

CANON DAVIS MEMORIAL CHURCH

Anglican Church of Canada

Sixth Sunday of Easter

5th May 2024

9:00 a.m.



"Neverending Love"

We Come and worship God.

We go our way with souls nourished.

Officiant: Ginny Schleihauf

Organist: Wendy Rideout

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May 5, 2024 — Sixth Sunday of Easter

Service of the Word

Processional Hymn # 391

Sing Ye Praises to the Father

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

Merciful God, you have prepared for those who love you riches beyond imagination. Pour into our hearts such love toward you, that we, loving you above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Reading: Acts 10: 44-48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 98

(to be read responsively)

Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvellous things.

With his right hand and his holy arm has he won for himself the victory.

The Lord has made known his victory; his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

Sing to the Lord with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the King, the Lord.

Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, the lands and those who dwell therein.

Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord, when he comes to judge the earth.

In righteousness shall he judge the world and the peoples with equity.

Second Reading: I John 5: 1-6

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our

faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

The Word of the Lord

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 15: 9-17

Jesus said, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

In April of this year, a Toronto parks employee in Bluffer's Park spotted a trumpeter swan, called Mango with blood pouring out of his beak, turning his radiant white coat of feathers into a gruesome pink-tinged mess.

The cut was likely caused by a fishing hook or something resting on the bottom of the lake, like a piece of broken glass.

The employee alerted the wildlife centre of the injury to Mango and they jumped into action. Upon arriving, they discovered Mango was lethargic, and not reactive to food.

When Mango arrived at the hospital, his cut had started to scab over. The staff there did blood tests to ensure his lead levels were low and X-rays confirmed there were no metal objects in his body. Mango remained at the centre while the staff cleaned his feathers; but the centre was also in a race against time: because while Mango healed, his mate — named Charlotte — was without a partner as mating season began.

Swans typically mate for life, and Mango and Charlotte had been together for years. But the longer Mango was away, the more likely it became evident that Charlotte would slip into a depressed state, and could ultimately die.

In the meantime, Charlotte searched for Mango in the best way she knew how ...she would honk and honk, honk saying, "Where are you?"

Finally after a few days, he was able to respond when Mango was released back into the park and reunited with his partner.

Slowly, Mango emerged from his crate. He spotted another swan in the distance and spread his wings to appear larger.

Then he heard the honks...."It was Charlotte!"

For Mango, the sound would have been unmistakable.

Mango started honking back.

“It was like a romance novel,” said the park’s employee.

“He stopped, turned, and then looked at her.

She stopped, turned, looked at him. And they just sort of stared at each other and then she took off running right towards him ... It was just magical.” The pair honked and flapped their wings rapidly. Charlotte bobs her head up and down. It was a victory dance!

The dance continued for at least 10 minutes, before the releasing group ushered the swans off the pavement and into the water — where they continued “talking to one another” and preening each other’s feathers.

This enduring loyalty and partnership is often used as a symbol of eternal fidelity and love in literature and popular culture.

It’s highlighted in today’s Gospel, when Jesus speaks to His disciples about the never-ending loving relationship they should have for each other and God; because he has made known to them, everything he has taught them, has been revealed to Him through God. The bond they share is to be strong, and include mutual care and protection. They are to look after one another; and He appoints them to “go and bear fruit – fruit that will last.”

Jesus is saying to go and produce good works and outcomes that reflect the teachings and character of him, and ultimately, God.

It’s an expectation that followers of Jesus will lead lives that demonstrate their faith through loving actions to others.

Something like, Mango and Charlotte’s magical dance of never-ending love and devotion.



Let Us Pray:

Heavenly Father, may our relationship be a burst of light. May it be a channel of love and wisdom for us, for our family, for our community and for our world. May this bond be a vehicle for Your love and healing, of Your grace and power....and as lessons come and challenges grow, let us not be tempted to forsake EACH OTHER.

In Christ's Name We Pray. Amen.

Sermon Hymn # 653 *Gracious Spirit, Holy Ghost*

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 Donna, Bill T, Charlie & Ruth, Helen and Glenn, John D, Rick,

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

Blessing

People: We ask you to bless these lap blankets with your love and healing grace, so they may bring comfort and healing strength to those who receive them as signs of your presence in their lives and ours. Amen

Offertory Hymn # 532

What a Friend We have in Jesus

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.**

Announcements

Recessional Hymn # 371

To God Be the Glory

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 Lois
and Harry Turner, a gift of their children
Carol, Chris, and Blair and families.*

*We pray for the repose of the souls of
Reginald (Reg) Leslie Heasman
and
Carolyn Elizabeth McEwen*

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 or call: 519-344-9531 or email: canondavis@gmail.com.
- If you would like to contact Rev'd Paul Woolley or would like a home visit with Communion or know of someone who would, Rev'd Paul may be reached at 519-464-2055.
- Please join us this Sunday for a time of fellowship at **Coffee Hour** after service in the parish hall.
- **Happy Birthday** to Mary Jane Blunt, Sally Jenkins, Phyllis Leckie, Audrey Swan Forbes, and Rev'd Jon Forbes from all your friends at Canon Davis Memorial Church.
- Once again, the ACW is offering their famous turkey, beef and shepherds' pies for sale at a cost of \$6.00 each. Please call 519 344 9531 to place your order.
- On Saturday, April 27 Carol Spence and I attended the Anglican Church Women, Diocese of Huron Annual Meeting and Conference at the Church of Ascension in London. For me it was both an educational and illuminating experience. The day was comprised of the Business Meeting, during which was a presentation by Jennifer Uttley on the Future of the ACW. She summarized a very comprehensive study, that outlined the structure and membership of the ACW's in the Diocese of Huron. I have a copy of her report and will share more details at our next meeting.

After lunch there was a hymn sing, another presentation on the Power of Prayer, followed by the Celebration of the Holy Eucharist, with the Right Reverend Terry Dance. The Bishop spoke very highly of the ACW and in particular what the women of the church have done over many years. He also installed the new slate of officers for 2024. The closing hymn was #434 The Love of Jesus Calls Us, which is the ACW Hymn, an example of something I did not know.

I must admit to feeling a little down about the recent events and changes we are going through here at Canon Davis, as a result I propose having an in-house luncheon meeting in June. I feel the Parish Hall will be a better venue in which we can share our feelings and thoughts. If you agree and would like to attend, please let me know.

Wednesday, June 19, 12:00 noon

Lasagna, Garlic Bread, Salad and Dessert \$20.00

Upcoming Events:

- **Housing and Homelessness Meeting May 7 at 7:00 p.m. at the Dante Club** 1330 London Road Sarnia. Please see the bulletin at the back of the church for more details.
- **Wednesday May 15 at 5:00 p.m. is BBQ Chicken Dinner Night.** Call 519-344-9531 to reserve your seat or place a take-out order. Cost: Adults \$20.00
- **Parish Council Meeting May 22** in the Boardroom at 10:00 a.m.
- **The next Sew/Craft Day is being hosted on Saturday May 25 at 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Cost is \$20.00 and lunch is provided. To sign up please call Carol Turner at 519-384 3015.** Carol will also be continuing Sew/Craft day on the 4th Saturday during the summer months, so please be sure to jot down the following dates: June 22, 2024, July 27, 2024 and August 24, 2024. Thank you.

Reminders:

- 7 May Housing and Homelessness Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the Dante Club**
1330 London Road Sarnia.
- 15 May BBQ Chicken Dinner Night.**
- 22 May Parish Council Meeting** in the Boardroom at 10:00 a.m.
- 25 May Sew/Craft Day - 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**