

**Canon Davis Memorial Church**  
**Anglican Church of Canada**  
**Sunday, October 29, 2023 – Twenty Second Sunday after Pentecost**

Worship Service: Sunday 9:30 a.m.

Officiant—Rev' d Jon Forbes —Assisted By —Ginny Schleichauf

Organist—Dorothy Miller

380 Russell St. North (at Maxwell St.), Sarnia, Ontario, N7T 6S6

(519) 344-9531 - <http://www.canondavis.com> – canondavis@gmail.com

**Prelude**

**THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY**

**Sentence**

If you love me, you will keep my word, and my Father will love you, and we will come to you. *John*

14:23

**Processional Hymn # 525**

***The Church' s One Foundation***

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

**And also with you.**

Almighty God, **to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Glory to God in the highest, **and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy.

### **Collect of the Day**

Lord God our redeemer, who heard the cry of your people and sent your servant Moses to lead them out of slavery, free us from the tyranny of sin and death, and by the leading of your Spirit bring us to our promised land; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

## **THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

**1st Reading:** Deuteronomy 34: 1-12

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

Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the Lord showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, the Negeb, and the Plain that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees as far as Zoar. The Lord said to him, "This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, 'I will give it to your descendants'; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there." Then Moses, the servant of the Lord, died there in the land of Moab, at the Lord's command. He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Bethpeor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. Moses was one hundred twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigour had not abated. The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended. Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on him; and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the Lord had commanded Moses. Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face. He was unequalled for all the signs and wonders that the Lord sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 90 1-6, 13-17**                    *(to be read responsively)*

Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another.  
**Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born, from age to age you are God.**

You turn us back to the dust and say, "Go back, O child of earth."  
**For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past and like a watch in the night.**

You sweep us away like a dream; we fade away suddenly like the grass.  
**In the morning it is green and flourishes; in the evening it is dried up and withered.**

Return, O Lord; how long will you tarry? be gracious to your servants. Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning; so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.  
**Make us glad by the measure of the days that you afflicted us and the years in which we suffered adversity.**

Show your servants your works and your splendour to their children.  
**May the graciousness of the Lord our God be upon us; prosper the work of our hands; prosper our handiwork.**

**2nd Reading:**        I Thessalonians 2: 1-8

**A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF PAUL TO THE THESSALONIANS**

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our

witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual Hymn # 101**

***Hail to the Lord' s Anointed***

**Gospel**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

Matthew 22: 34-46

The Gospel of Christ.

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

**Sermon**

Who is afraid of heights? I am. And yet there was a time in my life when I couldn't get enough of the adrenaline that would rush through my body at the mere potential of bungee jumping, white water rafting, or yes even walking around the top of the CN tower. I've done it all.

Psychologists say there are three types of people. Folks that lead with their head, heart, or gut. I am a head person. I understand that rock climbing is just about the safest thing you can do, you are triple redundantly fastened to that wall. You might fall a bit but you are not going to die. This is why I am a follower of Jesus. I might get hurt along the way, but I am not going to die. And if I do, well there's always the second coming.

That is not to say my heart doesn't hurt or radiate compassion, or that my gut doesn't cringe when I hear of the terrible things that are done in the name of religion or glory in the feasting of the gathered community. I do my best to be a whole person, a holy person. Some days are better than others.

Today in Matthew's gospel we continue on our journey with Jesus arguing with the pharisees, if you think we've been talking about this a lot lately, you are right. The lectionary goes on about for 6 weeks. We are still in the temple, the holy of holies. The religious leaders we call the Pharisees are trying to trip Jesus up and get him to answer one of their questions inappropriately. Today they go for the biggest religious question they can think of. Which commandment in the law is the greatest?

Jesus nails it. He responds with the Shema, "Love the Lord our God with all your heart, mind, body and soul". The Jews repeat this prayer twice every day! So they asked Jesus for one commandment and they got the answer they were expecting. But then, unexpectedly, Jesus keeps talking. He adds a

second command, that is also rooted in love. But this time, the love is for your neighbour, just as yourself.

I went out to Vancouver in the early 90s and had the opportunity to walk across the Capilano Suspension bridge. It is really big (230 ft above the river below), really long (450 ft), with no support beams just a bunch of wires to hold you up. It wobbles and sways, especially when it is windy and busy. The thing about the bridge is that it is anchored on both sides. With a whole bunch of concrete. 13 cubic feet of the solid stuff on either side. It might scare you, but you are not going to die.

These love commandments anchor our existence as God's people. Holiness is not unidirectional; it flows in all directions. And doesn't this make sense, given what we know about God? If God is love, and in God we live and move and have our being, then we are anchored in the overflowing streams of love. All of creation exists because our loving God willed it into being. After all, "for God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son"

Love is our base function, what it means to be image bearers of God. If we were only given one word to describe the message of the prophets and all of the laws given to God's people, then, according to Jesus, that word is love. Paul prays it for us in Ephesians 3: I pray that "Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are rooted and grounded in love."

All of these passages use the same Greek verb for love from the noun *agape*. *Agape* love is the one rooted in flourishing for all. It is community-building at the largest level. Love towards God, love towards others, is world-building—just as God designed. Because we fail through sin, God gave us the law and the prophets to invite us back. All of the Law and the message of the prophets were meant for this same end: building and keeping the world the way God wants it to be.

Jesus highlights how the pieces that were already there, fit together and reveal a grander foundation in the Messiah of love. Adding the second great command to the first revealed that the trajectory of the believer's life is not just measured upwards but sideways. And now, by showing the Pharisees that a theologically significant detail has been under their very noses this whole time, he is showing all of us that there is always more to learn and have revealed by God.

Love expands existence and knowledge. In a way, it's a warning to us not to become too complacent with the points of belief and doctrine that we cling to—we may be ignoring an equally important lens or tenet. Like the Pharisees, we might get stuck on one answer, but that answer could actually be incomplete. With God, things can always get bigger and better.

Being schooled in the way God's law is held together by the greatest commandment (both of them) and being shown by this itinerant preacher that they do not have all of the answers has led the Pharisees to some humility. God has used their righteousness to teach them some humility. More importantly to teach them that the Scriptures point to a grand reality rooted in love and how the world is ruled by a Messiah who we cannot quite wrap our heads around. With God, things can always get bigger and better.

While Christ's revealing work through the Holy Spirit may continue to upset your experience of the world we live in, it will only change your perspective, and it won't kill you. God wants you to love the Lord your God, and your neighbour as yourself. It won't kill you. It might scare you to death, but the adrenaline is worth it. What do you need to do to step beyond your comfort zone regarding your faith? Take a leap!

Step out in faith, my friends,

Amen.

### **The Apostles' Creed:**

Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

**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**

(Let us offer our prayers to the source of all love and all life, saying, " Lord, hear our prayer." )

Merciful Lord, we pray for all who call themselves Christians: that we may become a royal priesthood, a holy nation, to the praise of Christ Jesus our Saviour.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for *N* our bishop, and for all bishops and other ministers: that they may remain faithful to their calling and rightly proclaim the word of truth.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for Charles our King, for the leaders of the nations, and all in authority: that your people may lead quiet and peaceable lives.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for *this city* and those who live here, the poor and the rich, the elderly and the young, men and women: that you will show your goodwill to all.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for the victims of our society and those who minister to them: that you will be their help and defence.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for those preparing for baptism, (for those recently baptized): that they may be strengthened in the faith.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for all the saints who have found favour in your sight from earliest times, prophets, apostles, martyrs, and those whose names are known to you alone: and we pray that we too may be counted among your faithful witnesses.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

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

### **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:** Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

**The Confession:** 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.**

**Absolution:** Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **The Peace**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

### **Offertory Hymn # 645**

***Come Down, O Love Divine***

### **Prayer over the Gifts**

God of constant love, you have guided your people in all times and ages. May we who offer you our praise today always be ready to follow where you lead; we ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Eucharist Prayer**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; you are the source of light and life for all your creation, you made us in your own image, and call us to new life in Jesus Christ our Saviour. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son.

For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, " Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, " Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."



Therefore, Father, according to his command,  
**we remember his death,  
we proclaim his resurrection,  
we await his coming in glory;**

and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all;  
presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

**The Lord' s Prayer:**

**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.**

**Breaking of the Bread**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**We, being many, are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**

**The Communion**

The gifts of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Prayer after Communion**

God our guide, you have fed us with bread from heaven as you fed the people of Israel. May we who have been inwardly nourished be ready to follow you all our

days; we ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Doxology**

Glory to God, **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 # 379**

*Rejoice, the Lord is King*

### **Blessing**

The peace of God which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of his son Jesus Christ and the blessing of God Almighty the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be with you and those you love for ever more. **Amen.**

**Benediction Song**

**Go Now in Peace**

*(found in the back of the blue hymn book)*

**Dismissal**

*The flowers on the Altar today are given to the Glory of God and in memory of our parents, Marion and Manley Samson, Doris and Newton Jenkins, and Aunt Alice Jenkins, a gift from Sally and Rev. Ray Jenkins.*

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 email [canondavis@gmail.com](mailto:canondavis@gmail.com) or call 519-344-9531.
- 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)

- Please join us for **Coffee Hour** after service for a time of fellowship in the parish hall.
- **Happy November Birthday** to Brenda Brown, Mary Elizabeth Carroll, and John Hayter from all your friends at Canon Davis Memorial Church.
- Wendy Vickery has suggested that CDM create a **Christmas Holiday Cookbook**. We will sell them once completed. It would make a nice stocking stuffer. First, we require your help. **We are looking for your favourite beverage, appetizer, soup, mains (meat, potato, veg, salad), dessert, sweet and treat. Either hand write, print or type and include a small picture if possible. Also, include your name.** We would appreciate your help. Please get your recipes to Wendy, Karen, or myself, Sheree Lynn by the end of October. Thank you.  
Email: **Wendy:** wenvic2@hotmail.com **Sheree:** [slhayter@bell.net](mailto:slhayter@bell.net) or **Karen:** [canondavis@gmail.com](mailto:canondavis@gmail.com).
- **Christmas Hampers for London Road Public School.**  
CDM is putting together 6 hampers for 6 London Rd. School families for their Christmas dinner. If you are willing to donate items for the hampers or if you wish to make a cash donation to help purchase items for the hampers, please see me. Donations to be received by Dec 17, boxed by Dec 20, and delivered on Dec 21. The following items are needed:  

6 boxes of stuffing mix -2 boxes FILLED	6 cans of cranberries - FILLED
6 cans of gravy	6 cans of corn
6 cans of green beans - 2 cans FILLED	6 cans of peas
6 2L bottles of apple juice	6 packages of festive napkins
6 packaged family sized pies	6 packages of Candy Canes
6 boxes of chocolates	

Just as an aside, turkeys and potatoes/carrots as well as the disposable aluminum roasting pans may be donated by the church, but I will know more later. Thank you for your help! Susan Memedovich

### Upcoming Events

- **November 25<sup>th</sup> – CHRISTMAS MARKET - 9:00 am – 12:00 pm**

Parish Hall (There Will Be No Tea Room This Year). For sale: our famous turkey pies, beef pies and shepherds' pies, deli items, baked goods, soup, chili. Also, trinkets, treasures & crafts.

- **December 3** CDM Christmas Dinner at 4:00 p.m. Free Will Offering required from CDM Parishioners, your attendance RSVP at 519-344-9531 by Tuesday November 21. Thank you.
- **“ Festival of Lights” event for Canon Davis on Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 – 8pm.** Admission: a non-perishable food item. The church will be decorated inside and out. Lights will be strung on as many trees/bushes as possible. There will be Carolers, refreshments, baked goods & “ Stain-glass” cards for sale, but most importantly introducing Rev’ d Jon Forbes to the community. **If you have strings of lights you would like to donate for this event, please either bring them to the church or contact Ginny 519-332-4764**
- **December 10 - 9 Lessons and Carols Service**, with Wassail following in the Parish Hall – Food donations for the Wassail are welcome but not necessary. Please speak to John or Sheree Lynn.

- **Gaza Hospital Appeal**

Dear Friends,

The news has been covering the blast at a hospital in Gaza called the Al-Ahli Hospital (which translates to simply mean "The Family Hospital"). Some news outlets are referring to it as a Baptist hospital, but it is run by the Anglican Diocese of Jerusalem.

**Al-Ahli Anglican Episcopal Hospital is the oldest hospital in Gaza, founded in 1882 by the Church of England. It receives no funding whatsoever by Hamas (contrary to some reports).**

Its mission is unique in that it provides healthcare to anyone, regardless of their religion, ethnicity, or political affiliation.

In my capacity as the Diocesan chair of our global outreach, the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund, I'm letting you know of an initial \$30,000 that PWRDF has transferred to the hospital. We have supported this hospital for years as a partner, and are actively accepting donations for Al-Ahli Arab Hospital through the PWRDF Gaza Hospital Appeal.

**How you can help**

To support the al-Ahli Arab Hospital during this time of crisis, please donate online to our [Gaza Hospital Emergency Appeal](#). You can also donate by phone at 416-822-9083 (or leave a message toll-free at 1-866-308-7973 and we will return your call) or by mail. Send your cheque to PWRDF, 80 Hayden Street, 3rd Floor, Toronto, ON, Canada, M4Y 3G2. Please indicate “ Gaza Hospital” in the memo field.

*The Rev'd Greg Jenkins, Chair of PWRDF Huron*

### **Reminders: November**

- **Nov 4** It' s coming..Don' t forget...to turn back the clock one hour on **Saturday November 4, 2023 and change the batteries in your fire alarms.**
- **Nov 5** at 9:30 am. **Remembrance Day Service** - HE Rev' d Jon Forbes
- **Nov 15 Ham and Scalloped Potato Dinner Cost: \$20.00 Dine in or Take Out. Call 519 344 9538 to reserve.**
- **Nov 22 Parish Council Meeting 10:00 a.m. Boardroom**
- **Nov 25 Christmas Market 9:00 to 12:00 p.m.**

### **Reminders: December**

- **Dec 2** **10:00 am is Decorate the church for the Festival of Lights on December 9<sup>th</sup>.**
- **Dec 3** CDM Christmas Church Dinner 4:00 pm
- **Dec 7** Please bring Shortbread and Gingerbread cookies bagging for Festival of Lights at 1:00 pm
- **Dec 9** Festival of Lights – 6:30 pm. to 8:00 pm
- **Dec 10** Nine Lesson and Carols Service with Wassail following the service.
- **Dec 24** Christmas Eve Day – Service of the Word. 9:30am. Ginny Schleihauf
- **Dec 24** Christmas Eve Candlelight Service - HE 5:00 pm Rev'd Jon Forbes