

**St. Andrew's Hespeler
Presbyterian Church
May 9th, 2021
Christian Family Sunday**

**St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church
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Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9am-12pm



Order of Online Worship for May 9. We will meet online for as long as people want to stay on at 10 am. The link will be posted on the website. The sanctuary is presently closed for in-person worship.

Call to worship

L: Let us sing to the Lord a new song,

P: for God has done marvellous things.

L: Let us make known the Lord's victory,

P: for God's steadfast love covers the whole earth.

L: Let us sing joyful praises,

P: and join all creation to worship God's holy name.

Prayers of approach and confession

L: Holy God, the power of your love is beyond comprehension, the breadth of your compassion without measure. In Jesus Christ, you have met us in the midst of life's joys and challenges and shown us what it means to love and be loved. You have entrusted us with the greatest commandment to love one another as Christ has loved us. In this time of worship, we offer you our love and loyalty, seeking to learn more of what love and loyalty mean for us in the midst of our joys and challenges. Receive our prayers and praise, and through the power of your Spirit, draw us closer to you and closer to each other as friends and followers of Christ, our Risen Lord.

P: Merciful God, we confess we often find it difficult to love others as you commanded. Though we intend to do your will, our priorities lead us in other directions. We seek our own security before the well-being of

others. We fulfill our own desires rather than act for the common good. We justify our own interests and fail to understand the cost they take on the earth and other people. Forgive us. Redirect our priorities and renew our commitment to live out your love even when it demands more of us than we expect. Amen.

L: Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn us? Only Christ—and Christ died for us; Christ rose for us; Christ reigns in power for us; Christ prays for us. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made new by God's generous grace.

P: Thanks be to God!

Responsive Psalm 98

L: O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvellous things.

P: His right hand and his holy arm have gained him victory.

L: The LORD has made known his victory;

P: he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.

L: He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

P: All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

L: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;

P: break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

L: Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,

P: with the lyre and the sound of melody.

L: With trumpets and the sound of the horn

P: make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.

L: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.

P: Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

Ongoing life of the church

Scripture: (other lectionary readings below)

Acts 10:23b-33, 44-48

The next day [Peter] got up and went with them, and some of the believers from Joppa accompanied him. ²⁴ The following day they came to Caesarea. Cornelius was expecting them and had called together his relatives and close friends. ²⁵ On Peter's arrival Cornelius met him, and falling at his feet, worshiped him. ²⁶ But Peter made him get up, saying, "Stand up; I am only a mortal." ²⁷ And as he talked with him, he went in and found that many had assembled; ²⁸ and he said to them, "You yourselves know that it is unlawful for a Jew to associate with or to visit a Gentile; but God has shown me that I should not call anyone profane or unclean. ²⁹ So when I was sent for, I came without objection. Now may I ask why you sent for me?"

³⁰ Cornelius replied, "Four days ago at this very hour, at three o'clock, I was praying in my house when suddenly a man in dazzling clothes stood before me. ³¹ He said, 'Cornelius, your prayer has been heard and your alms have been

remembered before God. ³² Send therefore to Joppa and ask for Simon, who is called Peter; he is staying in the home of Simon, a tanner, by the sea.' ³³ Therefore I sent for you immediately, and you have been kind enough to come. So now all of us are here in the presence of God to listen to all that the Lord has commanded you to say."

⁴⁴ While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵ The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶ for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷ 'Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?' ⁴⁸ So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Offertory: "You'll Never Walk Alone" C. Griffith
Celebration of our Generosity

Sermon: "Peter Messes with Success"



Prayers of the people (using chat to share requests)

Benediction



The prayers of the congregation are extended to Virginia Griffith on the death of her father Conrad Griffith. Please keep Virginia and Conrad's family in your prayers at this difficult time.



Check out our stories, read-alouds, Bible readings, and activities for our children, online. They are posted each Saturday morning on our website and on the church Facebook page. **Families look for a porch drop off sometime this week!**

Our young people have started to get together again, on Zoom. The youth would like to challenge everyone to an evening in an online Escape Room. We will be picking a date, in May, this week and will post the date next Sunday. Get a team together and meet us on Zoom!

If any of our high school students (or grade 8 students entering high school) need some community service hours, please reach out to Joni



Hope Clothing needs some help. With the warm weather on the way we need to switch over our inventory to summer weather clothing. But because of the current restrictions, we are unable to open up to the broader Hespeler community, receiving of donations. So we are asking our church family if you have any extra summer clothing items if you could drop them off. We need summer clothing for all sizes; boys and girls, men and women. Thank you!



India is currently in the midst of a dramatic surge in COVID-19 cases, threatening its healthcare system and leaving already vulnerable families in crisis.

For more than a week, over 300,000 cases have been diagnosed daily. So far over 220,000 people have died in India and the crisis is only worsening.

Immediate needs are access to health care, medical supplies, and medicines, particularly oxygen. There is an urgent need to educate people on risk prevention and address vaccine hesitancy. Vaccine supply is insufficient and inaccessible to many, leaving herd immunity out of reach.

Donations can be made on the PWS&D website or through church giving (mark your envelope accordingly).

There are some goodies in the mailbox at the church (the one marked “bulletins”) that is free for anyone to pick up. You will find:

- The May/June edition of Today
- The March/April/May edition of Our Daily Bread
- The spring edition of Presbyterian Connection
- Printed copies of this bulletin each week.
- Printed copies of Scott’s most recent sermon each week.



2021 Offering Envelopes are still available. Please arrange to get yours.

Other Lectionary Readings

1 John 5:1-6

¹ Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ² By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³ For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴ for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵ Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶ This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

John 15:9-17

⁹ As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹² ‘This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³ No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵ I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶ You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷ I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

Mission Moment - May 9, 2021

(Christian Family Sunday)

Ministry of Hope and Care

Fernando's dream of becoming a police officer seemed out of reach when he and his brother were children living on the streets of Mische, a rural village in Romania. Twelve years later, he attends university and is closer to fulfilling his dream thanks to Samuel House, where Fernando and his brother found a welcoming home. Samuel House is a Christian social ministry of the Reformed Church in Romania, Királyhágómellék District, providing nutritious food, education, and after-school care to children from disadvantaged families. Presbyterians Sharing has been supporting this important ministry of hope and care since 2014.



Prayer Partnership

Sunday, May 9 (Christian Family Sunday) We pray for the health and well-being of families, and that the relationships within them are marked by peace, love, trust, and care.

Monday, May 10 We pray for the members of the Ministry Committee of the Presbytery of Cape Breton in Nova Scotia. May they feel a strong sense of God's presence.

Tuesday, May 11 We pray for rural and remote congregations, and for those who serve them.

Wednesday, May 12 We pray for the students graduating from Knox College today, who are looking forward to ministries in congregational leadership, spiritual care and psychotherapy, and theological teaching.

Thursday, May 13 (Ascension Day) We give thanks to God for Christ who was "manifested in the flesh, vindicated by the Spirit, seen by angels, preached among the nations, believed on in the world, taken up in glory" (1 Timothy 3:16 CSB).

Friday, May 14 We pray for the Rev. Maurice Davantin, Director of Formation Biblique et Théologique à Maurice, an ecumenical Theological Education by Extension program in Mauritius.

Saturday, May 15 We pray for people around the world who are striving to rise above poverty with educational opportunities and livelihood support through Presbyterian World Service & Development programs.