

**St. Andrew's Hespeler
Presbyterian Church
September 5, 2021
15th Sunday after Pentecost**

**St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church
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Website: www.standrewshespeler.ca

Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9am-12pm



Order of Online Worship for September 5. We will meet online for as long as people want to stay at 10 am. The link will be posted on the website. Services are primarily focused on the online presence for the moment, but people may also attend in the sanctuary if they wish, with masking and social distancing still required.

Call to worship

Prayer of Approach and Confession

Responsive Psalm 125

L: Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides for ever.

P: As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the LORD surrounds his people, from this time on and for evermore.

L: For the sceptre of wickedness shall not rest on the land allotted to the righteous, so that the righteous may not stretch out their hands to do wrong.

P: Do good, O LORD, to those who are good, and to those who are upright in their hearts.

L: But those who turn aside to their own crooked ways the LORD will lead away with evildoers.

P: Peace be upon Israel!

Ongoing life of the church

Scripture: (other lectionary readings below)

Mark 7:24-37

²⁴ From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, ²⁵ but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶ Now the woman was a

Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷ He said to her, 'Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' ²⁸ But she answered him, 'Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs.' ²⁹ Then he said to her, 'For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.' ³⁰ So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

³¹ Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³² They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³ He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴ Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, 'Ephphatha', that is, 'Be opened.' ³⁵ And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶ Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷ They were astounded beyond measure, saying, 'He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.'

Offertory: "I'd Rather have Jesus" W. Hunter

Celebration of our Generosity

Message: "Cancelling Jesus?"



Prayers of the people (using chat to share requests)

Benediction



Summer Services

Thanks to changes in government restrictions, we can allow people back into the sanctuary for worship so you may come, if you choose, and be in the sanctuary while the online service is being broadcast. Social distancing and masks are still required, of course.

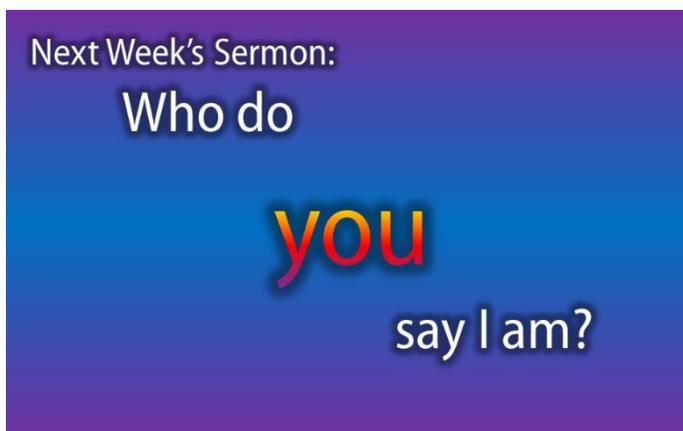
Pastoral Care

There is some **good news** about pastoral care. The Cambridge Hospital is now allowing clergy visits for patients! Unfortunately, there is not yet a way for visiting clergy to look up on the list to see who might be in the hospital so, if you would like to request a hospital visit for a loved one, please do call the church to let us know that they are in the hospital.

Next Sunday we will celebrate communion. Please make sure to prepare communion elements (bread and wine) and bring it with you if you come into the sanctuary.

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 Summer 2021 Newsletter
- The September/October edition of Today
- The September/October/November edition of Our Daily Bread
- The summer edition of Presbyterian Connection
- Printed copies of this bulletin each week.
- Printed copies of Scott's most recent sermon each week.



Other Lectionary Readings

Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23

¹ A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches,

and favour is better than silver or gold.

² The rich and the poor have this in common:
the LORD is the maker of them all.

⁸ Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity,
and the rod of anger will fail.

⁹ Those who are generous are blessed,
for they share their bread with the poor.

²² Do not rob the poor because they are poor,
or crush the afflicted at the gate;

²³ for the LORD pleads their cause
and despoils of life those who despoil
them.

James 2

¹ My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favouritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? ² For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, ³ and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, 'Have a seat here, please', while to the one who is poor you say, 'Stand there', or, 'Sit at my feet', ⁴ have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵ Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? ⁶ But you have dishonoured the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? ⁷ Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

⁸ You do well if you really fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' ⁹ But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰ For whoever keeps

the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. ¹¹ For the one who said, 'You shall not commit adultery', also said, 'You shall not murder.' Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. ¹² So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. ¹³ For judgement will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgement.

¹⁴ What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? ¹⁵ If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, ¹⁶ and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill', and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷ So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

¹⁸ But someone will say, 'You have faith and I have works.' Show me your faith without works, and I by my works will show you my faith. ¹⁹ You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder. ²⁰ Do you want to be shown, you senseless person, that faith without works is barren? ²¹ Was not our ancestor Abraham justified by works when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? ²² You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was brought to completion by the works. ²³ Thus the scripture was fulfilled that says, 'Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness', and he was called the friend of God. ²⁴ You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone. ²⁵ Likewise, was not Rahab the prostitute also justified by works when she welcomed the messengers and sent them out by another road? ²⁶ For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is also dead.

Mission Moment – September 5, 2021

Hearing God's Call

Joshua Su, a lay missionary at the Taiwanese Robert Campbell Presbyterian Church in Montreal, Quebec, saw a need on Montreal's south shore for Christian community and worship among Mandarin-speaking people. With the support of the congregation and Cyclical PCC, Joshua was able to start a network of small groups that meet in homes for fellowship, discussion, and prayer. One of the goals of this new and growing worshipping community is to equip leaders to work alongside Joshua as they start new intergenerational discipleship groups. Following in the Apostle Paul's footsteps, leaders within this ministry are hearing God's call to share the gospel in the world.



Sunday, September 5 We pray for the Rev. David Mang, Joshua Su and for the new worshipping communities growing in the Presbytery of Montreal in Quebec.

Monday, September 6 (Labour Day) We pray for the safety and well-being of all workers, and for fair pay and benefits for all.

Tuesday, September 7 (Rosh Hashanah) We pray for our Jewish neighbours who are celebrating Rosh Hashanah (New Year's Day) and the anniversary of the creation of the world.

Wednesday, September 8 (World Literacy Day) We give thanks for the gift of literacy and for teachers and tutors who pass on the gift of reading and writing.

Thursday, September 9 We pray for all of the students attending theological colleges who are beginning or resuming their studies. May they be enriched and challenged through their studies.

Friday, September 10 We pray for Csilla Bertalan, Director of Samuel House, and her colleagues as they provide Christian care to underprivileged children in Romania.

Saturday, September 11 We pray for peace in Palestine and Israel so that all children may grow up in a safe place with equal opportunities.