Canon Davis Memorial Church *Anglican Church of Canada*

**The Second Sunday of Epiphany**

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**January 15, 2023 — 2nd Sunday of Epiphany**

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

**Gathering Hymn  # 365**​

***Glory to God on High***

**Greeting**​​p. 185

**Kyrie Eleison**​p. 186

**Collect of the Day: Almighty God, your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world. May your people, illumined by your word and sacraments, shine with the radiance of his glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.. AMEN**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

1st reading​ISAIAH 49:1-7

**A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ISAIAH**

Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The Lord called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me. He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified." But I said, "I havelaboured in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the Lord, and my reward with my God." And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honoured in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth." Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, "Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of

Israel, who has chosen you."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 40:1-12**  REFRAIN *“Behold, I come to do your will, O God.”*

I waited patiently upon the Lord; he stooped to me and heard my cry. He lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the mire and clay; he set my feet upon a high cliff and made my footing sure. **Behold, I come to do your will, O God.**

He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God; many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust in the Lord.

**Behold, I come to do your will, O God.**

Happy are they who trust in the Lord! they do not resort to evil spirits or turn to false gods. Great things are they that you have done, O Lord my God! how great your wonders and your plans for us! there is none who can be compared with you. Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! but they are more than I can count.

**Behold, I come to do your will, O God.**

In sacrifice and offering you take no pleasure (you have given me ears to hear you); Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required, and so I said, "Behold, I come.

**Behold, I come to do your will, O God.**

In the roll of the book it is written concerning me: 'I love to do your will, O my God; your law is deep in my heart.'" I proclaimed righteousness in the great congregation; behold, I did not restrain my lips; and that, O Lord, you know.

**Behold, I come to do your will, O God.**

Your righteousness have I not hidden in my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and your deliverance; I have not concealed your love and faithfulness from the great congregation. You are the Lord; do not withhold your compassion from me; let your love and your faithfulness keep me safe for ever.

**Behold, I come to do your will, O God.**

2nd reading 1 CORINTHIANS 1:1-9

**A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS**
Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

 The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual Hymn #630**​

***You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd***

Gospel​​JOHN 1:29-42

**Sermon**

This is one of several reports of the testimony of John the Baptizer about the true role of Jesus Christ. John Baptizer (who you may know of as John the Baptist) has been given the task of preparing the way for the Messiah. It has been revealed to him that he would know his task was finished when he saw certain signs. He has now seen those signs. Accordingly, he declares that the Messiah has come: "Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"

With this testimony, John the Baptizer completes his assigned mission. He declares, with emphasis and finality, that he, John, is not the Messiah. Rather, the man to whom he is pointing, the man on whom he saw the Spirit descend, Jesus of Nazareth, is the promised Lamb of God. John Baptizer is the last of the prophets. He has proclaimed the message of God in the face of stubborn resistance, and he's been emphatic about it. Along the way, he has gathered a significant following. Disciples have attached themselves to him, and now he must tell them to attach themselves to someone else. From now on, John must, in his words, decrease. And Jesus, God's Messiah, must increase. It would appear that he has worked himself out of a job.

Several of John's disciples follow Jesus immediately.>

A young fisherman named Andrew only had to be told once. His actions during his early experience of Jesus may be instructive for us as we try to follow Jesus in our time. As suggested by John the Baptizer, Andrew was quick to make himself available to Jesus and to commit himself to follow Jesus. Almost simultaneously, he found someone else and brought that person to Jesus as well.

The story of the beginning of Andrew's life with Jesus is introduced with the pointed question, "What do you seek?" That same question is asked today of persons seeking admission to religious communities, "What do you seek? The words of the answer will vary from one person to another, but all the answers amount to pretty much the same thing. In a world on the verge of being devoured by sin, who is not seeking relief from the power of that sin? Who would not look for relief from almost any source? Who does not want salvation, with all their heart?

We seek Jesus because we do not wish to be overcome by sin and death. But there's more to it than that. We seek Jesus because we want to be the persons God created us to be. The only way we will ever approach that goal is by, and through, the Grace of God. For Christians, the Grace of God is most perfectly embodied in Jesus Christ. In the work and person of Jesus Christ, in the sacrificial love of the suffering servant of God, we begin to grasp the Grace of God as real and present for our lives.

As the ultimate expression of God's Grace, Jesus takes our sin and the sin of the whole world, and destroys its power over us in one dynamic act of unreciprocated love, in his sacrifice of himself, on our behalf, on the cross.

When we consider the magnitude of what God is offering through the sacrificial love of Jesus Christ, it is hard not to wonder why the world is not beating our doors down. Here is life at its fullest. Here is genuine freedom. Here is genuine peace. Here is the one means of living in the world without being ground up by the suffering and evil that living in the world involves. Here is, in short, Salvation.

It is that very peace, that very freedom, that we seek from Jesus. It is that very peace, that very freedom, that we receive in great abundance. To the extent that we allow grace to fill our lives, we receive and experience God's peace and freedom. By God's grace, we commit our lives to Jesus. Just as Andrew and the other disciples of John attached themselves to the Messiah, so do we. Here is the salvation without which we cannot live, and here is its only true source.

But that priceless salvation is not limited to any one person or group of persons. Salvation is for everyone. Salvation is for every person, in every place, in every time. So, the business of following Jesus includes another important step. That step is displayed without fanfare, or fuss by Andrew.

It appears that Andrew wasted no time. He had known Jesus for less than a day when he went to his brother Simon Peter and said to him, "We have found the Messiah". There's nothing fancy in that; simply a straight-forward statement of faith. It was a statement of faith that for Andrew was an uncomplicated, but powerfully dynamic, fact.

We don't know how many other people Andrew brought to salvation. But the record on that first one is crystal clear. Simon Peter became, by God's grace, one of the dynamos that powered the early church. This final step in following Jesus is not one that we may safely neglect.

Salvation is not just for us; it must be spread around. It must be made available, readily available, to everyone. It is critically important for us to understand this one fact: the freedom and peace we find in following Jesus will never be truly complete for us, until it has been made available to everyone. So long as one person lives under the oppression of sin, so long as one person is excluded, for whatever reason, from the salvation of God in Jesus Christ, our joy, our freedom, our peace, is diminished by just that much. Truly following Jesus, truly staying with him, involves actively seeking others and bringing them to him.

We have looked for Jesus. We have sought him out. By God's grace, we have found him and by that same grace, we stay with him. We are now charged with taking the next step in the faithful service of our Lord. >

As children to whom God's covenant has been opened by Jesus, as children who have committed ourselves to Jesus, we are called to bring others--as many others as we can find--into the Gospel covenant. It's called Evangelism.

In living out our Evangelism, it will be helpful for us to remember that we are all here by invitation. Each one of us is in the church because someone else moved us, one way or another, to be here. Granted, many of us were first moved to be here by our parents, but as many more were not. Many of us are here because of friends who cared enough about us to invite us to a worship service. Many of us are here because we responded to an invitation and found ourselves at home. We were strangers until we were invited to give up being strangers; until we were invited into the community of the baptized. At this very moment, there are a great many others who are strangers. These people will remain strangers, until one of us finds them and invites them in.

St. Andrew is what we might call a "popular" saint. He is the Patron Saint of Scotland and of countless parish churches. That's surprising because we know very little about the man. We only know one thing about him for certain, but that one thing raises him to sainthood. We know that when Andrew was called to follow Jesus, he turned aside just long enough to bring one other person along. Somehow, that would seem to be enough.

Somehow the act of bringing one other person to the Good News of Jesus Christ and into the Community of the baptized would be as high an honour as any Christian could crave.

We who have sought out the Christ, we who by God's grace have found and been found by Jesus Christ, are called to live with him. We are also charged with the important next step of inviting others into this community, and into the freedom that is the faithful service of our Lord.

The Apostles’ Creed​       p. 189

Prayers of the People  # 13.   p. 120

**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.**

Confession and Absolution​p. 191

The Peace

**Offertory  #156**

***The People That in Darkness Sat***

Offertory Response  **Doxology**(sung) **Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow.**

**Praise Him, all creatures here below.**

**Praise Him above, ye Heavenly Host.**

**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

THE CELEBRATION OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST

**Prayer over the Gifts:** Living God, you have revealed your Son as the Messiah. May we hear his word and follow it, and live as children of light. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer  # 2  p. 196

The Lord’s Prayer​  p. 211

Breaking of the Bread  # 6.  p. 213

Communion

**Prayer After Communion:**God of glory, you nourish us with bread from heaven. Fill us with your Holy Spirit, that through us your light may shine in all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ.  **Amen.**

Glory to God & Blessing​p. 214

**Mission Hymn****#162**​

***Sing of God Made Manifest***

Officiant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sung Benediction ***Go Now in Peace***

*The****Flowers on the Altar****today are given to the glory of God, and in memory of Don Dease, loving husband, father and grandfather who passed away five years ago.*

*We pray for the repose of the soul of Janey Phillips*

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.

If you would like a home visit with Communion or know of someone who would, please let Rev'd Ray know as he and/or a Lay Visitor will be available in the coming weeks

Please join us for Coffee Hour after the service for a time of fellowship in the Parish Hall

Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars as **once again Sew Day returns to Canon Davis.  Saturday January 28**from **9:00 till 3:00 p.m**.  Cost $20.00, lunch included.  Bring your projects for a show and tell Sew Day

- Please join us on **Sunday February 5** for BAC’s famous **Turkey-Ala-King Brunch.**

**- Hurrah!  Wednesday February 15 is Pork Roast Dinner and Raffle Night.**Call **519 344-9531** to reserve your seat.  Cost:  Adults $20.00 and take out is available.

**Reminders**

**Jan 16**​Vestry Reports are due

**Jan 19**​Parish Council Meeting

**Jan 22**​Vestry Reports issued

**Jan 28**​Sew Day 9:00 a.m to 3:00

**Jan 29**​Vestry Meeting after church service in the parish hall.  Lunch will be served