

**Canon Davis Memorial Church**  
*Anglican Church of Canada*  
*Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost*

***We Come and worship God.***  
***We go our way with souls nourished.***

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**August 13, 2023 — Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost**

**Service of the Word**

**Processional Hymn # 3**  
***Morning Has Broken***

Officiant: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**People: And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us pray.

We thank you, O God, that you have again brought us together on the Lord's Day to praise you for your goodness and to ask your blessing. Give us grace to see your hand in the week that is past, and your purpose in the week to come; through Christ our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

Officiant: Dear friends in Christ, as we turn our hearts and minds to worship almighty God, let us confess our sins.

**People: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Officiant: Merciful God, grant to us, your faithful people, pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with a quiet mind through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**People: Amen.**

Officiant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us reconcile to God and one another a sign of Christ's

peace.

### **The Collect of the Day**

**Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love, joy, and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.**

**First Reading** Genesis 37: 1-4, 12-28

### **A READING FROM THE BOOK OF GENESIS**

Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan. This is the story of the family of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves. But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him. Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem. And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." He answered, "Here I am." So he said to him, "Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock; and bring word back to me." So he sent him from the valley of Hebron. He came to Shechem, and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, "What are you seeking?" "I am seeking my brothers," he said; "tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock." The man said, "They have gone away, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.'" So Joseph went after his brothers, and found them at Dothan. They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them, they conspired to kill him. They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer. Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams." But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, "Let us not take his life." Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him" - that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father. So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the long robe with sleeves that he wore; and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it. Then they sat down to eat; and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. Then Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh." And his brothers agreed. When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

Officiant: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Psalms 105** Part 1 1-6, 16-22 (*Response in bold.*)

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples.

**Sing to him, sing praises to him, and speak of all his marvellous works.**

Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

**Search for the Lord and his strength; continually seek his face.**

Remember the marvels he has done, his wonders and the judgements of his mouth,

**O offspring of Abraham his servant, O children of Jacob his chosen.**

Then he called for a famine in the land and destroyed the supply of bread. He sent a man before them, Joseph, who was sold as a slave. They bruised his feet in fetters; his neck they put in an iron collar.

**Until his prediction came to pass, the word of the Lord tested him.**

The king sent and released him; the ruler of the peoples set him free. He set him as master over his household, as a ruler over all his possessions, To instruct his princes according to his will and to teach his elders wisdom.

**Hallelujah!**

**Second Reading** Romans 10: 5-15

**READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE ROMANS**

Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them." But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) "or 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? "The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

Officiant: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you

Officiant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to John.

**People: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**The Gospel** Matthew 14: 22-23

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST  
ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified,

saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Officiant The Gospel of the Christ

**People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

### **Sermon**

Sermon Matthew 14: 22-33

In today's Gospel, we're told that when Peter saw the wind, he took his eyes off Jesus, and let his faith lose focus. It was at that moment when he looked around.... and saw that he was standing on the water in the middle of the Sea of Galilee, in the middle of a storm! What was he doing? Why was he there? He was going to get hurt, or worse, die!

And so, he began to sink.

I identify with Peter far more than I'm comfortable admitting. Maybe you do too. I don't always trust God. I don't always trust that his will is being done and that he's working out everything that happens for my eternal good. I think that my own strength needs to protect me or work things out for me, and then I don't know what to do when my own strength is shown to be weak and my power proved to be lacking. There are storms on this sea of life that you and I can't deal with. Those waves are crashing in and threatening to drown us! Perhaps at those times, you and I, like Peter, lose the focus of our faith. We're more likely to focus on the problems, rather than the solution to the problems... who stands right in front of us.

Notice what Jesus did. He didn't let Peter drown and say, "Oops, you really should have trusted in me. Sorry." Nor did he let Peter "suffer" in the water before rescuing him. Matthew, who as one of the disciples, was an eyewitness to all of this, and says that Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him. There is a slight reprimand on Jesus' part, when He says, "Why did you doubt?" but his tone is one not of scolding but encouragement: "Why doubt? Remember I can always take care of you."

There's a story about an ambitious yet restless student, who would get impatient with his professor's style of teaching.... one long lesson at a time. It was all going too slow, and he wanted to learn quickly. He finally expressed his desire to complete his course material at a faster pace, so he could move on to the next phase of his life. The professor agreed, and told him to come to him, early the next morning.

When the student arrived the next morning, the professor was waiting for him, and took him around back to the chicken coop. The professor then let the chickens free and asked the student to catch them all in one hour. The student ran around trying to catch one and then the other and finally at the end of his hour got exhausted and sat down dejected. He was not able to catch one bird! Then the professor said, now I ask you to catch only the one with the ribbon around its neck. The student got up, and despite all the other chickens running around him, just went after the one with the ribbon and caught it, with time to spare!

The Professor smiled and said, "Focus is not just our ability to stay attached to the 'one' but also the discipline to avoid the distractions of the 'ninety nine'".

We often lose the focus of our faith, when we're more focused on the problems than the solution. At times perhaps we're more interested in showing off our faith, rather than showing off the one we believe in. Either way, our attention and focus goes away from Jesus, or either focuses on ourselves and our individual strengths or weaknesses or on the problems that seem ginormous. They seem that way, because, on our own, they are.

But as we sink into our own seas, Jesus grabs US by the hand. As he pulls us up we're reminded that while we have lost focus, He has not. And as he yanks us out of the water we're reminded that there is forgiveness.

... For those times we have not trusted him.

... For the times we've been more focused on our problems than His solutions. "You of little faith," he says to each of us,

"Why do you doubt my love for you? Why do you doubt my ability to protect and help you? Why do you doubt my forgiveness?" And we have no answer because there is no reason to doubt. Jesus is faithful in his love as the covenant-keeping God, I AM.

Jesus is faithful in his ability to protect as the one who has all power to work all things for our good. Jesus is faithful in his forgiveness because he paid for our sins, even our doubts and distractions, so they can be no more, than a distant memory.

Let us Pray:

Heavenly Father, Help us to fix our eyes on your deity, power and authority, and help us to keep our focus on **you**, today, tomorrow, and forever. In Christ name we pray. Amen.

**Sermon Hymn # 373**

***This is the Day the Lord Hath Made***

Officiant: Let us confess our faith as we say.

**People: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I 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.**

**Prayers of the People**

In peace we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;

**For our families, friends, and neighbours, and for all those who are alone.**

For this community, our country, and the world;

**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the just and proper use of your creation;

**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and needy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;  
**For all who proclaim the gospel, and all who seek the truth.**

For Todd our bishop, and for all bishops and other ministers;  
**For all who serve God in the Church.**

For our own needs and those of others.

Silence.

In our parish cycle of prayer, we pray for...

Hear us, Lord.  
**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence. (*The people may add their own thanksgivings.*)

We will exalt you, O God our king;  
**And praise your name for ever and ever.**

We pray for those who have died in the peace of Christ, and for those whose faith is known to you alone, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence.

Lord, let your loving kindness be upon them;  
**Who put their trust in you.**

Gracious God, you have heard the prayers of your faithful people; you know our needs before we ask, and our ignorance in asking. Grant our requests as may be best for us. This we ask in the name of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

**Offertory Hymn # 438**  
***O' Jesus, I Have Promised***

**Offertory Response**  
***All Things Come of Thee***

**People: Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours. All things come from you, and of your own do we give you.**

Officiant: And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us,  
we are bold to say,

**People: Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,**

**as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for  
ever and ever. Amen.**

Officiant: Glory to God

**People: whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than  
we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the  
Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Closing Hymn # 532**

***What a Friend We Have in Jesus***

Officiant: May the God of hope fill us all with joy and peace in believing  
through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Sung Benediction **Howard's Blessing** (vs 1-2)  
(in the back of the blue Hymn book)

***The Flowers on the Altar today are given to  
the Glory of God, and in memory of past members,  
a gift of the Chancel Guild***

Please enter names in the **Intercessions Book** each week to be read in the service.

## **NEWS AND EVENTS**

Please send all announcements for the bulletin to Karen by **11:00 a.m. Tuesday** of each week.  
Call 519-344-9531 or E-mail: [canondavis@gmail.com](mailto:canondavis@gmail.com).

If you would like a home visit with Communion or know of someone who would, please contact  
Rev'd Jon Forbes at  
1 905 818 9488.

Please join us for **Coffee Hour** after service for a time of fellowship in the parish hall.

The Chancel Guild will be resuming their regular monthly meetings in the church beginning  
Wednesday August 16, and every third Wednesday of the month thereafter.

Five Sundays are available for anyone who would like to provide flowers for the altar. The Sundays  
are the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of March, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of April, 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of June, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of August and  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of September. If you would like to provide flowers please contact Seonaid Laidlaw.

Happy Birthday to Rev. Ray Jenkins, Kristopher Dodkin, Joan Dew, and Donna Taylor from all your  
friends at Canon Davis Memorial Church.

## **Upcoming Events:**

**Sew Days are coming back to CDM. Saturday September 23, and Saturday October 28** from  
9:00 am to 3:00 p.m. Cost \$20.00 and lunch is provided. To sign up, please call Carol Turner at 519  
384 3015

**Reminders**

**16 Aug ... Chancel Guild meeting in the church**

**15 Sept ... 7:00 p.m. Free Concert All Saints Anglican Church: An Evening of Music in Memory of Eleanor Vargo.**

**23 Sep ... Sew Days 9:00 am to 3:00 pm**