

All Saints' Anglican Church, Westboro
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All Saints' Westboro



*"I am the true vine"
Photo by Christopher Dunn*

Fifth Sunday of Easter May 2nd, 2021

9:30 am

Zoom service that will also be recorded

The Ven. Christopher Dunn
The Rev. Simone Hurkmans
The Rev. Deacon Dr. Jarrett Carty
Music: Edith Troup
Children and Youth: Julie Newlands

Officiant: Dear friends, as we gather virtually, we acknowledge with gratitude the land that has been inhabited and cared for by Indigenous peoples from the beginning, and, in particular, the traditional unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishnaabeg people. We also recognize the contributions that Métis, Inuit, and other Indigenous peoples have made in shaping and strengthening our communities.

All: May we walk gently together on this land, seeking renewed relationship based on honour, respect, and peace.

Officiant: 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.

Officiant: Where do we see you, O God?

All: We see you in the most helpless baby as creator and caregiver.

Officiant: When do we know you, O God?

All: We know you as the spirit of carefree joy in the laughter and play of growing children.

Officiant: How do we experience you, O God?

All: We experience you as renewed confidence and strength in mature adults.

Officiant: In whom do we know you, O God?

All: We know you in those of later years as the provider of unforeseen opportunities and eternal hope.

Officiant: 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.

Officiant: God of deep soil and luxurious growth, you call us from our shallow selves to find our depth in you:

All: may we abide in him alone who can teach us who we are, Jesus the Christ, the true vine. Amen.

The First Reading is from Acts (8:26-40)

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So Philip got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. Philip asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found

himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 22:25-31

One: My praise is of God in the great assembly;

All: I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship the Lord.

One: The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the Lord shall give praise:

All: "May your heart live for ever!"

One: All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord,

All: and all the families of the nations shall bow before God.

One: For sovereignty belongs to the Lord,

All: who rules over the nations.

One: To God alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship;

All: all who go down to the dust fall before God.

One: My soul shall live for God; my descendants shall serve God;

All: they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.

One: They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn

All: the saving deeds that God has done.

The Second Reading is from 1 John (4:7-21)

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son

into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn: Eternal Father, Strong to Save

#567

Eternal Father, strong to save,
whose arm restrains the restless wave,
who bids the mighty ocean deep
its own appointed bounds to keep:
we cry, O God of majesty, for those in peril on the sea.
O Christ, whose voice the waters heard
and hushed their raging at your word,
who walked across the surging deep
and in the storm lay calm in sleep:
we cry, O Lord of Galilee, for those in peril on the sea.

Creator Spirit, by whose breath
were fashioned sea and sky and earth;
who made the stormy chaos cease
and gave us life and light and peace:
we cry, O Spirit strong and free,
for those in peril on the sea.

O Trinity of love and power,
preserve their lives in danger's hour;
from rock and tempest, flood and flame,
protect them by your holy name,
and to your glory let there be
glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

Reader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John (15:1-8)

All: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus said, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. 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."

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

Celebrant: Let us make an affirmation of faith. We believe in God:

All: who is older than eternity and younger than our next breath; who is beyond describing yet knows us all by name; who inspires faith yet cannot be contained by religion.

Celebrant: We believe in Jesus the Christ, flesh of our flesh, bone of our bone;

All: He came in the body to give worth to every human life. He touched the untouchable, loved the unlovable, forgave the unforgivable and endured slander, persecution and death in order that through suffering love God's kingdom might come on earth. He rose from the grave as living proof that what is laid down in faith will be raised in glory. He ascended to heaven that he might be present at all times to all people.

Celebrant: We believe in the Holy Spirit,

All: who leads us into truth and freedom, who gives good gifts to all God's children, who inspires research, enables prayer, and wills that human economics and politics should make a priority of justice, care of the earth and the healing of the nations.

Celebrant: We celebrate the potential of the Church,

All: the life in our bodies, the yearning in our souls, the promise of good things in store for those who love the Lord.

Prayers of the People *(prepared by Marcie Taylor)*

One: Loving God, you provide a simple directive: "those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also." Therefore, let us follow your commandment,

by joining our voices in prayer for those who are in need:

All: **Betty-Joan** (Hagerman); **Cheryl** (McTeer); **Brayden** (Turtle); **Michele** (Pollesel); **Carran** (Taylor); **Nancy** (Irvine); **Randy** (Brown); **Charlie** (Cuffari); **Barbara** (Hill); **Ernest** (Betancourt); **David** (Nador); **Bart** (Beglo); **Dan** (Gates); **Steve** (Jodoin); **Tony** (Fisher); **Chris** (Livers); **Helen** (Miller); **Flo** (Warner)

One: We remember also those whom we name silently or aloud. . . . God who loves us all,

All: **hear our prayer.**

One: We pray for our church throughout the world: for Linda, our Primate; Anne, our Metropolitan; Mark, our Indigenous Archbishop; Shane, our local Bishop; Chris, Simone, and Jarrett, our clergy; and Brian, pastor of First United. Help us to follow the example of these, our leaders, who abide in God's love. God who loves us all,

All: **hear our prayer.**

One: Uphold all those who endure pain and hardship, whatever the cause, and send solace to those who are alone. Be their refuge and their strength. We pray for those who have died, especially those whom we name silently or aloud . . . and ask for your comfort for all those who mourn them. God who loves us all,

All: **hear our prayer.**

One: Life-giving God, reveal the wonder of your world to all people. Show us anew what lives around us, over us, beneath us, within us. Enliven us with your spirit, that we may honour your earth with responsible care. God who loves us all,

All: **hear our prayer.**

One: God, you are with us through challenges, joys, loss, confusion, revelation, death, and new life. All that you provide, all of our experiences, and all that you are, is the rich soil in which you plant us; calling us from our shallow selves to a deep and fruitful life if only we abide in you so that you can abide in us. Take all that we are and all that we offer, and use it to your purpose, we pray.

All: Amen.

Celebrant: Dear friends in Christ, let us confess our sins against God and our neighbour, confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence is kept

Celebrant: Most merciful God,

People: 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, 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 Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

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

All: And also with you.

Hymn: Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

#425

Joyful, joyful we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
drive the dark of doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee,
earth and heaven reflect thy rays;
stars and angels sing around thee,
centre of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain,
call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
wellspring of the joy of living,
ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father and our Mother,
all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine.

Officiant: And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we say,

All: 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 for ever. Amen.

Officiant: 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.

Officiant: Let us go through the week as those who will make the love of God known through our words and deeds.

All: We will comfort the downhearted, welcome newcomers, and encourage the apathetic.

Officiant: We will accept those who are excluded, support those who are going through hard times, and be available to the troubled.

All: God's love will embrace us. God's love will keep us strong.

Officiant: And the blessing

Announcements

Officiant: Alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Readings for Next Sunday, May 9th, 2021

Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98;
1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17

Please pray this week for

- all those worshipping and ministering at St. John the Evangelist, Ottawa;
- those in our pastoral care: Elizabeth Barter, Isabel Barter, Jean Noi, and Joyce Code; and
- the GranAid Program and its support of Fikelala in the Diocese of Cape Town, South Africa.

Sharing in our liturgical ministry today:

Reader: Patricia Fox

Intercessor: Marcie Taylor

Saints Alive!

Weekly News from All Saints' Westboro
Fifth Sunday of Easter May 2nd, 2021

This Week

Monday	10:00 am to 1:00 pm	Food Bank
Tuesday	9:00 am Morning Prayer	Zoom
Wednesday	9:00 am Morning Prayer	Zoom
	7:00 pm Bible on Tap	Zoom
Thursday	9:00 am Morning Prayer	Zoom
	5:00 to 7:00 pm	Food Bank
Friday	9:00 am Morning Prayer	Zoom

Upcoming Events

Morning Prayer

Tuesday to Friday (until Pentecost), at 9:00 am, via Zoom
Join Simone for Morning Prayer and start your day off right! Due to the popularity of Morning Prayer during Lent, these sessions will continue until Pentecost (Sunday, May 23rd). The Zoom link is the same as for the Lenten sessions, and Chris will continue sending the link in his emails.

Bible on Tap

Wednesday, May 5th, 7:00 pm, via Zoom

Join Simone for a discussion of our upcoming Bible readings. Chris will send out the Zoom link in his email next week.

Credits:

Opening and closing prayers from Responsive Prayers: For Every Week of the Church Year, David Sparks, Year B

Collect from Prayers for an Inclusive Church (2009) alt.

Readings from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible.

Psalm reprinted from A Liturgical Psalter, General Synod 2016 edition, the psalter of the Book of Alternative Services emended for contemporary liturgical use

Liturgical texts from The Book of Alternative Services

Affirmation of faith from a Wee Worship Book, fifth edition

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