## **The Gospel**

*Please rise, as you are able*

*Reader:* The Lord be with you.

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

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

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

Jesus said, 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

*Priest:* The Gospel of Christ.

*John 15:1-11*

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

**Homily:** Paige Souter

*Please be seated*

*A moment of silence is observed.*

## The Prayers of the People

*Please rise, as you are able*

*Leader:* During this season of Lent, we turn our hearts to the God whose presence eases our troubles and brings us joy. Let us lift up our prayers to God for the world and for ourselves.

We pray for peace. We pray for God's peace in countries where there is war and strife and violence.

*During the pause you are invited to offer prayers either silently or aloud.*

*Leader:* O God in your mercy.

**All: Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* We pray for all who suffer injury, sickness and loss and who are affected by homelessness, food insecurity, and addiction. We pray for healing, wholeness, and the raising of resources to meet their needs.

*During the pause you are invited to offer prayers either silently or aloud.*

*Leader:* O God in your mercy.

**All: Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* We pray for all people of good will who seek to care and love their neighbours. We pray that they may be a healing presence for all whom they serve.

*During the pause you are invited to offer prayers either silently or aloud.*

*Leader:* O God in your mercy.

**All: Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* We pray for this gathered community and all people walking the journey of faith during this Lenten season. We pray for perseverance and grace as they seek God.

*During the pause you are invited to offer prayers either silently or aloud.*

*Leader:* O God in your mercy.

**All: Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* We pray for all whom we have wronged and those who have harmed us. We pray for forgiving and resilient hearts.

*During the pause you are invited to offer prayers either silently or aloud.*

*Leader:* O God in your mercy.

**All: Hear our prayer.**

## The Peace

*Priest:* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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



**Offering Song:** “Days Like This” (*Van Morrison*)

*Led by the Musicians*

When it's not always raining there'll be days like this  
When there's no one complaining there'll be days like this  
Everything falls into place like the flick of a switch  
Well my mama told me there'll be days like this

When you don't need to worry there'll be days like this  
When no one's in a hurry there'll be days like this  
When you don't get betrayed by that old Judas kiss  
Oh my mama told me there'll be days like this

When you don't need an answer there'll be days like this  
When you don't meet a chancer there'll be days like this  
When all the parts of the puzzle start to look like they fit  
Then I must remember there'll be days like this

When everyone is up front and they're not playing tricks  
When you don't have no freeloaders out to get their kicks  
When it's nobody's business the way that you want to live  
I just have to remember there'll be days like this

When no one steps on my dreams there'll be days like this  
When people understand what I mean there'll be days like this  
When you ring out the changes of how everything is  
Well my mama told me there'll be days like this

## **The Celebration of the Eucharist**

### **The Preparation of the Gifts**

*The table is set with bread and wine making the Eucharistic meal for the gathered community.  
Please join in with the musicians as this activity takes place.*

### **The Prayer over the Gifts**

*Priest:* God our provider,  
you have not fed us with bread alone,  
but with words of grace and life.  
Bless us and these your gifts,  
which we receive from your bounty,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **The Great Thanksgiving:** *(Episcopal Church, Enriching Our Worship 1, EP #2)*

*Priest:* The Lord be with you.

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

*Priest:* Lift up your hearts.

*People:* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Priest:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People:* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Priest:* We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God,  
source of life abundant.

From before time you made ready the creation.

Your Spirit moved over the deep

and brought all things into being:

sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters;

and every living thing.

*All:* **When the fohorn blows, I will be coming home.**

*Priest:* You made us in your image,  
and taught us to walk in your ways.  
But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away;  
and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us.

*All:* **When the foghorn blows, I will be coming home.**

*Priest:* Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

*All:* **When the foghorn blows, I will be coming home.**

*Priest:* And so this day we join with Saints and Angels  
in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity,  
lifting our voices to magnify you as we say:

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

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

*Priest:* Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God.  
To deliver us from the power of sin and death  
and to reveal the riches of your grace,  
you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant,  
that she might conceive and bear a son,  
Jesus the holy child of God.  
Living among us, Jesus loved us.  
He broke bread with outcasts and sinners,  
healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor.  
He yearned to draw all the world to himself  
yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love.  
Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross  
the sacrifice of his life,  
and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us,  
Jesus was at table with his friends.  
He took bread, gave thanks to you,  
broke it, and gave it to them, and said:  
“Take, eat:  
This is my Body, which is given for you.



*Priest:* Do this for the remembrance of me.”  
As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine.  
Again, he gave thanks to you,  
gave it to them, and said:  
“Drink this, all of you:  
This is my Blood of the new Covenant,  
which is poured out for you and for all f  
or the forgiveness of sins.  
Whenever you drink it,  
do this for the remembrance of me.”

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation,  
and remembering Christ, crucified and risen,  
who was and is and is to come,  
we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine,  
and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts  
that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ.  
Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth  
and make us your new creation,  
the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us,  
with all your saints,  
from every tribe and language and people and nation,  
to feast at the banquet prepared  
from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
to you be honor, glory, and praise,  
for ever and ever.

*All:* **Amen.**

## **Common Prayer** (*St. Hilda paraphrase*)

*Priest:* Together we pray:

*All:* **God, who cares for us,  
The wonder of whose presence fills us with awe,  
Let justice, kindness and love shine in our world.  
Let your secrets be known here as they are in heaven.  
Give us the food and the hope we need for today.  
Forgive us our wrongdoing  
as we forgive the wrongs done to us.  
Protect us from pride and from despair  
and from the fear and hate which can swallow us up.  
In you is truth, meaning, glory and power,  
while worlds come and go. Amen.**

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

*Priest:* We break this bread,

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

*Priest:* 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.**

*Priest:* The gifts of God, for the people of God.

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

## **Spiritual Communion**

*Priest:* Dear friends, I invite you in this moment, wherever you may be, to receive Christ, in communion with the saints, and the gathering of God's people, unseen and yet present with us now. Many are made one.

## **Prayer of Reception**

*One:* Holy Jesus we receive you in this moment,  
giving you thanks and praise that you make yourself present to all your people  
in the bread and wine of the Eucharist.  
Transform our hearts that we may shine as your light in dark places;  
Where there is hatred, let us sow love; Where there is injury, pardon;  
Where there is doubt, faith; Where there is despair, hope;  
Where there is darkness, light; Where there is sadness, joy.  
And this all, in love for you. Amen.

*Bread and wine will be brought out to the community. If you need a gluten-free wafer, please ask.*

**Fraction Song: “Listen to the Lion”** (*Van Morrison*)

*Led by the Musicians*

And all my love come down  
All my love come tumblin' down  
And all my love come tumblin' down  
All my love come tumblin' down  
Oh, listen listen to the lion  
Oh, listen listen listen, to the lion  
Inside of me

And I shall search my soul  
I shall search my very soul  
And I shall search my very soul  
I shall search my very soul  
For the lion, for the lion  
For the lion, for the lion  
Inside of me

And all my tears have flowed  
All my tears like water flowed  
And all my tears like water flowed  
All my tears like a water flowed  
For the lion  
For the lion  
For the lion  
For the lion  
Inside of me  
Listen to the lion

**Prayer after Communion**

*Please rise, as you are able*

Priest: Compassionate God,  
you have fed us with the bread of heaven.  
Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage;  
may our fasting be hunger for justice;  
our alms, a making of peace;  
and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts;  
through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.

**All: Amen.**

## Dismissal

*Priest:* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*All:* **Thank be to God.**

**Closing Song:** “Have I Told You Lately That I Love You” (*Van Morrison*) *Led by the Musicians*

Have I told you lately that I love you  
Have I told you there's no one above you  
Fill my heart with gladness, take away my sadness  
Ease my troubles, that's what you do

Oh the morning sun in all its glory  
Greets the day with hope and comfort too  
And you fill my life with laughter, you can make it better  
Ease my troubles that's what you do

There's a love that's divine  
And it's yours and it's mine like the sun  
At the end of the day  
We should give thanks and pray to the One

Have I told you lately that I love you  
Have I told you there's no one above you  
Fill my heart with gladness, take away my sadness  
Ease my troubles, that's what you do

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The cover image by artist squidocaster is courtesy of deviantart.com.

### **We are grateful for our musicians this evening:**

Mike Daley: guitar and voice

Jill Daley: piano and violin

Mark Rainey: guitar, voice and percussion

Russ Boswell: bass