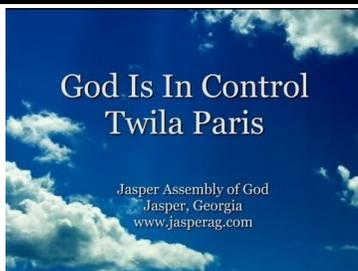


St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church March 22, 2020 4th Sunday in Lent

St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church
73 Queen Street East,
Cambridge, ON N3C 2A9
519-658-2652

Rev. Scott McAndless: smcandless@standrewshespeler.ca
Email: office@standrewshespeler.ca
Prayer Requests: prayerchain@standrewshespeler.ca

Looking for encouraging music during these uncertain times?



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r6Eiv1r5UnE>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IA7n7TwPDmw>



Watch out for some online activities for our Sunday school children to participate in. Parents will receive instructions via email within the next week.

Due to CoVid 19, the Athalie Read Group has decided that it is in the best interest of all concerned to cancel our Annual May Garage Sale.

We will reassess in the fall and possibly reschedule. Please hold on to your treasures! We appreciate all of the support you have given our group in past events.

Stay well! The Athalie Read Group

Did you know that you can donate to St. Andrew's Hespeler online? For several years, St. Andrew's Hespeler has partnered with CanadaHelps to facilitate the acceptance of online donations. CanadaHelps itself is a charity whose purpose is to inform, inspire and connect charities and donors with the causes they care about. The online link to donate via St. Andrew's internet homepage is not only another means by which to donate regularly to St. Andrew's but it is also a great way to make memorial and honour gifts and the link to our website is easy to share using social media or e-mail. Scan this QR code to take you directly to our giving page!



Please Note: All church activities have been suspended until further notice. This includes choir, Bible Study (moving to online, see page 2), and all in-person meetings. The doors at the church will be locked to avoid foot-traffic. If you have any questions or need to come to the church for some reason, please contact us by phone or email. Phone messages will be still be checked daily.

Please visit our website www.standrewshespeler.ca for our daily devotion and daily updates.

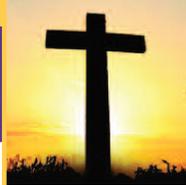
Please Note

The **Gala Dinner Event** supporting Thursday Night Supper and Social is being postponed until September. The date will be announced at a later time.

We are ordering **Easter flowers** again this year. Please fill out the insert in the bulletin and return with payment to Joni or into the office by April 5th. We will make a decision closer to the date about ordering flowers.

Thank you for your participation and support!

Fourth Sunday in Lent



Written by the Rev. Iona MacLean
(The Church of Saint David, Halifax)

- One: God provides for every need
Many: guidance in right paths,
presence in darkest valleys,
nourishment beyond measure.
- One: God shines light on the world in Jesus
Many: opening eyes that are blind,
exposing prejudice and fear,
offering new understanding of life's good purpose.
- One: But we persist in our own ways
Many: judging by appearance,
denying others' experience,
hoarding what we can for ourselves.
- One: Lord, have mercy
Many: Christ, have mercy
One: Lord, have mercy

Let us pray:
Creator God,
you are the Source of light and love,
rest and nurture, hope and peace.
Open our eyes to your goodness.
Empower us to live as children of light,
bringing a rich harvest of all that is good and right and true.
Enlighten us to see the world
with your eyes of love.
So may all people know
your goodness and mercy forever;
through Jesus Christ the light of the world. Amen.

We will begin our online, live - interactive service
on Sunday by reading this Lenten Liturgy together.
Please plan to join in.

Clean Water: A Game Changer in the Journey to End Hunger

There is no doubt that access to clean water is vital to ensure communities around the world can have a reliable source of food.

When water sources are contaminated – due to lack of proper toilets and sanitation services – diseases such as cholera and typhoid can be widespread. It is essential to have clean water so that farmers, who plant and harvest the crops that feed their communities, can stay healthy and able to work.

Access to water also improves irrigation, which in turn increases food production and better sustains rural communities.

Unfortunately, our global community continues to experience major inequalities in access to water. Vulnerable and marginalized populations like women and smallholder farmers can face challenges getting the water they need.

When all farmers can access this important resource, women, men and children around the world have a better chance to enjoy nutritious and sufficient food all year round.

This Lenten season,
faithfully respond to
provide communities
with sanitation and
safe sources of water.



 Presbyterian
World Service
& Development

WeRespond.ca
50 Wynford Drive, Toronto, ON M3C 1J7
1-800-619-7301 • pwsd@presbyterian.ca

**PRAYER &
BIBLE STUDY**



Bible Study is moving to online! If you are interested in participating, please send us an email and we will send you the link to join in. The link will also be available on our website.

 Presbyterian
World Service
& Development

The development and relief agency of
The Presbyterian Church in Canada
WeRespond.ca

Prayer Partnership

Sunday, March 22 (World Water Day) We give thanks to God that families living in conflict situations are accessing clean water from repaired wells through Presbyterian World Service & Development's water, sanitation and health projects.

Monday, March 23 Pray for the members of the Assembly Council as they meet this week.

Tuesday, March 24 Give thanks for Indigenous artists, teachers, athletes, health care providers, and legal, political and spiritual leaders who build strong Indigenous communities and make the tapestry of Canadian society richer and more vibrant.

Wednesday, March 25 We pray for the General Assembly Design Team members as they seek to serve and support the work of the church.

Thursday, March 26 We give thanks for the members of the Atlantic Missionary Society as they faithfully support the mission endeavours of the presbyteries and Synod of the Atlantic Provinces.

Friday, March 27 We pray for Major Tom Hamilton (Charlottetown, PE) who serves as a reserve force military chaplain in the Canadian Armed Forces.

Saturday, March 28 (Earth Hour) When we turn off our lights during Earth Hour, we are reminded of the need to use the Earth's resources responsibly. We pray that we will carry this reminder throughout the year.

If you have any specific requests that we can pray about, please let us know by either calling the church or emailing the prayer team at prayer-

March 22: Restoration and Rehabilitation After Cyclone Idai

In Malawi, eating raw maize, a grain usually dried to make the traditional food nsima, is a sign of pressing hunger. After Cyclone Idai stormed into Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe one year ago, many people were left with only this option—or worse, with no food at all. After the cyclone, Katherine Chiphwayna's lost crops meant her family of four often went to bed hungry. Then Katherine began receiving support through PWS&D and Canadian Food-grains Bank. She is now able to work more and provide her children with fish, eggplants and tomatoes, in addition to the nsima they like. "The kids are happy to eat the food. It's very tasty."



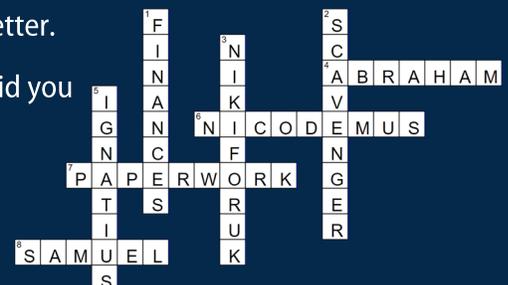
Lord, you have been our dwelling place
throughout all generations.
Before the mountains were born
or you brought forth the whole world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

-Psalm 90:1-2



Here is the answer key to the puzzle in the newsletter.

How did you do?



The Revised Common Lectionary Readings for this week:

1 Samuel 16: 1-13 David Anointed as King

16 The Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” 2 Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the Lord said, “Take a heifer with you, and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.’ 3 Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.” 4 Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, “Do you come peaceably?” 5 He said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

6 When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the Lord’s anointed is now before the Lord.” 7 But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.” 8 Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” 9 Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” 10 Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen any of these.” 11 Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.” 12 He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, “Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.” 13 Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Psalm 23 The Divine Shepherd

A Psalm of David.

1 The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.
2 He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;
3 he restores my soul.
He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.
4 Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff—
they comfort me.
5 You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
my whole life long.

Ephesians 5:8-14

⁸ For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light— ⁹ for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰ Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹ Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹² For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; ¹³ but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴ for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!
Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

John 9

A Man Born Blind Receives Sight

9 As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. 2 His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" 3 Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. 4 We must work the works of him who sent me[b] while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. 5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." 6 When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, 7 saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. 8 The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" 9 Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." 10 But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" 11 He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." 12 They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

The Pharisees Investigate the Healing

13 They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. 14 Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. 15 Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." 16 Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. 17 So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

18 The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight 19 and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" 20 His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; 21 but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." 22 His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. 23 Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

24 So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." 25 He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." 26 They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" 27 He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" 28 Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. 29 We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." 30 The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. 31 We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. 32 Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. 33 If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." 34 They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Spiritual Blindness

35 Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" 36 He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." 37 Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." 38 He said, "Lord,[g] I believe." And he worshiped him. 39 Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." 40 Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" 41 Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

**The Revised Common Lectionary Readings for next week:
Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45**