

#### Kensington Presbyterian Church Growing in Faith and sharing God's Love since 1786

(un)stuck July 2, 2023

WELCOME to worship. We are offering a variety of ways for people to gather. We are welcoming people to worship n person, as well as through Zoom, YouTube, and this printable PDF. If you have any prayer requests, ideas, or just want to talk, please reach out to your elder or Rev. Peter (Peter@Kensingtonchurch.ca).



suspend - Phil Irish

# **Announcements**

Clicking on or tapping blue text will take you to a web-site

Communion this week: All who want to know our Lord better are invited to join us the Lord's Supper. If you are celebrating from home you will have to provide your own elements.

Pianist: Today we welcome Oksana Zotova, who will be accompanying us while Zoé is on medical leave until the autumn. Oksana has extensive experience as an accompanist, include with the Yellow Door Choir.

Zoom Prayer Group: Thursday at 6:30 a.m.

You may use the worship login details <u>us04web.zoom.us/j/773730107?</u> pwd=eUo2M09YMEw5dkZvdm9uQmpHNlUrUT09

or phone: 438-809-7799 Meeting ID: 773 730 107 Password: 7864826

Jesus & Java: Join us as we share the joys and questions of faith. Thursday, 3:30 pm at Beetz, 5914 Sherbrooke @ Clifton

**Drop Box**: Food donations are welcome for the local Food Pantry, and diapers for young mothers through Head & Hands.

### Contacts

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Zoé Dupont-Foisy (music director)zoedupontfoisy@hotmail.com

I note: that the footnotes are not as thorough as an academic paper.



# Approaching God

Lighting of the Christ Candle
Jésus Christ est la lumière du monde.
Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

Call to worship

O give thanks to the LORD, for the Lord is good; God's steadfast love endures forever.

The LORD saves us from our troubled ways.

The LORD gathers us from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

Let us praise God



Seeing Shepherds - Daniel Bonnell

God, we bow our hearts to You and confess our sins. Comme le psalmiste, nous avons foi en ta fidélité Seigneur et sommes rassurés que par ta miséricorde, tu nous pardonnes nos iniquités et nous exauces audelà même de nos supplications, pas parce que nous le méritons, mais au nom précieux et puissant de ton Fils Jésus Christ, notre Seigneur et Sauveur. Lord, please strengthen us by your spirit so that our love is reliable to ever walk closer to you.

God is compassionate, gracious, slow to anger and abundant in love. And as high as heavens are above the earth, so great is Your love O Lord. We offer You all glory and honour, now and forever. In Jesus' holy name we pray.

Amen!

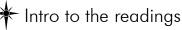


# Listening to God

Prayer for Illumination Lord,

open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that we may receive wisdom and insight to know your magnificent hope.

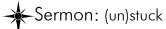
Amen.



- Last week we start our series on Ephesians. The first fourteen verses are prayer praising God. This is always a good way to start anything. Now the focus shifts to us and God.
  - We'll be hearing a paraphrase by J.B. Phillips. He wrote it in the 1940s and 50s so that young people would understand the Bible. One of the ways this is different than a translation is that he is more willing to change the grammar to be easier to understand.

Reading: Please look up the passages in your own Bible,<sup>2</sup> or click on the name to be taken to an online version.

Ephesians: 1:15-2:10 Psalm 107: 1-3, 10-22



Dear Lord, please bless these words and the meditations of our hearts.<sup>3</sup> Amen.

This week I heard that 100 years ago streets were for people. With an increase in cars, and accidents, car makers were worried about the public backlash. Newspapers were talking about cars as death machines. Judges were treating the deaths as manslaughter. The manufacturers responded with an intentional campaign to change society. They offered a free service to newspapers to write the reports of traffic accidents - and shifted the language from the dangerous car to the reckless pedestrian. The term they used was a common way to describe a 'country bumpkin' who was just too dim to understand city life. They were a 'Jay', or a 'Jay Walker'. This advertising campaign changed the flow of traffic on the streets from people to cars. Montreal went with the flow and you can get a ticket here for jaywalking.

Advertising is very intentional about trying to direct your behaviour - to get you to 'drift along' with their ideas. There are lots of other influences: TV shows, movies, video games, books, etc. They might include advertising, but more often they just portray a set of values that we 'drift along' with as we go through the story (which can be fiction or a documentary).

The other day my boys tried a video game they found in a bin we were given. The concept turned out to be simple. They fight each other. After playing for a bit they had to stop for bedtime and we noticed that their physical behaviour had changed. They started expressing themselves by shoving. My neighbour works in the video game industry and worries about games that are labelled mature, and that the behaviour they encourage is the

<sup>2</sup> If you'd like a new Bible with helpful notes, I recommend the 'Life with God Bible' NRSV from Renovaré. ISBN 0061834963 or for the more academically inclined, The New Oxford Study Bible NRSV

<sup>3</sup> Psalm 19:14

opposite from what we'd expect from a mature adult. You might even find that between the news and murder mysteries you don't find a murder horrifying. You might find yourself thinking, "Oh dear, another one." or be curious about their backstories - rather than grieving the sin that tore the community.

Our response to violence is just one way society shapes us. There are other behaviours we go along with. It can be values of how to talk to each other, or what is not cool. The lack of characters smoking on TV is a good thing. It could affect how we think of ourselves, or treat others. The idea of what is normal to eat, what sort of things you have in your house, what sort of house to live in, etc may not be good. We've all heard about poor working conditions overseas, and about the environmental impact of so much of what we use and eat... yet how does that shape how we live? Not changing the way we live is the norm in media and society (because it's not media alone).

Being a churchy person, I also think about such things as making time for God. You are all a good example because you're making time for worship - but many who would check Christian on the census don't. We can think that we are more loving and helpful to people in need. I don't even need to go to horrible extremes like Putin. I know people who help others, but only when it makes them feel good, or if it's not a bother. They support the idea that Christians are (or can be) better. That said, I can also think of non-Christians who are 'good people'. I'm sure you've got friends or children who are 'good people' even though they don't make time for God.

This idea of thinking that you're better than someone else, it's also a non-Christian thing. It comes out of society - and a deep need to know if we are valued.

Are we loved?



too much and too little - Christine Kim

"Drifting along on the stream of this world's ideas of living" is easy. It's normal. Going against the flow is dead hard.

Dead is actually how the situation is described in Ephesians, and the image of a dead body nails the situation. Think about what a dead body can do to change what's happening... nothing. By ourselves, we can't stand against the flow and live the good life. Ephesians reminds us there's nothing we can do to save ourselves... and that this isn't the end. Christ descended to the dead, and rose again to sit at the right hand of God the Father almighty. Through Christ, we are "lifted right out of the old life to take our place with God in Christ in the Heavens." This is the message in today's passage.

sdtart of Ephesians 2 as translated by JB Phillips.

There are theories in the Bible about how this works - about why Christ had to die on the cross. That, however, isn't the point in this passage.



Comforting - Daphne Odjig

Instead we are reminded why Christ did it: Love. Jesus came, lived with us - and died - not because we were skilled or because we are good people. Jesus came because God loves the world - and everyone in it.

We are reminded that God reaches to us with grace - not grace like a ballerina, but someone offering something that you don't deserve. This is the offer to live, not drifting on the ways of the world, but into God's magnificent love, hope and healing.

(next week we'll find out more about that)

To God be all the glory Amen.



# Responding to God

☐ Hymn: Jesus, lover of my soul.....pg 11 (676)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=XFaiiPv-Q6I

FaithTalk: These are some questions for you to discuss with somebody... or many somebodies. Do what you feel safe (and practice stretching a little).

Values: Identify three things that are important to you. How do you live out these values?

Memories: Share a time when you felt like you were just drifting through a job or relationship.

Values: What do you think of the concept in Ephesians that people who aren't Christian just don't understand the world.

Wonder: Does God work through people without them knowing, or believing? How would they feel if you suggested this?

Etching: How do you feel about the idea that nothing you can do will help God love you or help you? (and that God loves you and offers help anyway)

Prayer: ... the prayer in Ephesians 1: 16-19 that we may have the wisdom and insight to realize how magnificent and splendid the hope is in God.

# 🌞 Spirit Sighting

This week I read about way people are trying to stop violence in the most dangerous neighbourhoods in the U.S. It doesn't involve increasing the police or guns. This is about people combining local knowledge and training to stop the flow of killings followed by revenge killings. Instead they bring people together in neutral space to find common ground. They aren't

punishing people for crimes, but are actually preventing them.<sup>5</sup>

I can't imagine how this could be working without God's spirit working in ways that nobody had imagined possible.

# ╆ Offering

Financially, we have set up a donation option on our **website**. Just click the '**Donate Now**' button, and then the pretty button. It gives you various options that are easy to follow. You can now donate through **interac e-transfer**. Our name is Kensington Presbyterian Church and the e-mail address is info@kensingtonchurch.ca.

Mailing a cheque or signing up for Pre-Authorized Remittance (**PAR**) are also good options.

All donations are gratefully received and support God's work in our local and extended community.





#### Communion

☐ Hymn: Broken for me......pg12 (550)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=LKs1zoQv3fU

Invitation to the table
Ephesians emphasizes,
there is nothing you can do
so that you deserve to be at this table,
and there is nothing that you can do
to stop Christ from setting a place for you.

Join us, you who have much faith, and you who would like to have more, you who have come often and you who have not joined for a while,

you who try to follow and you who have wandered. Everyone who wants to know God better is welcome to the Lord's table.

Maintenant, c'est le temps de se rassembler autour de la Table de notre Seigneur.

#### Parce que

C'est la volonté de Dieu que tous ceux qui veulent connaître Jésus devraient partager ce repas.



Jesus offering bread & cup Barredo Maximino Cerezo

As we come together to share the Lord's Supper, we also come together with a statement of faith that we share with Christians of many types, around the world and through the centuries.

# Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

<sup>5</sup> You can read more about it on the BBC site: <a href="www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-65994314">www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-65994314</a>

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended to heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,

believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen.

Great prayer of thanksgiving The Lord be with you.

and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Everlasting, Ever-living God,

In Ephesians we are reminded that you are active in our lives, in all our lives,

Now,

in the future,

and back before the foundations of the world.

Your love was so big that it burst forth

breathing such wonders that we are still amazed

at the smell of fresh baking,

the taste of a ripe strawberry
the sight of a cardinal against the sky
the sounds of a friend laughing
and the touch of a comforting hand.

Your creation is a marvel that only makes sense with you.

Thank you for the blessings of our experiences and for experiences of others from the Bible, and since, who tell us about your grace and love.

Now we join with the whole creation to lift our hearts in joyful praise.

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is Jesus,
and all who know him,
who believe in him.
Because through Jesus
you breathed new life to those who were dead
so that we saw reality in a new way,
like somebody born again.

As we raise our hosannas to the highest, we are so grateful that you also came down to the lowest. That on our worst days,

you are there - loving us, and inviting us to trust in you. That you descended to the dead to lift us up to join you at your feast.

Not because we deserve it, but because we are precious to you.

...Together, we proclaim the mystery of the faith.

# Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

And we look forward to your coming again.

While we know there will be judgment,
there will also be grace and love
as the world is renewed in ways beyond our imagining.

As we journey towards this time, may your Holy Spirit help us so that we don't just drift along with the ways of the world, but to work in us so that we might discover the talents and opportunities you have planned for us.

As we wait, we look around.

As we get to know you more, we grow concerned about the world - and confident that you care about what we feel.

Lord of lords,

We pray today for Canada that our leaders may be moved by your Spirit to help all the people who live here. We pray all those struggling with paying the bills, as inflation rises
and new technology changes the ways of work.
We pray for those in need of healing,
from broken relationships
from broken bodies & minds... and souls.
We come to you Jesus, because we know that you care,
and have the power to bring healing.

As we gather at your table,
we pray that as we share your bread and your cup.
your will make them alive
so that we may be closer to you
and be strengthened by you until you come again.

Let us join together in speaking the words Jesus taught us to pray, saying:

Lord's Prayer (feel free to use another version/translation) Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.



liturgical table - Jan Richardson

Words of Institution

On the night before he met with death, Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks to God

he broke the bread and shared it, saying

"This is my body; it is broken for you."

"Ceci est mon corps, qui est rompu pour vous"

[take and eat]

In the same way, he took the cup of wine after dinner and said, "This is the new relationship with God, sealed in my blood Take this, all of you, in remembrance of me."

"Cette coupe est la nouvelle alliance en mon saunt; faites ceci en mémoire de moi"

These are the gifts of God for the people of God. [take and drink]

rayer after Communion

Loving God,

We thank you for your Spirit that brings us nourishment from Heaven.

Jésus, il n'y a rien qui puisse te séparer de nous.

We thank you for Jesus,

who assures us that we belong at your table.

Vous êtes ici maintenant avec espoir et amour.

With your strength,

may we join your magnificent dance bringing love, hope & healing to the world.

In Jesus name,

Amen.

☐ Hymn: At the dawning of salvation......pg 13 (248)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=p15RloxR7Jl

Benediction (Ephesians 1:17-19)

"That God... will give you spiritual wisdom and the insight to know more of him: that you may receive that inner illumination of the spirit which will make you realize how great is the hope to which he is calling you - the magnificence and splendour of the inheritance promised to Christians - and how tremendous is the power available to us who believe in God."

Amen.

9/14



# Hark the glad sound

RICHMOND 8686CM







Words: Philip Doddridge (1701–1751), Scottish Paraphrases, alt Music: Thomas Haweis (1734–1820); arrangement, Samuel Webbe the younger (1770–1843)

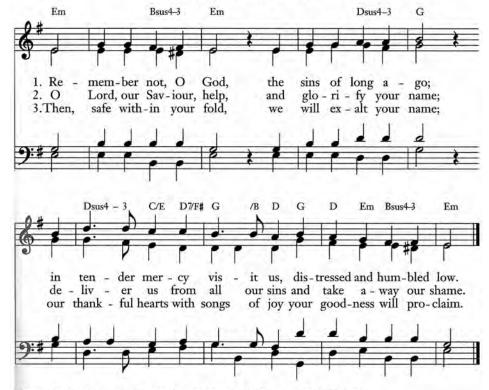
Words: public domain Music: public domain

Rev. Peter Rombeek for Kensington Presbyterian Church Psalm 79

47

# Remember not, O God

SOUTHWELL (DAMAN) 6686SM



Words: Psalm 79; paraphrase, Psalter 1912 Music: Daman's Psalter 1579 Words: public domain Music: public domain

### Jesus, lover of my soul





Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788) Music: Joseph Parry (1841-1903) Words: public domain Music: public domain

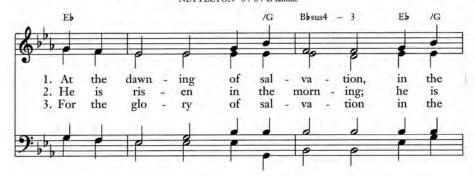


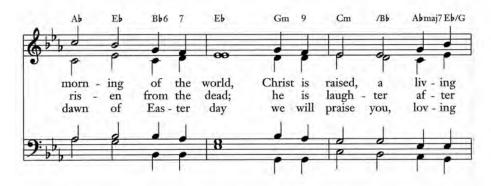
Words: Janet Lunt (20th cent.) Music: Janet Lunt (20th cent.); arrangement, Andrew Maries Words: copyright © Mustard Seed Music, 1978/9 Music: copyright © Mustard Seed Music, 1978/9



# At the dawning of salvation

NETTLETON 8787 D lambic







Words: Jock Curle Music: American folk melody; harmony, John W. Wilson (1905–1992)

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Music: barmony, copyright © 1983 by Hope Publishing Co.



#### **JULY 2023**

#### SOCIAL ACTION SPOTLIGHT

# **Housing Equity For All**

Have you seen what happens when a home has an unlevel foundation? Walls and floors separate. Concrete cracks. Load-bearing walls tilt. It does not feel safe and secure. For some, this is what it looks like to try to access secure and adequate housing.

Systemic housing inequity is the result of many factors, including racism, economic disparity and access to education, employment and income. As a result, racialized and Indigenous communities, people with disabilities, woman-led single parent families, lone seniors and people experiencing domestic violence or human trafficking face much higher levels of housing insecurity. These factors are far beyond the control of any one person or family and point to a broken, unlevel societal foundation where housing is treated as a commodity instead of a necessity. Without secure housing, human health suffers and social and economic wellbeing diminish.

Attaining housing equity for all requires that we reframe how we think about housing: a safe and adequate home is a right for all people. As a society, we are collectively responsible for building a level and just foundation so that no one faces housing insecurity. There are steps we can take to advocate for this just foundation.

#### What can you do?

- Advocate that elected officials approach housing as a human right, combined with appropriate benefits and services that are trauma-informed, culturally appropriate and reflective of the diverse lived experiences of those most vulnerable to housing insecurity to adequately address systemic barriers to affordable housing.
- Get involved and support cooperative and/or social housing initiatives in your community. Work to ensure that these initiatives are actually meeting the needs of those in your community who live with housing insecurity.
- Sample letters are available from presbyterian.ca/resources/advocacy.

#### Sunday, July 2

#### MISSION MOMENT

"The earthquake experience is unlike any other," shared D, a 68-year-old retiree. When a powerful earthquake struck the border region between northern Syria and southeast Türkiye, the damage and loss were overwhelming. The earthquake caused widespread displacement, with many people fleeing their homes for fear of aftershocks and further collapses. At the time, the Syrian



population was already profoundly impacted by the persisting war and the country's economic collapse. PWS&D responded through our partners to provide temporary shelter, much-needed mattresses, blankets, hygiene kits, hot meals and psychological support to affected families. In addition, with Canadian Foodgrains Bank, our partners are providing monthly food rations to those most affected.

#### DAILY PRAYERS

**Saturday, July 1** (Canada Day) We pray that the nation known as Canada will be a just, equitable and welcoming country and we pray for all those who form and keep our laws, that they carry out their responsibilities with wisdom, courage and mercy.

**Sunday, July 2** We pray for Presbyterian World Service & Development (PWS&D) partners in Malawi who are responding to the devastating effects of Cyclone Freddy by providing food assistance and other necessities to those impacted.

**Monday, July 3** We pray for summer camp staff and volunteers who are fostering safe and fun environments for gender-diverse children.

Tuesday, July 4 We pray for people who travel over the summer months.

**Wednesday, July 5** We pray for staff at the national office of the PCC as they work to fulfil the decisions of the General Assembly.

**Thursday, July 6** We pray for the Rev. Joyce Yanishewski, clerk for the Synod of Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario.

**Friday, July 7** We pray for the WMS as it envisions its future and makes decisions towards a new vision.

**Saturday**, **July 8** We pray for worship leaders who have more time in the summer for recreation and reflection as they plan for the year ahead.