

Canon Davis Memorial Church
Anglican Church of Canada
Seventh Sunday of Easter
21 May, 2023

Officiant: Rev'd Paul Woolley
Intercessor: Ginny Schleihauf
Organist: Dorothy Miller
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May 21, 2023— Seventh Sunday of Easter

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Gathering Hymn # 387 *All Praise to Thee*
Easter Greeting p. 185
Kyrie Eleison p. 186

Collect of the Day: Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord. Keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of his peace, and bring the whole of creation to worship at his feet, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. AMEN

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

1st reading Acts 1: 1-11

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm 47 REFRAIN God has gone up with a shout.

Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with a cry of joy. For the

Lord Most High is to be feared; he is the great king over all the earth.
God has gone up with a shout.

He subdues the peoples under us, and the nations under our feet. He chooses our inheritance for us, the pride of Jacob whom he loves.
God has gone up with a shout.

God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of the ramshorn. Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our king, sing praises.
God has gone up with a shout.

For God is king of all the earth; sing praises with all your skill. God reigns over the nations; God sits upon his holy throne.
God has gone up with a shout.

The nobles of the peoples have gathered together with the people of the God of Abraham. The rulers of the earth belong to God, and he is highly exalted.
God has gone up with a shout.

2nd reading Ephesians 1: 15-23

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn # 556 O for a Closer Walk with God

Gospel Luke 24: 44-53

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you - that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

Homily

The Ascension of Jesus Christ is critical to the life -- belief -- and work of the Christian community! To better understand our Gospel, we need to first place it in context with what happened earlier in the Upper Room. The disciples were terrified and afraid when they saw him and he tried to calm their are you troubled?" Jesus stressed in, this "Why" ,fears, saying: "Peace be with you." He then asked brief encounter, that he is indeed real! The Jesus who died on the earlier Friday was, in truth, the dreams of disordered people. It is historically grounded the Risen Christ. Christianity is not founded on on the conquest of death and on a proven resurrection. Belief is essential to the Christian faith. Why, then, are we so often troubled even as we build our belief in the knowledge of Christ's resurrection and ascension? The answer is often found in how much we allow the Holy Spirit to control our lives is a time "There" ,and set us free for discipleship. William Barclay, the great Scottish theologian wrote and a time to work for God." We need to discern this time because action without ...to wait on God seeking ...in prayer ...we need to be patient ...preparation most often fails. Before we act for God preparing our hearts ...experiencing the power of his Holy Spirit moving within us...listening...wisdom for action. It is then that we are prepared to move forth with the praise and joy that comes minds and
!Redeemer **ascending** personal Saviour and the in knowing Jesus Christ as our

The Holy Spirit has empowered us to be his witnesses. We have waited and if we have listened we .are ready to share him with others in the same love in which he has shared himself with us Paul brings home clearly to the church at Ephesus the impact of Christ's ascension to be with his father. Paul talks about God placing all things at Christ's feet and that he is to be the head of the .and that church is to be his body ...church

The church is to have the power of the Holy Spirit and it will transcend itself heart and mind to be the driving force that gives us wisdom and revelation. It is this wisdom and revelation that the church today grows as a witness to that power which manifested through discipleship. It is a commitment that reached out to challenge the generations of people who have grown indifferent to his love and .compassion for children of all ages, races, and gender the people at that ,We need to recapture that same faith in our Lord and the love of the church .Ephesus had for Christ

This brings us again to the need to ".you Could Paul say of us, "I have not stopped giving thanks for be still and listen to the one who shares with us that abundant act of forgiveness that goes deep into the depths of our heart and awakens our mind to gifts of individual and corporate ministry. WE need to understand the conflict between the "stillness of God and the busyness of the world around us. We .have to wait patiently upon the Lord

is beyond belief. It is an experience that is real that which The Ascension attempts to put into words (the disciples saw with their worn eyes). Yet, to those same disciples -- and to us in the 21st century - - it is both an act of faith and a real experience. Had it not been both of these things for the disciples, in time Jesus' life among them and the early church would have collapsed. That would have wrecked the Christian community of their time and the community we experience today would have never been. The Ascension is so important to our faith because it is a reality, which has a three-fold fact: an a beginning and a confirmation of the assurance of God's love through Christ for his people. ...ending It was ending for the days when the faith of the disciples depended on the flesh and blood of Jesus' .presence among them

ascension in frustration. 'Jesus It was a beginning because the disciples did not leave the scene of They left knowing full well Jesus' divine nature and His place at His Father's table. They left with great .joy

They had a Master from whom nothing could separate them, In Romans, Paul says: "I am sure that ".nothing -- in life or death -- can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord Finally, the Ascension gave the disciples the certainty that they had a friend, both in heaven and on .earth, who loved them at a level, which transcended all pain, all sin, and all loneliness in who are This is a miraculous love that heals relationships and binds together those of us .focus on Christ and his power to love the unlovable and who see things differently and community

The church is the complement of God. We are the church of the 21st century. How well do we complement our God? There is a story that many of us have heard before - in one form or another - sent back to heaven after his time on earth. Even going to heaven He bore the marks of the cross. As the angels talked with him, Gabriel, always inquisitive, said to Jesus: "Master, you must have suffered terribly for those people down there." "I did," Jesus said. "And", said Gabriel, "do they all know about how you loved them and what you did for them?" "Oh no," said Jesus, "not yet." Just a few in Palestine know." "What have you done," said Gabriel, "to let everyone know about it?" Jesus said, "I have asked Peter, James, and John and a few others to make it their business to tell others about me, and the others to tell others and others and others and others, until the farthest people on the widest circle know what I have done." Gabriel was less than convinced that this would work. He said to Jesus: "What if Peter, James, John and the others get tired and forget and fail? What and people just don't tell others about - 2023 in the year would happen if way down the years - say strategy?" Jesus replied: "I haven't made other plans. I'm backup No...?you? Are there no other plans
"!counting on them

When Jesus ascended into heaven to be with his Father, he left the church with us. We are His body. He is counting on us! There is no alternate plan. Either as believers we share the word of the Risen we made a Lord, the Ascended Christ, or we fail his call to be disciples to the world. At Baptism covenant with God. Today we need to ask ourselves are we still in covenant with him. If the answer is no - then we need to pray for the renewal !evangelists inaction to be yes - then we are Remember Jesus is counting on you .of our faith

The Apostles' Creedp. 189

Prayers of the People

Rejoicing in Christ's exaltation into glory, let us ask our Mediator with God to pour forth the promised Spirit. Our prayer response on this festive day is, "Christ, strengthen us with your Spirit." Christ Jesus, we celebrate your victory over sin and death. May the power of the Spirit safeguard our lives in your grace and peace. As we rejoice in your ascension, we pray:

Christ, strengthen us with your Spirit.

Beloved of God, you have ascended into the heavenly temple. Fill us with the riches of your Spirit that we may offer you fitting praise. As we rejoice in your ascension, we pray:

Christ, strengthen us with your Spirit.

Compassionate Saviour, you have left your church a legacy of love. Empower us through the Paraclete to carry on your mission of mercy to all people. As we rejoice in your ascension, we pray:

Christ, strengthen us with your Spirit.

Word of Life, you have been given full authority over the new creation. Re-create us in your own Spirit that we may hasten the reign of enduring peace. As we rejoice in your ascension, we pray:

Christ, strengthen us with your Spirit.

Risen and glorified Christ, you have given the gift of your church to the world. May you richly bless Bishop Todd of the Diocese of Huron, and all the bishops, priests, deacons, and laity called to carry out your work in this world. As we rejoice in your ascension, we pray:

Christ, strengthen us with your Spirit.

Christ the healer, we pray to you for those who are troubled by sickness or infirmity, today we pray for ___. We also remember those who have gone

before us and are now with the saints in your presence, today we remember___ and ask you to support those who grieve for them. As we rejoice in your ascension, we pray:

Christ, strengthen us with your Spirit.

Alpha and Omega, all time belongs to you. By the presence of your Spirit help us to use wisely the temporal gifts you give us. As we rejoice in your ascension, we pray:

Christ, strengthen us with your Spirit.

God of glory and Abba of Jesus, you have raised up Christ to be our advocate with you. May the prayer of your Beloved on our behalf bring the Spirit to rest upon us. Receive our prayers through Christ, our Saviour.

Amen.

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 Absolutionp. 191

The Peace

Offertory Hymn # 374*Alleluia! Sing to Jesus*

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: Eternal God, our Saviour Jesus Christ has promised to be with us until the end of time. Accept all we offer you this day, and renew us in his transfigured life; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer # 5 p. 204

The Lord's Prayerp. 211

Breaking of the Bread # 8p. 213

Communion

Prayer After Communion: Eternal Giver of love and power, your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world to preach the gospel of his kingdom. Confirm us in this mission, and help us to live the good news we proclaim; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Glory to God & Blessingp. 214

Mission Hymn # 278*Jerusalem the Golden*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sung Benediction*Howard's Blessing*

***The Flowers on the Altar today are given
to the glory of God, and in memory of Albert,
a gift of Betty and family.***

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. Ray know as he and/or a Lay Visitor will be available in coming weeks.

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

The **Ladies Guild pies** are still available.

Turkey or Beef \$5.50 each Shepherd's Pie \$6.00 each.

To place your order call the office at 519-344-9531.

Sunday June 4, 2023 – 2 Special Services

Installation Service for Ginny Schleihaf, our new licensed Lay Reader, and Rev. Ray who will officiate his last service at C.D.M. Church. It will be a Celtic Service with guest harpist, Wendy Rideout.

Parish Council will be hosting a Reception/Luncheon for Ray and Ginny following the church service in the Parish Hall. Please call the office by Sunday May 21, at 519-344-9531 or sign up on the sheet on the table at the back of the church by Sunday May 21 if you will be attending the luncheon. We require a head count for preparation of food and beverage. Thank you. John, Sheree Lynn and Carol.

Reminders

May 27 Forest United Church "Yard Sale"

May 31 Parish Council Meeting – Boardroom 10:00 a.m.

**Jun 4. Luncheon and Reception for Rev. Ray Jenkins and
Ginny Schleihaf**