



CANON DAVIS MEMORIAL CHURCH

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5th SUNDAY IN LENT • March 21, 2021

Jeremiah 31:31-34 • Psalm 51:1-12 or Psalm 119:9-16

Hebrews 5:5-10 • John 12:20-33

Dear Friends,

I think most people like to regard themselves as critical thinkers. Life is complicated and challenging at the best of times. How we make our decisions can be super important. Healthy lives can depend on how we use our power of reason.

Often a quick survey of factors to be considered in making a particular decision can leave us wondering where to begin and who to turn to. We know that we cannot make all important decisions on our own. We may need to identify which people are the most suitable to seek out to help us in making a particular decision.

Also, notice how we often delegate specific decision making responsibilities to government or private sector people known for their experience, intelligence or wisdom. Great societies are built by the contributions of a multitude of people of great skill and knowledge. This is why our school systems are so vitally important! They help build a nation's brain trust.

In recent years, we seldom hear of any people being referred too as 'statesmen' or 'stateswomen'. Instead, we hear more critical comments. These tend to undermine respect for leaders right around the globe. Be they leaders of government, of institutions, or of corporations; we tend to hear more that is negative than positive. Some of this negativism may be deserved; some not.

While various public figures do, indeed, make bad judgments and other mistakes, it is well to remember that they too are human. But, because of their positions of leadership and responsibility, their judgments often impact more people in bigger ways — for good or for ill.

But that does not leave us unable to act in positive ways. In this Lenten season, as creations of God, it is a good time to take stock of our potential impacts on others. It may not often seem like it; but we do impact other folk a lot. We all affect the lives of other people; just as they affect our lives. The question that faces those in leadership positions faces us as well. Are we mainly a positive influence; or a negative influence?

Do we seek to live according to the wisdom of God; or have we simply bought into the wisdom of the world? Do we convey the light of Christ in the way we live our lives? Is loving our neighbour the basis from which we start most serious conversations? Are we people of light, peace and healing? Do we put ourselves in the shoes of others before taking action? Do we respect the dignity of others, regardless of cultural and other differences?

When we criticize others it may also be a time to be open to critical comments about ourselves. Is it a time to look at ourselves and see if there is room to be more positive, as we seek to live a new life in Christ. Our world is in turmoil in many areas. May we be active bearers of love; of light; of healing; and of peace. We are known and loved by God! The blessings of our loving Creator God be upon you and those you love.



You are invited to go each Sunday and/or Wednesday to the link:

tinyurl.com/StAlbans-CDMC

That is the link to St. Alban's Anglican Church in Burnaby B.C. Follow the instructions. You will find links to the Rev'd Greg Jenkins officiating at an Anglican church service with children's focus, church music, readings, prayers and a sermon. If you are also interested in joining their weekly Bible Study, contact Rev. Greg at revgregjenkins@gmail.com He will be more than happy to be in touch about joining in with their group by ZOOM. I hope you will find these services help to deepen your faith.

In addition, **Holy Week Services from St. Alban's** may be accessed by our usual link to their website :

tinyurl.com/StAlbans-CDMC

Palm Sunday in the morning
Maundy Thursday by 7pm
Good Friday in the morning
Easter Sunday in the morning

We are joining with many parishes in our deanery in providing telephone support to our members and friends. This support is designed to keep us up to date, while not requiring a computer. A CDMC Pastoral Letter will be read this week through our phone ministry.

A free phone line for prayer,
reflections, worship and a
reminder you're not alone.

1-888-229-5422

With love, from the Anglican
Churches of Lambton-Kent

