



## CANON DAVIS MEMORIAL CHURCH

380 Russell St. North, Sarnia, Ontario, N7T 6S6

(519) 344-9531 • <http://www.canondavis.com>

4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY of LENT • March 14, 2021

Numbers 21:4-9 • Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

Ephesians 2:1-10 • John 3:14-21

Dear Friends,

Things change as time moves along. But one thing remains pretty constant. We are frequently presented with choices to make. Some of those choices are of monumental importance. Our lives can completely change by choosing one alternative over another.

Some of you may remember a time when upon finishing our education, we were presented with more than one employment opportunity. That's right. There was a time in some areas where the choice was focused on which job opportunity one would take. This instead was rather than having to take almost any job, because there was only one choice. If there were no jobs available, one may have had to make job hunting their full time work. If only one job became available, most job seekers would jump at the chance and take it, regardless of how closely it matched their skills.

Like so many young folk in the early 60's, I was blessed with a real choice to make. I was offered a job with the Forest Service, as a Landscape Architect, designing nature trails and campsites. At the same time, I was also offered a job as a Junior City Planner with the Detroit City Plan Commission. The issues became quickly obvious. One would lead to a lifestyle in beautiful forestlands and grasslands. But it would also mean taking a mandatory move every 4-5 years to different parts of the country.

Alternatively, I could go work in a major urban environment, zeroing in on strategic problems and opportunities for a large number of people of all walks of life. The City job was for as long as I wanted to stay. We could opt to own our own home for as long as we liked.

Each opportunity offered a totally different environment. These would influence how we and our children would see life. At that time, sociologists were noting that the greatest social divide in North America was that between rural and urban folk. Back then, there was a 50/50 urban/rural divide in population numbers.

Sally and I had a big decision to make — one that affected everyone in our extended families; including those who were yet to be born. Well, we decided for the urban job and never regretted making the choice we made.

But there were and are no guaranties for a happy result from our choices. Not all of our friends and family members were supportive. One couple said emphatically, that it was good that someone was willing to work for the City; but it was not going to be either of them! The choices we make in life matter — they matter a lot!

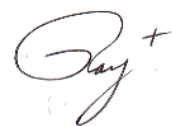
But there are choices and there are choices! The impacts can be huge from such choices as where to live; what job to have; what church one sees as their faith home; and so much more. This leads us up to considering the role of our faith in how we live our lives. And that is all encompassing. No matter what our role in life turns out to be, no matter what choices we have found ourselves making, everything is impacted by our world view. And our world view is dramatically affected by our religious views.

Now with tens of thousands of denominational differences in the world, we have an almost unlimited set of choices. The importance of our faith in our lives, makes a difference in: how we live our lives at home; how we approach the way we act in the workplace; and what and how we do in our hours of leisure and/or community service.

Our choice about our faith is a monumental one. Are we led in the ways of God? — or are we more inclined to follow the ways of the world? We do have a choice. That choice is given to us by our Lord Jesus Christ. Do we choose to be guided by the light of Christ? As our Lord put it: *But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.*

Christ not only calls upon us to be a people who care, he calls us to care for all people. Jesus calls upon us to love all people. If we do this, our actions will speak volumes.

Our world is in a turmoil in many areas. May we be 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.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ray" followed by a small plus sign (+).

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

[tinyurl.com/StAlbans-CDMC](https://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](mailto: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](https://tinyurl.com/StAlbans-CDMC)

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

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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

