**Canon Davis Memorial Church**

*Anglican Church of Canada*

The Third Sunday in Lent

12th March, 2023

***We Come and worship God.***

***We go our way with souls nourished.***

Officiant: Ginny Schleihauf​ Organist: Dorothy Miller

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

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**12th March, 2023 — Third Sunday in Lent**

**Service of the Word**

**Gathering Hymn**​**# 388**​***Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken***

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 allour 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**

**Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life, may we always thirst for you, the spring of life and source of goodness; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.**

**First Reading**​**Exodus 17: 1-7**

**A READING FROM THE BOOK OF EXODUS**
From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me."
The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

Officiant:​The Word of the Lord.

**People:**​**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm**​95 *(Response in bold.)*

Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

**Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.**

For the Lord is a great God, and a great king above all gods. In his hand are the caverns of the earth,

and the heights of the hills are his also.

**The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands have molded the dry land.**

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

**For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.**

**Oh, that to-day you would hearken to his voice!**

Harden not your hearts, as your forebears did in the wilderness, at Meribah, and

on that day at Massah, when they tempted me.

**They put me to the test, though they had seen my works.**

Forty years long I detested that generation and said, "This people are

wayward in their hearts; they do not know my ways."

**So I swore in my wrath, "They shall not enter into my rest."**

**Second Reading**​Romans 5: 1-11

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

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person - though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

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 John

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

**The Gospel**​​John 4: 5-42

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

ACCORDING TO JOHN

Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water." Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you." Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" They left the city and were on their way to him. Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour." Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world."

Officiant:       The Gospel of the Christ

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

**Sermon**

Samaritan Woman at the Well   (John 4:5-42)

Imagine high noon in the high, rocky desert region of Samaria. The arid landscape is practically shimmering beneath the burning sun. Jesus and his disciples, weary and thirsty from a day’s journey, stop outside the city of Sychar. Jesus sends his disciples into the city for food and waits for them in the withering heat, taking a seat near the town’s well – the one made famous by ancestor Jacob.

He notices a lone woman emerge from the city gate and makes her way toward the well.  She is carrying a large earthenware jug balanced on her shoulder. Jesus knows what an odd thing this is. Ordinarily women came to the well early in the morning, when the day was still cool, to draw water for the day – and of course, to socialize and gossip.

A great deal of ink has been spilled about this woman and her supposed “shady past.” But before we make any hasty judgments about what this woman has been up to, what kind of past she carries with her, or how many menshe’s been with, let’s do exactly what Jesus does in this story: let’s encounter this woman on her own terms, listen to her story, and let her tell us about her encounter with Jesus.

Perhaps she would tell us about how a series of husbands had cast her off – which was easy for men to do in those days – or maybe they all just died. (We don’t know!) Perhaps this woman would like to tell us what it’s like to be a perpetual outsider: a marginalized woman in a marginalized group of people, the Samaritans: a woman doubly excluded. Or she might have a few choice words to say about the women of the town, who fall mysteriously silent and exchange meaningful glances when she comes around the corner.

She might tell us how one day she just stopped trying to fit in and resigned herself to being the subject of everyone’s gossip.

But then one day… everything changed. One day when she went to draw water from Jacob’s well, she discovered she wasn’t alone out there. When she went out that day, there was someone waiting for her at the well: a dusty traveler, looking weary from the journey. His sandals and tunic were covered in brown dust, there was sweat on his brow, and he looked thirsty and tired. And then he spoke to her, which, technically, he shouldn’t have done at all: a Jew and a Samarian, a man and a woman, all alone at the well.  “Woman,” he said, “give me a drink.”

To me, this is not a promising start to a conversation! But the meeting quickly turns into a genuine and authentic encounter of two persons, a meeting of two passionate hearts and minds. The conversation that Jesus has with the woman at the well in John chapter 4 is the longest Jesus has with anyone, anywhere recorded in the gospels. The conversation is leisurely and rich in detail; it involves an intellectual sparing match, a constant back and forth with witty word play and Greek puns; and it culminates in a revelation of secrets from both sides. As it turns out both Jesus and the woman of Samaria have plenty to reveal.

One encounter changes everything. A woman with no name and a hurtful past discovers that someone has “found” her and loved her at last.All of the secrets this woman thought she had to hide are laid bare in the bright noonday sun.

The well at noon on a hot day in Samaria becomes a place of grace and encounter, where this woman’s deepest spiritual and emotional thirsts are quenched in Jesus.

And Jesus, who thirsts to reveal who he is to God’s people, but who is not having an easy time of it with the Pharisees and the Jews of his day, has found another disciple in the Samaritan woman. He has found in her someone with eyes to see and ears to hear: a woman ready to see God in him. Not everyone wanted the water Jesus was offering. Not everyone wanted to hear who Jesus really was: the Messiah, the Christ. But this woman does! Her spiritual thirst gives her open ears and an open heart. In her thirst she laps up the living water. She becomes one of the first Christian missionaries: a woman! fromSamaria! of all people and places! … who can’t wait to set down her water jug to run and tell the people that she’s met the Messiah and, by the way, he’s practically on our doorstep.

We have come here this morning because we, too, want to be in a holy space, full of memories and sacred traditions – a place where our ancestors in the faith are still with us, and still worshipping. This morning, this room is Jacob’s well, where we encounter one another as Jesus once encountered a Samaritan woman: spiritually thirsty, but with ears open, listening to one another, encountering one another and encountering our blessed Christ.

And we have come because we still believe in that promise of living water that satisfies thirsty souls. This is the gurgling of the Spirit that, in the words of John, is “gushing up to eternal life.”   Amen

**Sermon Hymn  # 508**​

***I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say***

Officiant:​Let us confess our faith as we say.

**People:**​**I believe in God, the FatherAlmighty, 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  # 474**

***Jesus Where’er Thy People Meet***

**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 heave**

​**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, butdeliver 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.**

**Closing Hymn  # 592**​

***Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life***

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, and in loving memory of***

***Kathy, a gift of Bill and family.***

Please enter names in the**Intercessions Book**each week to be read in the service.

**UNews and Events**

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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.

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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.

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

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**To all the ladies of Canon Davis**. As I stated in my report to Vestry this year the Ladies Guild has not held formal meetings since the advent of COVID.  I thought perhaps you would enjoy holding a social get-together other than our lunch at Olive’s in June.  Please let me know if you would like to attend a lunch on**Wednesday, March 29 at 12:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall**(free will offering). **Carol Mercurio 519-491-9319**.  Hope to see you there.

**Upcoming Events:**

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**Join us on Wednesday March 15 for Canon Davis’ famous Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner.**

Call**519 344-9531** to reserve your seat.  Cost:  Adults $20.00 and take out is available.

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**Sew Day Returns to Canon Davis on Saturday March 25, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

Cost $20.00, lunch included.  Bring your projects for a show and tell Sew Day.

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**Anglican Church Women-Diocese of Huron Annual Meeting and Conference**

**Saturday 29 April 2023 at St. Paul’s Cathedral.**If you are interested in attending

copies of the Registration/Lunch form are at the back of the church. For more information,

please see Carol Mercurio for details.

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**Sunday 9th April, the Venerable Sam Thomas along with Rev. Ray Jenkins will officiate**

**at our Easter Service.**

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**Saturday May 6 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Church of St. Jude is the Bishop of Huron’s**

**Prayer Conference.**Please contact Karen for more details.

 **Reminders**

**Mar 15**​ Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner

**Mar 22**​ Parish Council

**Mar 25**​ Sew Day 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Mar 29**​ Ladies Lunch – Parish Hall 12:30 p.m.