

March 26, 2023 – Fifth Sunday in Lent

Worship Service: Sunday 9:30 a.m.

Officiant: Bill Graham Organist: Dorothy Miller

380 Russell St. North (at Maxwell St.), Sarnia, Ontario N7T 6S6
(519) 344-9531 – Email: canondavis@gmail.com -- <http://www.canondavis.com>

Opening Hymn # 354

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Greeting

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Exhortationp. 4

General Confessionp. 4

Absolutionp. 5

The Lord's Prayerp. 5

Responsesp. 6

Venitep. 6

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

1st ReadingEzekiel 37: 1-6

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF EZEKIEL

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm130 (*responsively alternate verses*) BCPp. 502

Psalm 130 – to be read responsively alternate verses

Out of the deep have I called unto thee, O Lord; / Lord, hear my voice.

O let thine ears consider well / the voice of my complaint.

3.

If thou, Lord, wilt be extreme to mark what is done amiss, / O Lord, who may abide it?

But there is forgiveness with thee; / therefore shalt thou be feared.

I Look for the Lord; my soul doth wait for him: / in his word is my trust.

My soul looketh for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, / yea, more than watchmen for the morning.

O Israel, trust in the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy, /

And he shall redeem Israel / from all his sins.

2nd Reading Romans 8: 6-11

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE ROMANS

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel John 11: 1-45

Benedictusp. 9

The Apostles' Creedp. 10

Versiclesp. 10

The Lord's Prayerp. 11

Responsesp. 11

Collect of the Day Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us with the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ, and serve you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Collect for Peacep. 11

Collect for Gracep. 11

Offertory Hymn # 585

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

Offertory Response

All Things Come of Thee (sung)

Sermon

The story of the raising of Lazarus is the sixth of seven signs John gives to prove that Jesus is the messiah Christ, Son of God, and that through faith in him believers receive eternal life. Hence, the telling of this miracle leads directly to the climax of the gospel story and the greatest sign of all- the Resurrection. Throughout the gospel, John's purpose had been to show that all that Jesus of Nazareth said and did God was fully present, actively revealing the "glorifying," the redemptive power of God's love. Of this not even Jesus' closest friends were fully aware until after the resurrection.

As the story proceeds, Martha gradually becomes aware and believes. The interchange between Martha and John is significant in that it is another of the characteristic "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me will live, even though he dies and whoever lives and believes in me will never die". To this Martha answers "Yes Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who has come into the world. Yet even she, like countless others since, experiences a moment of real doubt when Jesus orders the tomb be opened. Martha answered: "There will be a bad smell, Lord. He has been buried four days!"

While the miracle of raising Lazarus from the grave shows Jesus' divine power over death itself, it also shows him as a wonderfully sensitive human being. His love for Lazarus, and his sisters is easily perceived. Martha's accusation that Jesus' presence would have averted Lazarus' death tells how real their friendship was. So also did Jesus' tears. All cultural aspects of the display of grief aside, the story represents the best that special human quality of openly expressing their real feelings. This same quality also comes through in Martha's disgust at the stench of her brother's decaying corpse.

Not to be overlooked, however, is the dramatic intensity building throughout John's narrative. Martha's accusations, "If you had been here, Lord, my brother would not have died! But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask him for" sets the stage for Jesus to declare, "I am the resurrection and the life" and for Martha to confess her faith in him. When Mary repeats the accusation, Jesus uses it to reveal his very human feelings by telling her, "Didn't I tell you that you would see God's glory if you believed?"

By means of this miracle story, John is telling his own first century community and us that because Jesus is fully human and fully divine, life and death are his gifts to give. This too is the meaning of his resurrection and the basis of hope for ours.

Sermon Hymn # 649

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

Prayer for the King and Commonwealth p. 12
Prayer for the Clergy and
People p. 13
Prayer for All Conditions of
Mortals p. 14
General Thanksgiving (*said*
by all. P 14
Prayer of Saint Chrysostom. p. 15

Prayer for a Renewed Church: Almighty God, give us a new vision of you, of your love, of your grace and power, and then, give us a new vision of what you would have us do as your Church in this nation and at this time, and an awareness that in the strength of your Spirit, we can do it to your glory. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

The Gracep. 15

Closing Hymn # 631
The Kingdom of God is Justice and Joy

Dismissal
Officiant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**
Sung Benediction
Howard's Blessing (vs. 1-2)
(*found in the back of the blue hymn book*)

The Flowers on the Altar today are given to the Glory of God, and in loving memory of Margaret Louise and Glen Hayter, a dear and loving Mom, Dad, Gram, Gramps, Great Grammie and Great Granpooh, and loved ones a gift with love from Sheree Lynn, Mike, Jason, and Lucy.

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.
- If you would like a home visit with Communion or know of someone who would, please let Rev. Ray know as he and/or a Lay Visitor will be available in the coming weeks.
- Please join us for **Coffee Hour** after service for a time of fellowship in the parish hall.

Upcoming Events:

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To All the Ladies of Canon Davis, please join us for a Social Ladies Lunch Get-Together on Wednesday, March 29 at 12:30 in the Parish Hall (free will offering). Please let Carol Mercurio know if you are attending and/or if you need a ride. Carol can be reached at 519-491-9319.

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Easter Lily Memorial: If you have any changes or updates for our Easter Memorial list, please contact Karen at 519-344-9531.

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Good Friday Service on April 7, at 4:00 p.m. at Canon Davis Memorial. This years' service will be officiated by the Rev'd Paul Woolley.

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Easter Sunday Service on April 9, at 9:30 a.m. will be officiated by the Venerable Sam Thomas and Rev. Ray Jenkins.

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Wednesday April 19, is Meat Loaf Dinner night here at Canon Davis. Please call John at 519-384-1926 or Karen at 519-344-9531 to reserve for in house dining or to order Take-Out. Cost \$20.00

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Easter Cantata, Olivet to Calvary St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church 261 Christina St. N, Sarnia Free Will Offering and sweets to follow. More information @ 519-332-2662

Reminders

Mar 29 Ladies of Canon Davis Lunch 12:30 p.m. Parish Hall

Apr 7 Good Friday Service 4:00 p.m.

Apr 8 Easter Vigil – All Saints' Church 6:30 p.m.

Apr 9 Easter Sunday Service

Apr 19 Meat Loaf Dinner – Parish Hall 5:00 p.m.

Apr 26 Parish Council Meeting 10:00 a.m. Board Room