

**St. Andrew's Hespeler
Presbyterian Church
May 1st, 2022
3rd Sunday of Easter**

**St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church
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Office Hours: Monday—Friday 9am-12pm

Order of Worship for May 1. We will meet online and in person at 10 am. The Zoom link will be posted on the website. If you wish to attend in person, we do encourage respectful wearing of masks and safe social distancing. This will be a communion service so, if you are joining us remotely, please prepare some bread and wine (or something similar) so that you can participate.

Call to Worship

L: Sing praises to the Lord, you faithful;

P: We will give thanks to God's holy name.

L: Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

P: We will give thanks to God's holy name.

L: God has turned our mourning into dancing! Let us praise and not be silent!

P: Lord our God, we will give thanks to your holy name, now and always!

Prayer of Approach and Confession

L: God of the Risen Christ and the rising earth, we come before you this day giving thanks for all the wonder in your creation: for the tiny perfection revealed in a baby's fingers grasping ours, in each daffodil unzipping its jacket to greet the spring, and each rock face worn by wind and water, bearing its rugged beauty with your praise. These details lift our hearts to praise you, too. So let the details of the story the Risen Christ lift our hearts this day, that we may greet a new week as an occasion to discover him in our midst, making all things new with the springtime of your Spirit. Receive our heartfelt worship, O God, Creator, Christ and Spirit, ever Three and ever One, now and evermore. Amen.

P: God of each and every life, week by week we lay our lives before you, acknowledging ways in which we fall short of your hope for us. Today we confess we sometimes find it hard to forgive ourselves. Things done long ago still haunt us. We hear your forgiveness proclaimed, yet your promise of a fresh start can ring hollow. Forgive us if we think we are the one sinner who cannot be forgiven. Forgive us when we cannot find the peace you offer.

L: Friends in Christ, while it is true we have all fallen

short of God's intentions, it is a greater truth that we are forgiven through God's love in Jesus Christ. To all who humbly seek the mercy of God, Jesus offers forgiveness and new life. So be at peace with God, with yourself, and with one another.

P: We will with God's help. Amen.

Hymn #358 There is a redeemer

1. There is a redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son, precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy one.

Refrain:

Thank you, O my Father, for giving us your Son, and leaving your Spirit till your work on earth is done.

2. Jesus my Redeemer, name above all names, precious Lamb of God, Messiah, oh for sinners slain,
Refrain

3. When I stand in glory, I will see his face, and there I'll serve my King forever, in that holy place.

Refrain

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Psalm 30

L: I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up, and did not let my foes rejoice over me.

P: O LORD my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me. O LORD, you brought up my soul from Sheol, restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit.

L: Sing praises to the LORD, O you his faithful ones, and give thanks to his holy name.

P: For his anger is but for a moment; his favour is for a lifetime. Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

L: As for me, I said in my prosperity, 'I shall never be moved.'

P: By your favour, O LORD, you had established me as a strong mountain; you hid your face; I was dismayed.

L: To you, O LORD, I cried, and to the LORD I made supplication:

P: 'What profit is there in my death, if I go down to the Pit? Will the dust praise you? Will it tell of your faithfulness?

L: Hear, O LORD, and be gracious to me!

P: O LORD, be my helper!

L: You have turned my mourning into dancing; you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, so that my soul may praise you and not be silent.

P: O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you for ever.

Life and Work of the Church

Offertory: In the Garden Marsh Laur

Scripture: Acts 9:1-20 Read by

¹ Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³ Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?' ⁵ He asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The reply came, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶ But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.' ⁷ The men who were travelling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁸ Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹ For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰ Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, 'Ananias.' He answered, 'Here I am, Lord.' ¹¹ The Lord said to him, 'Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹² and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.' ¹³ But Ananias answered, 'Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; ¹⁴ and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.' ¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, 'Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶ I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.' ¹⁷ So Ananias went and entered

the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, 'Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.' ¹⁸ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, ²⁰ and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, 'He is the Son of God.'

Celebration of our Generosity

Sermon: "Can People Really Change?"

Special Music

Marsha Laur

Celebration of Communion

Hymn Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)

1. Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see

2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

*My chains are gone I've been set free
My God my Saviour has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy rains
Unending love amazing grace*

3. The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures

4 The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God who called me here below
Will be forever mine
Will be forever mine
You are forever mine

CCLI Song # 4768151

Prayers of the people (using chat and prayer cards to share requests)

Benediction



Other Lectionary Readings:

Revelation 5:11-14

¹¹ Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹² singing with full voice,

‘Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honour and glory and blessing!’

¹³ Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing,

‘To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honour and glory and might for ever and ever!’

¹⁴ And the four living creatures said, ‘Amen!’ And the elders fell down and worshipped.

John 21:1-19

¹ After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. ² Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. ³ Simon Peter said to them, ‘I am going fishing.’ They said to him, ‘We will go with you.’ They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴ Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵ Jesus said to them, ‘Children, you have no fish, have you?’ They answered him, ‘No.’ ⁶ He said to them, ‘Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.’ So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. ⁷ That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, ‘It is the Lord!’ When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was

naked, and jumped into the lake. ⁸ But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

⁹ When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. ¹⁰ Jesus said to them, ‘Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.’ ¹¹ So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred and fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹² Jesus said to them, ‘Come and have breakfast.’ Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, ‘Who are you?’ because they knew it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴ This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

¹⁵ When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, ‘Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?’ He said to him, ‘Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Feed my lambs.’ ¹⁶ A second time he said to him, ‘Simon son of John, do you love me?’ He said to him, ‘Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Tend my sheep.’ ¹⁷ He said to him the third time, ‘Simon son of John, do you love me?’ Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, ‘Do you love me?’ And he said to him, ‘Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Feed my sheep. ¹⁸ Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.’ ¹⁹ (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, ‘Follow me.’



The sympathy of the congregation is extended to Don Stokes and his family on the passing of his wife, Jane Stokes on April 21, 2022. Please keep Don, Scott & Tonya, Avery, Emerson & Autumn, and Mark & Jessica in your prayers at this difficult time.

Current needs for Hope Clothing: personal hygiene items.

Current needs for Food Bank include: gluten free items, canned salmon, cheese and milk.

Many thanks to our special musical guest Marsha Laur today. Martin Bohl will be back with us next week.

Talk-0-Tuesdays! Come join us on Tuesday mornings for coffee/tea, conversation and a devotion. Coffee & tea will be on at 10:00 am. We will meet from 10:00 - 11:00 am on Tuesday mornings. Will you join us this Tuesday?

Next Week's Sermon:

Why
Pray?



It's a Family Reunion! Please join us on Sunday, May 8th for a very special service, celebrating our St. Andrew's family on Christian Family Sunday. Our worship service will be planned to include all families in attendance. Refreshments and cake will be served afterwards for everyone who is comfortable

to stay. Invitations will be sent out. There are also invitations at the back of the sanctuary. If you are missing someone who used to sit near you, please feel free to invite them to join us.

Learning about Intergenerational Worship, part 2

- Children need to be present to the central activities of the church. Worship is the most central and unifying act of the faith community. Children need to be there from the very beginning of their life to know that they belong. Without our children present our community is not complete.
- Children are innately spiritual - already connected to the wonder and mystery of God. Worship is the best place for them to experience this wonder and mystery. Children can understand and imitate Christ as worship draws them toward Christ.
- Children need to participate in the telling and retelling of the stories of faith and the celebrations of our faith.
- Children have gifts to bring to our worshipping community. Children bring wonder, awe, curiosity, energy, delight, excitement, trust, love, and hope - all things we need as worshippers.
- Children learn how to worship, as they worship. If they come to worship for the first time after years of Sunday School then they are coming to a 'foreign land', which has often been spoken of as boring, and not for them.
- Children enjoy worship when a place is made for them there.



There is a new Faith @ Home room posted on our website, facebook and twitter each Saturday morning. You can find bible stories, bible readings, activities, music and prayers here.



Mission Moment – Sunday, May 1

Since the Taliban took control of Afghanistan in



August 2021, an atmosphere of uncertainty has prevailed in the

country. Large numbers of people fled to urban centres in hopes of escaping the country, leaving their homes and livelihoods behind. As a result, many are struggling to make ends meet and many more are facing severe hunger.

Presbyterian World Service & Development is responding by providing emergency food assistance. Through an ecumenical collaboration with members of Canadian Foodgrains Bank, monthly cash distributions will be supplied to some of the families experiencing the greatest need. As a result, around 2,550 families will be able to purchase food and pay for necessary items. This emergency food assistance is supported by Presbyterian World Service & Development, in collaboration with Canadian Foodgrains Bank.



The Presbyterian Church in Canada

Let us Join in Prayer



Prayer Partnership

Engaging in God's Mission
Through Word and Action

Sunday, May 1 We pray for people in Afghanistan who are facing severe hunger, and we give thanks for the food assistance that Presbyterian World Service & Development and Canadian Foodgrains Bank are providing them with support from the PCC.

Monday, May 2 We pray for the candidates for ministry and guidance counsellors as they engage in the shared process of vocational discernment during Guidance Conference this week.

Tuesday, May 3 We pray for peace throughout the world.

Wednesday, May 4 We pray for members of the Women's Missionary Society Council during their biennial meeting today.

Thursday, May 5 We pray for the safety of all those who risk their lives to help and save others.

Friday, May 6 We pray for the safety and recovery of all those affected by flooding in British Columbia.

Saturday, May 7 We pray for people, families and communities affected by the opioid crisis. Grant healing and strength to all who struggle with substance abuse and addictions.