



Kensington Presbyterian Church  
*Growing in faith and sharing God's love*  
 since 1786

*Over Easy*

*April 21, 2024*

**WELCOME**, to worship. We are offering a variety of ways for people to gather. We are welcoming people to worship in person (with singing), as well as through Zoom, YouTube, and this printable PDF.<sup>1</sup> If this is how you are worshipping, know that you are not alone... and if you like, you can invite those who live with you to join you, or connect with others through the phone or outside.

If you have any prayer requests, ideas, or just want to talk, please reach out to your elder or Rev. Peter (Peter@Kensingtonchurch.ca).

*Announcements*

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

**Choir:** Sunday mornings at 9:45.

**ReWind:** Youth group will meet next Sunday.

**Zoom Prayer Group:** Wednesday at 6:30 a.m.

[us04web.zoom.us/j/773730107?  
 pwd=eUo2M09YMEw5dkZvdm9uQmpHNIUrUT09](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/773730107?pwd=eUo2M09YMEw5dkZvdm9uQmpHNIUrUT09)

**Jesus & Java:** Join us as we share the joys and questions of faith.

Thursday, 3:30 pm at Beetz, 5914 Sherbrooke @ Clifton

**Friday's fabulously friendly food & film:** pizza at 6:30 pm

Starting season 3 of *The Chosen*. RSVP with Peter appreciated

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

<sup>1</sup> note: that the footnotes are not as thorough as an academic paper.



*Contacts*

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 514-773-4620

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



## 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 sing to the LORD a new song;

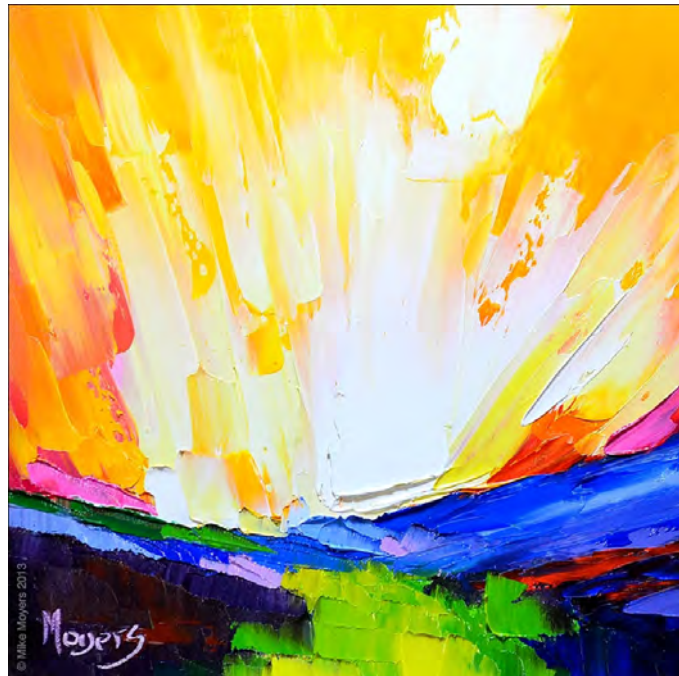
**Sing to the LORD, all the earth.**

Sing to the LORD, bless the Lord's name;

**tell of God's salvation from day to day.**

Declare the glory of the Lord among the nations,

**and God's marvellous works among all the peoples.**



Praise the Lord - M Moyers

♪ Hymn: Christ is the King!.....pg 8 (612)

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=TyMBxgovByc](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TyMBxgovByc)



Prayer of Approach<sup>2</sup>

May the word get around, O God,  
that you are God.

That you disrupt our ways,  
challenge our being,  
confusion our assumptions,  
confront our prejudices  
...and for this we praise you.

May the word get around, O God,  
that you are God.

Not some pale imitation in some distant past  
but the life-force of justice,  
the spirit of wisdom,  
the source of love and hope  
freely offered to everyone  
...and for this we praise you.

May the word get around, O God,  
that you are God.

Found with all those who need guidance or help  
back to healthy relationships  
with family, friends,  
enemies and you.

Please forgive us our sins...

<sup>2</sup> adapted from *Spill the Beans* #18

...and for this we praise you.

May the word get around, O God,  
that you are God  
...and we praise you.

Amen.

✦ Assurance of Pardon

Here the good news from Isaiah 1:18  
Come now, let us argue it out,  
says the LORD:  
though your sins are like scarlet,  
they shall be like snow;  
though they are red like crimson,  
they shall become like wool.

As we look to be good disciples,  
let us sing together the prayer Jesus teaches his followers:

✦ The Lord's Prayer (please use a version you are comfortable with)

**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  
Amen.**



## Listening to God

✦ Children's Time  
We'll read *The Recess Queen*.  
You can listen to it on this  
video:  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=SR1ez-yWNyQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SR1ez-yWNyQ)



prayer  
*Dear Jesus, Help us to  
remember that one person can  
make a big difference, and it  
can be us.*

Amen.

♪ Hymn: Everywhere I go.....pg 8

✦ Prayer for Illumination

Lord, open our hearts and minds  
through the power of your Holy Spirit,  
so we will know and share the Good News.


Amen.

✦ Intro to the readings

Last week we heard about Peter imitating Jesus by seeing the world as Jesus does, and doing what he can to help, and making sure that God got the credit. The week we're going to hear about Paul imitating Jesus - but in a different way.

We're going to hear two passages. One about when Paul first went to the city of Thessalonica (now called Thessaloniki, in Greece), and the other from a letter he wrote to them later.

One thing to remember is that the words Messiah and Christ mean the same thing - because they are in different languages. It's a bit like saying light and lumière - except Messiah & Christ is the word for a leader who will save people.

 Reading: Please look up the passages in your own Bible,<sup>3</sup> or click on the name to be taken to an online version.

[Acts 17](#): 1-9

[1 Thessalonians 1](#): 1-10

 Sermon: Over easy?

*Dear Lord, please bless these words  
and the meditations of our hearts. Amen.*

Paul and friends are trying to continue the work of Jesus. They are doing this like any other good student back then - imitating their teacher.

Shall we try some imitations? (like Simon Says)

Paul says... touch your nose

Ps say, “thank God”

Ps touch your elbows together

[a bit hard]

x cross your legs

Ps shout “Yeah Jesus”

Paul was really trying to convince people that he had good news, and Jesus was it.

*But, not everybody was sure.*

Paul knew this was good news because of the way his life had changed. He had been a very good student studying about God. He thought he knew all about God. When he first heard about Jesus Paul knew that Jesus and his followers were dangerous and not respecting God - so he helped to round them up so they could be silenced.

When on his way to another city to arrest more people Paul encountered Jesus. It was odd as Jesus had died. Still, death didn't stop Jesus and he made Paul pause and reflect on what he was doing. He had Paul spend some time with Christians and listen to them... and Paul changed. Paul discovered that believing in Jesus invited a new way to connect with God - one that brought joy and hope - and he needed to share it with everyone.

This was a big and unexpected change, even for Jesus' disciples who had lived through unexpected changes - like God turning the cross and death into signs of hope and life.

Paul's need to tell people about the joy and hope he found through Jesus led him to travel to many many cities and talk with many many people. As he continued his travels, and spent time arrested, he would write letters back. We have a number of the letters in the Bible (making him the writer of more of the New Testament than anyone else).

Did you notice I said arrested? It wasn't just the disciples who had difficulty accepting Paul, though with most people the issue wasn't his past, but his words.

For example, take his visit to Thessalonica.

It was the capital for the region, and on an important trade route. This brought in money and people - a diversity of people. Even though it's about a month's walk away from Jerusalem there

<sup>3</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

were enough Jews to set up a synagogue. They did this to help keep their community together and help them how to live God's way (like we have the church).

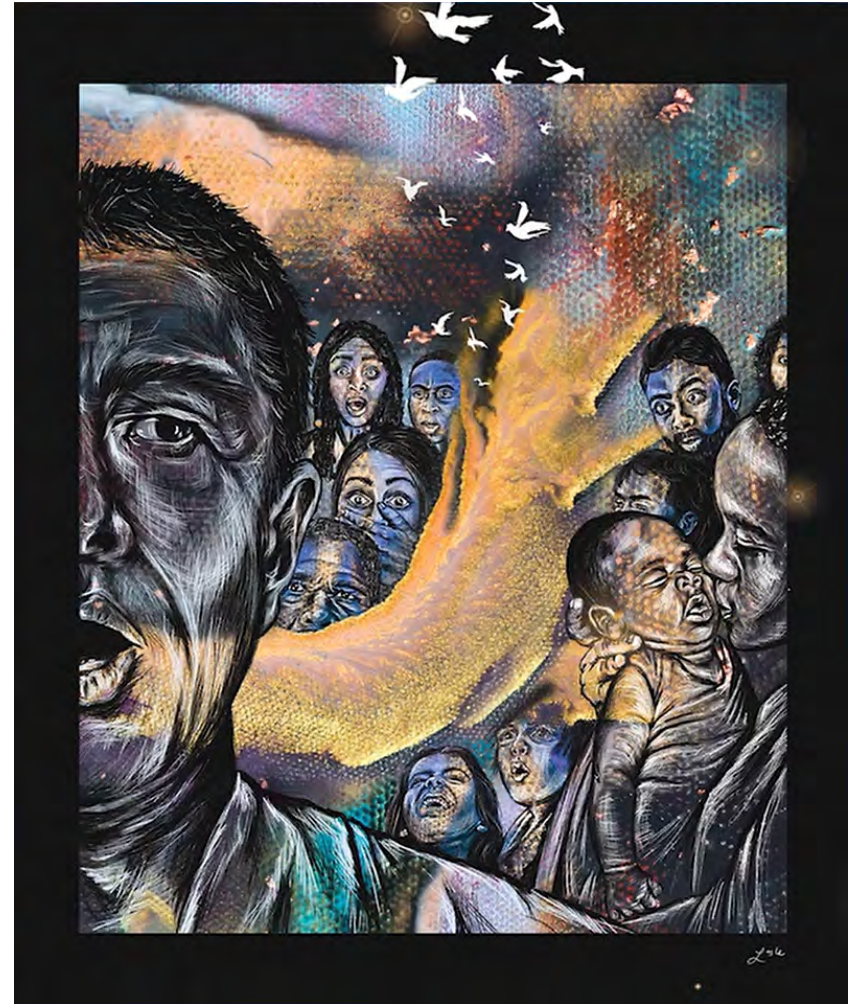
One Sabbath a new guy (Paul) walks in and joins in their discussions - except he's got strange ideas about God. Some people find it challenging, others think he's being disrespectful, and some are interested.

Imagine a stranger coming in here and trying to convince us that we're thinking about God wrong. Would you feel that the person was disrespecting God? disrespecting you? Would you be offended? Would you be afraid? If they were right, what would that mean to everything that had come before? and what would that mean about everything to come?

I suspect the Jewish community in Thessalonica felt that Paul was disrespectful, they were offended, and afraid. Of course, we always have to be careful when naming a group of people, like saying "The Jews", because we know that some believed what Paul said. It's never fair to assume everyone's the same.

There were even people outside the Jews who believed - which is extraordinary because their beliefs were quite different. These people believing in Jesus led their neighbours/community to also feel disrespect & fear. Imagine living in a world that believes in a whole bunch of gods. And these gods are a bit like kids with toys, and will may throw them or step on them at any time - but especially if they're mad. Paul is saying there's a new God in town who claims to be the top god. If they didn't believe Paul that there was only one god, then they'd really be afraid of what's going to happen when their old gods fight back. (Thankfully there is only one God.)

Then there's the challenge to the government. Paul is talking



What wonder turns into - Lisle Gerrity about this Jesus like he's the Emperor - but what's the Emperor in Rome going to do when he finds out? He'll probably send soldiers to kill anyone following this Jesus - and anyone who gets in the way.

And then there's the shift in focus/priorities that comes with accepting Jesus as the way to live. Jesus puts helping people before religious rules or business. How will that affect things? If we pay

everyone a living wage, then the cost of making things will go up... meaning less people able to buy it, or less money for the owners. What if we make looking after the environment more important than saving money? Will the owners need to take less of a share? Will anyone still want to develop something new? and have the money to do it? Remembering this is a city that survives on trading things, how will putting creation first (including people) instead of money affect business?

With these fears of gods and governments and business you can see why there was the accusation that Paul and friends were turning the world upside-down. You can imagine why that was resisted.

You could face the same troubles now - in pushing for a priority of people over profit, or the even more radical notion that God is active and making the world better - though possibly not as we might define better. People might think you're joking with them - or crazy. They might resent you challenging their view of the world and accuse you of the same thing that Paul was accused of, "*turning the world upside down*". They might be afraid of what would happen if the Jesus way changed society to become 'the way'.

These stories remind us that following Jesus, or imitating Jesus, will bring trouble into your life. I don't think it'll be like Paul, with you having to slip out of town at night, or his friend Jason who got dragged out by a mob for showing Paul hospitality, but it may strain relationships. Also, Paul writes it brings more joy - "*great joy*".



These stories from Thessalonica also remind us that God has a special purpose for us, and that this will help people to have a good relationship with God - people we don't even know yet.

Think & pray about what purpose might be, talk about it, and get back to me. This way of imitating Jesus may cause a bit of trouble, but it will also bring great joy.

To God be all the glory  
Amen.



## Responding to God

🎵 Hymn: For those at home, you can join in on YouTube:<sup>4</sup>  
[www.youtube.com/channel/UC\\_EPsf2FuWoen7j1iGcz\\_w](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_EPsf2FuWoen7j1iGcz_w)

💬 FaithTalk: These are some questions for you to discuss with somebody... or many somebodies.

Do what you feel safe (and practice stretching a little).

Memories: Share a time you were experienced joy (perhaps you were even surprised by joy), and give thanks to God.

Values: What does our wider society think Christianity is about (values and in practice)?  
What would you want to them to know?

Wonder: How could we turn the world upside-down (in living out the good news)?

Actions: Think, pray and talk about what our special purpose might be that will inspire the community outside Kensington to be open to God's life.

<sup>4</sup> note: the video disappears for a while after we finish and then reappears later Sunday afternoon.

Memories: Describe risk-taking hospitality (thinking of Jason in the scripture). Can you think of an example of risk-taking hospitality?

### ✦ Spirit Sightings

The Holy Spirit was active in our mid-week groups as conversations were started on topics like the fear of being a burden to someone else, poor communication, faith, forgiveness, acceptance, and others. It is a gift of the Holy Spirit that we are a place we can share our struggles, the Bible, and God - and share our joys.

### ✦ Offering

Financially, we have set up a donation option on our **website**: [kensingtonchurch.ca](http://kensingtonchurch.ca). Just click the 'Donate Now' button, and then the pretty button. It gives you various options that are easy to follow.

You can also donate through **interac e-transfer**. Our name is Kensington Presbyterian Church and the e-mail address is [info@kensingtonchurch.ca](mailto:info@kensingtonchurch.ca).

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



📖 Reading: [Psalm 96](#)

### 👤 Prayers of the people

We will brainstorm works of God to be thankful for, that will be worked into a prayer. You may find this helpful...

God of life,  
we rejoice in the resurrection of your Son,  
his defeat over death, and his gift of new life.  
We praise you for the reflections of that new life  
in creation . . .  
in our community as it . . .  
in Kensington . . .  
in the sacrifice of those who serve . . .  
in our new life in Christ . . .

To you as the giver of new life and renewed hope  
we bring our prayers  
for creation and its care . . .  
for the nations of the world . . .  
for our nation and its leaders . . .  
for Kensington and the Session . . .  
for other congregations in our area, such as: Montreal Korean,  
Taiwanese Robert Campbell, Montreal West, & Snowdon.  
for those needing love, hope, or healing . . .

We pray all this in your name, the Lord and giver of life.  
**Amen.**<sup>5</sup>

Praise the Lord - M Moyers

🎵 Hymn: Shine Jesus Shine.....pg 9 (376)  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=9nUOfxqPXQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9nUOfxqPXQ)

✦ Benediction (2 Corinthians 13:13)  
*The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
be with all of you.*  
Amen.



<sup>5</sup> Worship Sourcebook N.4.4.1

# 177 Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing

GELOBT SEI GOTT

1. Good Christ-ians all, re - joice and sing! Now is the tri - umph  
 2. The Lord of life is ris'n to - day; death's might-y stone is  
 3. We praise in songs of vic - to - ry that Love, that Life, which

of our King! To all the world glad news we bring:  
 rolled a - way; let ev - 'ry tongue re - joice and say:  
 can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:

"Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!"  
 "Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!"  
 "Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!"

WORDS: Cyril A. Alington, 1925  
 MUSIC: Melchior Vulpius, 1609

8.8.8. Alleluias

Rev. Peter Rombeek  
 Kensington Presbyterian Church

# Everywhere I Go

*mf*

1. Ev - ery - where I go, the Lord is near me.
2. In the dark of night should things a - larm me,
4. In the com - ing days of joy or sad - ness,
5. Ev - ery - where I go, the Lord is near me.

3  
 If I call up - on him, he will hear me.  
 ev - er in his sight, no ill may harm me.  
 I will praise his name with songs of glad - ness.  
 If I call up - on him, he will hear me.

5 *Fourth time to Coda* ⊕

Ne - ver will I fear, for the Lord is near, ev - ery - where I  
 I will be of cheer, for the Lord is near, ev - ery - where I  
 For to me it's clear that the Lord is near, ev - ery - where I  
 Ne - ver will I fear, for the Lord is near, ev - ery - where I

7 1, 3 2

go. go. 3. He is with me

11  
 day by day; he will be my strength and stay;

14 *D.C.*

from his path I will not stray but fol - low in his way.

18 ⊕ CODA

go. \_\_\_\_\_



# 376 Lord, the light of your love is shining

SHINE, JESUS, SHINE 9 9 10 10 6 with refrain (13 9 13 10)

Intro

A D/A E/A D/A A D/A E/A D/A

Unison A Asus A E/A A Asus

1. Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing in the midst of the  
 2. Lord, I come to your awe - some pres - ence, from the sha - dows in -  
 3. As we gaze on your king - ly bright - ness, so our fa - ces dis -

A E/A D E/D

dark - ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, Light of the  
 to your ra - diance; by your blood I may  
 play your like - ness, ev - er chang - ing from

C#m F#m D F/D

World, shine up - on us. Set us free by the  
 en - ter your bright - ness. Search me, try me, con -  
 glo - ry to glo - ry; mir - rored here may our

Words: Graham Kendrick (1950-) Music: Graham Kendrick (1950-)  
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C#m F#m G Esus E G Esus E

truth you now bring us.  
 some all my dark-ness. Shine on me; shine on me.  
 lives tell your sto - ry.

Refrain A E/A D A Bm Bm/A

Shine, Je - sus shine; fill this land with the  
 Flow, riv - er, flow; flood the na - tions with

Esus E Esus E A E/A D A

Fa - ther's glo - ry; blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our  
 grace and mer - cy; send forth your word, Lord, and

1. Bm Bm/A G Esus E 2. Bm E7 A D/A D.S. A Last time

hearts on fire. let there be light!

# MISSION MOMENT

Sunday, April 21

In the Kushkak village in Afghanistan, 42-year-old Guljan lived a simple life with her husband and four children until one day in October 2023, when an earthquake struck their village. Guljan lost her husband and 11-year-old son. After the disaster, she encountered significant challenges in getting assistance due to the gender disparities present in her village. However, PWS&D's partner recognized her needs and provided Guljan's family with a winterized tent to help endure the harsh weather conditions. PWS&D provided food assistance, as well as other support after the earthquake to help people survive the winter challenges.



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## DAILY PRAYERS

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**Sunday, April 21** We give thanks for ministries like Calvin-Goforth's "Hub Club" in Saskatoon, SK that encourage greater social inclusion for seniors and older adults.

**Monday, April 22 (Earth Day)** We pray for the healing of the earth and for PWS&D projects promoting environmental stewardship and sustainability while helping communities break cycles of hunger and poverty.

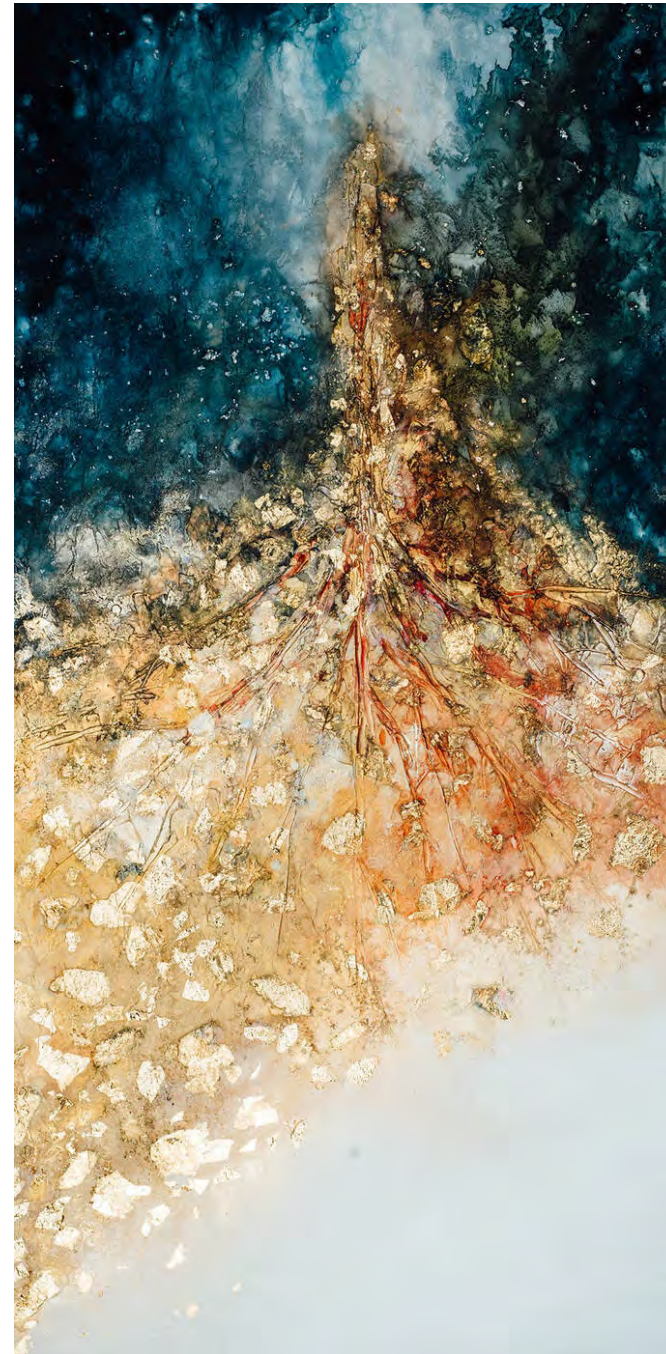
**Tuesday, April 23** We pray for Atlantic Mission Society Auxiliaries as they reach out with Christ's love to those in need in their communities.

**Wednesday, April 24** We pray for people living in long-term care facilities, that they may continue to be engaged participants in the life and ministry of a congregation.

**Thursday, April 25** We pray for the work of the Committee on Education and Reception as it meets this week.

**Friday, April 26** We pray for The Presbyterian College's Dean of Students, the Rev. Prudence Neba, and each student who is writing exams, papers, and making important decisions regarding the summer semester.

**Saturday, April 27** We pray for the Synod of Central, Northeastern Ontario & Bermuda.



imperishable hope  
Kelly Kruse