

St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church

August 9, 2020

10th Sunday after
Pentecost

St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church

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Office Hours:

The office is currently closed.

Order of Online Worship for August 9, 2020

We will meet online for as long as people want to stay on at 10 am. The link will be sent out by email and posted (with a password) on the website.

Call to worship (Microphones on)

L: Give thanks to the Lord!

P: We will tell everyone we meet what God has done!

L: Let us bring praise to the name of the Lord!

P: We will honour God's holy name with shouts of joy!

L: Be mindful of all that God provides for us.

P: We will remember the world of wonders God has made!

Prayers of approach and confession

L: Surprising and mysterious God, you come to us when we least expect it, calling us out of our routines and our plans, inviting us to follow Christ on a great journey of faith. We praise you for the many ways you comfort and guide us. In our moments of fear, you speak to us with words of reassurance. In our moments of doubt, you reach out your hand to save us. In our moments of turmoil, you bring calm to the storm. We place our trust in you this day and every day, and worship you as our Redeemer and Saviour in the name of Christ, our Lord and friend. Amen.

P: Merciful and patient God, we confess that we still live in fear and doubt, even though we have been touched by your saving grace. You call us to live with courage and perseverance, yet we give up too easily and opt for the safer route. You encourage us to be bold in our faith and steadfast in our fight for justice, yet we remain silent in the face of inequality and violence. Forgive us all the times we have left you down. Renew our lives through your mercy and grace.

L: Rest assured, God's forgiveness and saving grace are for everyone. Accept these gifts for yourselves and offer forgiveness to others in the name of Christ our Lord.

Responsive Psalm 105:1-11, 45 (Microphones on)

L: O give thanks to the LORD, call on his name,

P: make known his deeds among the peoples.

L: Sing to him, sing praises to him;

P: tell of all his wonderful works.

L: Glory in his holy name;

P: let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

L: Seek the LORD and his strength;
seek his presence continually.

P: Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he has uttered, O offspring of his servant Abraham, children of Jacob, his chosen ones.

L: He is the LORD our God;
his judgments are in all the earth.

P: He is mindful of his covenant forever, of the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations, the covenant that he made with Abraham, his sworn promise to Isaac, which he confirmed to Jacob as a statute, to Israel as an everlasting covenant, saying, "To you I will give the land of Canaan as your portion for an inheritance."

L: that they might keep his statutes
and observe his laws.

P: Praise the LORD!

Ongoing life of the church

Celebration of Generosity

Prayers of the people (using chat to share requests)

Scripture: **Matthew 15: 21-28**

Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly."

Jesus did not answer a word. So, his disciples came to him and urged him, "Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us."

He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel."

The woman came and knelt before him. "Lord, help me!" she said.

He replied, "It is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to the dogs."

"Yes, it is, Lord," she said. "Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table."

Then Jesus said to her, “Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.” And her daughter was healed at that moment.

Sermon: Elder Steve Marsh will preach a live sermon over Zoom. The sermon title is:

Soft Serve Ice Cream

Benediction

Please feel free to chat for a bit at the end of the service. Thank you for joining us.

Future Services

We seem to be living in a time when all of the plans we make are subject to change, but here are our plans for worship over the next little while.

- During August, Scott will take his vacation time. Service will be exclusively online. We will have a group of excellent guest preachers (including Steve Marsh, Karen Kovats and Darrell Clarke) to lead and inspire us.
- While Rev. Scott is away, other local ministers will be available to offer support in event of an emergency. Names and phone numbers will be updated in the weekly bulletins.
- On September 2, Rev. Scott will return for a service led from the sanctuary. It will be a communion service (everyone will need to supply their own bread and wine in a form that works for them) and we expect that most will participate online (though we will again welcome people in the sanctuary).
- The session will discuss the next steps. We are not yet in a position to announce when a launch of full in-person worship will begin. Please continue to pray for wisdom and discernment moving forward. Thank you for worshipping with us!

Rev. Scott is on vacation. If you need pastoral assistance this coming week, you may contact Rev Aubrey Botha (519-623-1080) or Rev. Bill Bynum (519-653-6691).

We would like to thank everyone for the cards and good wishes we received over the last week. We appreciate everyone's thoughtfulness.

~ Ray & Jean Godin



Mission Moment – Sunday, July 26

Building Healthy Communities (International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples)

In Guatemala, 30-year-old Marta Crisóstomo didn't know what having a clean kitchen and a balanced diet had to do with her son's development and her family's health. But an unclean kitchen meant that Marta's family could be exposed to diseases such as diarrhea and intestinal infections.

Presbyterian World Service & Development (PWS&D)-supported workshops are empowering Indigenous communities like Marta's to improve their diets and health by sharing knowledge about cleanliness and how to prepare the nutritious food they are growing. The project has given Marta and the women in her community a sense of improved self-esteem. They now use the skills they have learned in their everyday lives—boosting their confidence and improving their families' overall health.

PWS&D empowers Indigenous communities

Prayer Partnership

Monday, August 10 We pray for evangelism coaches, the Revs. Andrew Campbell, Jonathan Hong and Ross Lockhart. May they be blessed with wisdom as they guide congregations to share the good news.

Tuesday, August 11 We pray for the ministries and mission of the Presbytery of Essex-Kent.

Wednesday, August 12 We give thanks for all of the people who generously give their time to the church throughout the year in big and small ways.

Thursday, August 13 We pray for Lieutenant-Navy Mike Rundle, who serves as a regular force military chaplain in Kingston, Ont., and for his ministry of presence with the diverse communities that are part of the Canadian Armed Forces.

Friday, August 14 We pray for Dorica Nkhata, leadership development grant recipient, as she prepares to return to Malawi College of Medicine to continue her studies after the summer break.

Saturday, August 15 We give thanks for Project Ploughshares and their advocacy for policies that promote peace and disarmament.

