

**Canon Davis Memorial Church**  
*Anglican Church of Canada*  
*Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost*  
10<sup>th</sup> September, 2023

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

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**September 10, 2023 — Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Service of the Word**

**Processional Hymn #383**  
***Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun***

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**

**Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people, that richly bearing the fruit of good works, we may by you be richly rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.**

**First Reading** Exodus 12: 1-14

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

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbour in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the Lord. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgements: I am the Lord. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

Officiant: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 149** (*Response in bold.*)

**Hallelujah! Sing to the Lord a new song; sing his praise in the congregation of the faithful.**

Let Israel rejoice in his maker; let the children of Zion be joyful in their king. Let them praise his name in the dance; let them sing praise to him with timbrel and harp. For the Lord takes pleasure in his people and adorns the poor with victory.

**Let the faithful rejoice in triumph; let them be joyful on their beds.**

Let the praises of God be in their throat and a two-edged sword in their hand;

**To wreak vengeance on the nations and punishment on the peoples;**

To bind their kings in chains and their nobles with links of iron;

**To inflict on them the judgement decreed; this is glory for all his faithful people. Hallelujah!**

**Second Reading** Romans 13: 8-14

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

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You

shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbour as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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 Matthew.

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

**The Gospel** Matthew 18: 15-20

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST  
ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Jesus said, "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

Officiant: The Gospel of the Christ

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

### **Sermon**

Sermon Matthew 18: 15-20 September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023

In today's Gospel, Jesus is speaking about resolving conflicts within the Christian community....reconciliation and resolution.

How often have we heard those words?

Jesus is emphasizing the importance of addressing conflicts with love and seeking reconciliation within the Christian community, as well as the power of unified prayer and the presence of God when believers come together in His name.

Jesus offers his disciples spiritual freedom and power for restoring broken or injured relationships. He says, don't brood over an offense – but speak directly and privately.

If we truly want to settle a difference with someone, we need to do it face to face.

"The Gruffalo" by Julia Donaldson is a story about a clever little mouse who encounters various predators (a fox, an owl, and a snake) while walking through the woods. To avoid being eaten, the mouse invents a fictional creature called the Gruffalo and describes it as a creature even scarier than the predators. The mouse's clever storytelling skills and confidence help it escape each

dangerous encounter. However, the mouse is in for a surprise when it actually meets a real Gruffalo in the woods. Through quick thinking, the mouse manages to convince the Gruffalo that it is the scariest creature in the forest.

This story is not only entertaining but also provides valuable lessons about resolving conflicts and finding peaceful solutions through cleverness and negotiation. It shows that conflicts can be resolved through intelligence and resourcefulness rather than confrontation.

In Matthew 18:15-20, Jesus provides guidance on handling conflicts and addressing sin within the community of believers. While it may appear harsh, the intention is to promote reconciliation and accountability within the church. The process outlined encourages individuals to address wrongdoing privately, involving more people only if necessary to resolve the issue.

The ultimate goal is to restore the person who has sinned and reconcile them with the community. It emphasizes forgiveness and reconciliation rather than punishment. However, the severity of the situation may require different levels of intervention, and the involvement of the whole church is seen as a last resort.

Involving other members of the church in the process of addressing sin is not intended to create more conflict but rather to promote accountability, reconciliation, and healing within the community. The process outlined in Matthew 18:15-20 is a structured way to deal with conflicts and wrongdoing in a manner that seeks to restore relationship; and is meant to provide support, guidance, and a sense of community during difficult times. It also serves as a way to ensure fairness and prevent any one person from having undue influence or bias in resolving the issue.

While the process may seem challenging, its ultimate goal is to mend broken relationships and bring about repentance and reconciliation. It's important to approach these situations with caring, humility, and a desire for restoration, following the principles of forgiveness and grace that Jesus taught throughout his ministry.

Let Us Pray....

Holy Spirit, renew our hearts and lead us on the path of true repentance and reconciliation. Today we pray O Lord our God, to be reconciled to you by the power of the Holy Spirit. Make us a new creation and help us live in Christ and for Christ alone. Amen

**Sermon Hymn # 461**

***Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus***

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 # 500**

***Sister, Let Me Be Your Servant***

**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.**

**Recessional Hymn # 377  
To the Name of Our Salvation**

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, 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 to contact Rev'd Jon Forbes or would like a home visit with Communion or know of  
someone who would, Rev'd Jon may be reached at 1 905 818 9488 or  
email [jonforbes@outlook.com](mailto:jonforbes@outlook.com).

The **Chancel Guild** will be decorating the church for Harvest Sunday and  
Thanksgiving. All **donations of fruits, vegetables and flowers** are welcomed and appreciated.  
Please bring your items to the church for **9:30 a.m. on Saturday, September 30th**. If you would like  
to donate but are unable to get to the church you are welcome to make a monetary donation to the  
Chancel Guild. They will in turn make a purchase for you. All edible produce will be donated to the  
Inn of the Good Shepherd. Any questions please contact Seonaid at 519-336-6036.

Please join us for **Coffee Hour** after service for a time of fellowship in the parish hall. And to welcome Christine Wright of the **Alzheimer Society of Sarnia Lambton**. Christine will join us during coffee hour as our special guest speaker.

### Upcoming Events:

#### **Join us for the Deanery of Lambton's first Bishop's Friends event!**

**What?** -- A 2-hour after dinner cruise along the St. Clair River onboard the Duc d'OrleansII. Bishop Todd will be joining us for an opportunity to spend time with him and with each other. Finger foods provided by Sitara, cash bar available, have your photo taken onboard at our photo booth (donations welcomed). Dress is casual.

**When?** -- **Sunday, September 17th**, gathering at 6pm, leaving the dock at **6:30pm sharp**.

**Where?** -- Dock is located along the river in Sarnia, directions and maps available if needed.

**Why?** -- Donations from Bishop's Friends events go toward the Bishop's discretionary fund.

**How?** -- Tickets are \$75 per person, of which \$30 will be donated and eligible for a tax receipt. If you would like to make an additional donation, that will be receipted as well. Tickets go on sale Monday, July 10, space is limited so don't miss out! For more information or to purchase tickets, contact Mary-Ann at [bishopsfriendslambton@gmail.com](mailto:bishopsfriendslambton@gmail.com), or 519-337-4204.

If you haven't already, there is still time. Call 519 344 9531 to make a reservation or place a take-out order for CDM's "Fish Dinner" on **September 20**. Cost: Adults \$20.00

**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

**This year, CDM will celebrate the Harvest Home Freewill Thanksgiving Breakfast on Sunday October 1 after church in the Parish Hall.**

### Reminders

10 Sept Coffee Hour presentation—Alzheimer Society

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

17 Sept Deanery of Lambton's first Bishop's Friends event! 6:30 p.m.

20 Sep Fish Dinner – Parish Hall

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

27 Sep Parish Council Meeting 10:00 a.m. Boardroom

1 Oct Harvest Home Freewill Thanksgiving Breakfast