

# St George's of Forest Hill Anglican Church

321 Fischer Hallman Road Kitchener, Ontario N2M 4X9 Office **519-744-4751** www.stgeorgesofforesthill.com Join us on Facebook and YouTube

#### Easter VI

Bishop Archdeacon Interim Priest Director of Music Organist

Celebrant
Crucifer and server
Greeter
Server
Warden on Duty

## May 25, 2025

Rt Rev Dr Todd Townshend The Ven. Megan Collings-Moore Rev Sharla Malliff Robert Aszmies John Shaw

> Rev Sharla Malliff Michael Chine Cindy Kellett Alfred Butler Debra Zanon-Barclay

## 10:00 A.M. HOLY EUCHARIST

The Gathering of the Community

#### **Announcements**

Processional: CP #451 'King of Love, O Christ, We Crown You'

C: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

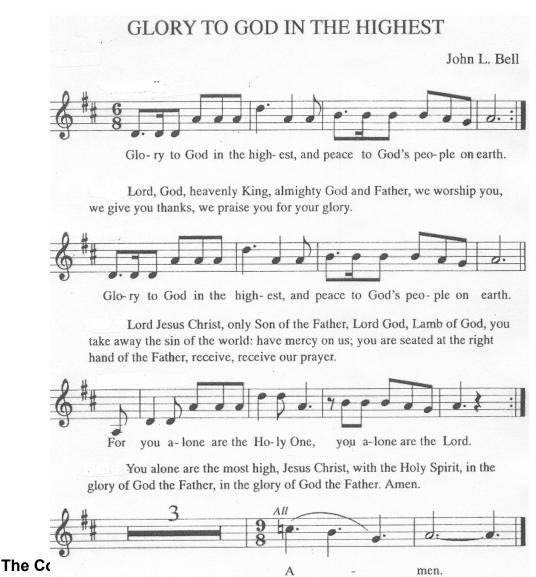
A: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

C: May his grace and peace be with you.

A: May he fill our hearts with joy.

C: Almighty God,

A: to you all hearts are open, all desires are 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, an worthy magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.



C: Astonisning God, you give us a vision of the neavenity city, the new Jerusalem, your home among mortals on earth. All people and nations will stream to your

city where they will find nourishment, healing, and peace.

Even now your blessing shines upon all the earth to help us see a larger vision of your loving care for all creation. And so you call us to move beyond our comfortable circles, and into unfamiliar places, as we seek to share your dream of a world made new in Christ

A: Amen.

# Children's Message

#### The Proclamation of the Word

# 1st Reading Acts 16:9-15

Roberta Butler

<sup>9</sup> During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us.' <sup>10</sup> When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. <sup>11</sup> We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, <sup>12</sup> and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district<sup>[a]</sup> of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. <sup>13</sup> On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. <sup>14</sup> A certain woman named Lydia, a worshipper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. <sup>15</sup> When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, 'If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.' And she prevailed upon us.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm 67 Rev Sharla

1 May God be merciful to us and bless us, \* show us the light of his countenance and come to us.

- 2 Let your ways be known upon earth, \* your saving health among all nations.
- 3 Let the peoples praise you, O God; \* let all the peoples praise you.
- 4 Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, \* for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations upon earth.
- 5 Let the peoples praise you, O God; \* let all the peoples praise you.
- 6 The earth has brought forth her increase; may God, our own God, give us his blessing.
- 7 May God give us his blessing, \*
  and may all the ends of the earth stand
  in awe of him.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Revelation 21:10,22-22:5

Sue Simpson

- <sup>10</sup> And in the spirit he carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.
- <sup>22</sup> I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb.
- <sup>5</sup> And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign for ever and ever.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

# **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia,

The Word of the Lord is alive, The Word of God is active It can judge our thoughts, bring us closer to the Father.

The Holy Gospel John 5:1-9

Rev Sharla

C: The Lord be with you.

A: And also with you.

C: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

A: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

¹After this there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ² Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Bethzatha, which has five porticoes. ³ In these lay many invalids—blind, lame, and paralysed. ⁵ One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. ⁶ When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, 'Do you want to be made well?' ⁻ The sick man answered him, 'Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; and while I am making my way, someone else steps down ahead of me.' Ց Jesus said to him, 'Stand up, take your mat and walk.' ९ At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk.

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

## Response to the Gospel 'Hear Our Praises'

Verse One
May our home be filled with dancing,
may our streets be filled with joy;
May injustice bow to Jesus
as the people turn to pray.
Chorus
From the mountain to the valley,
hear our praises rise to You;
From the heavens to the nations,
hear our singing fill the air.

Verse Two May a light shine in the darkness, as we walk before the cross; May your glory fill the whole earth as the water o'er the seas.

# Homily

## **Apostle's Creed**

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

A: 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.

#### The Prayers of the People

Coralee Little

The flowers in the church today are in memory of our parents and beloved son Kevin by Val and Mike Weidner.

We remember in our prayers this morning ....

In this season of the Spirit let us offer our prayers and thanksgivings for the world, saying, Lord, send out your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.

All creation lives to praise you, O God.

As the earth yields its blessing, may we honor and protect the precious gifts of nature and give thanks for the beauty, healing, and sustenance it provides for all. Lord, send out your Spirit

and renew the face of the earth.

You bless your church throughout all the ages with leaders like Paul and Lydia to share in the spreading of the gospel. Give to your church this day a profound sense of the mission to which you now call us for the life and health of the world. Lord, send out your Spirit

and renew the face of the earth.

You judge the people with equity and guide the nations of the earth. Give to all leaders and people the gift of wisdom and the spirit of peace, that we may walk by your light as we serve the common good.

Lord, send out your Spirit

and renew the face of the earth.

You promise to be with us always through the comfort of your Holy Spirit. Give to all who suffer violence, grief, or pain an enduring trust in Jesus that joy will rise again.

Lord, send out your Spirit

and renew the face of the earth.

We give thanks for the many blessings of our lives, that as we follow Jesus, he journeys with us day by day through the presence of your Holy Spirit, our Advocate and teacher.

Lord, send out your Spirit

and renew the face of the earth.

You are alpha and omega, the beginning and the end. Be with all who are born this day, and those who will die, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and may we all come to share in your heavenly city with voices of unending praise.

#### Amen.

In this season of Easter rejoicing, let us offer our prayers and thanksgivings for the church and the world saying, O God of love, Raise us to new life in Christ.

For the well-being of your creation, that we may promote its ability to offer praise to you through spacious skies, bountiful seas, verdant lands, and precious creatures great and small.

O God of love,

Raise us to new life in Christ.

For the life of the church, that our generous witness may broaden your table as all find a place to live and grow in love.

O God of love.

Raise us to new life in Christ.

For the welfare of your world, that all leaders and people young and old will strive to live together in harmony while serving the common good. O God of love.

Raise us to new life in Christ.

For all who suffer any violence, pain, or grief, that they will know the comfort of your presence as you wipe every tear from their eyes.

O God of love,

Raise us to new life in Christ.

For the love made known to us in Jesus Christ through this community, for this and all other blessings we give you thanks and praise.

O God of love,

Raise us to new life in Christ.

For all who have died, that you will bring them to the fullness of your joy, where mourning and pain will be no more.

O God of love,

Raise us to new life in Christ.

For so many blessings, and for answered prayers, we give you thanks through Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray.

Amen.

#### **Confession and Absolution**

- C: 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. Most merciful God,
- A: 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.
- C: 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.
- A: Amen.

#### The Peace

C: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

A: And also with you.

Please exchange the peace in a manner that is comfortable for you.

## The Celebration of the Eucharist

## The Preparation of the Gifts

## Invitation to the Offering

C The earth has yielded its increase and God has richly blessed us. Therefore bring your tithes and offerings and come into God's courts with praise.

Offertory Hymn: CP #631 'The Kingdom of God is Justice and Joy'

The Prayer over the Gifts

C: Giving God, as spring bursts forth its blossoms in witness to your love, you bless us from generation to generation with the new life of Easter faith. All that we have and all that we are come from you, O God, so we gladly share this offering, that others too may be blessed for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray.

A: Amen.

## The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer 3

C: The Lord be with you.

A: And also with you.

C: Lift up your hearts.

A: We lift them to the Lord.

C: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

A: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

C: Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth;....

Therefore, joining our voices with the whole company of heaven, we sing our joyful hymn of praise to proclaim the glory of your name.

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

C: We give thanks to you, Lord our God, ...

Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore, Father, according to his command

A: We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;

C: And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; ...

in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

A: Amen.



O Spirit, grant that I may never seek so much to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love with all my soul.

Verse Two
Make me a channel of your peace:
where there's despair in life, let me bring hope;
there is darkness, only light;
and where there's sadness, ever joy.
Verse Three
Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
in giving to all that we receive,
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

#### **Choir Anthem**

#### **Prayer after Communion**

C: Let us pray.

God of love, in this eucharist we have heard your truth and shared in your life. May we always walk in your way, in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord.

A: Amen.

C: Glory to God,

A: 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.

# **Blessing**

C: May the Lord be gracious and bless you that you may live a life of praise forever in God's light.

A: Amen.

Recessional Hymn: CP #393 'Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise'

#### **Dismissal**

C: Live in love, abide in peace, and serve the Lord, for God is ever present.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Readings for Next Week** 

Acts 1:1-11 Psalm 47

Ephesians 1:15-23 Luke 24:44-53

#### Last Week's Attendance

Sunday: 8:15 30 10:00

**Givings** 

On the plate: \$ 1590 Auto Debit: \$2,589

## **Bible Study**

Bible studies are Thursdays at 1:30 pm in the Fireside room. All are welcome.

## **Drayton Theatre Outing**

Join us on Tuesday, May 27 at the church for a potluck lunch prior to attending the 2 pm showing of "The Full Monty". There are 6 tickets available at a cost of approximately \$54. Connect with June Matheson (519-746-2881) to reserve yours! Please make sure you remind June if you are not on the list for tickets.

#### Name Tags

If you would like a name tag, there is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex and the cost is \$13.00.

# St. Andrews Cupboard

Thank-you all so much for your donations to St. Andrews Ccupboard. It is heartwarming every week to see the generosity of our wonderful congregation! Deacon Kay is so grateful that our combined efforts can help so many! A few things mentioned this week were cereal: cleaning products and size 4 diapers. Of course, anything you are able to provide would be most appreciated!

THANK-YOU Heather Murphy
On behalf of your Outreach Committee
Sunday Smile

Hope is the anchor of the soul.

#### Office Hours

Pierrette's office hours are as follows: Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 10:00 am – 2:00 pm Wednesdays 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

\*\*\* Parish council would like to enlist parishioner help for the following:

# #1 Coffee Coordinator for the 10 am Sunday Services

A parishioner or several to coordinate the weekly Coffee Hour after our 10 am Sunday Service. It would require securing volunteers to come forward to host on a particular Sunday. Lessons in coffee/tea preparation are available! If enough people come forward, then some kind of rotation would be possible. It would also require the regular purchase of milk/cream/cookies for which you would be reimbursed to support this popular ministry.

\*\*\* Please contact **Nelson Cuthbert (519-588-8672) (cuthben@gmail.com)** or the Church Office if you are able to help with the above items. Thanks!

#### **Book Club**

Date: May 20th Time: 1:00 PM

Book: A Clue for the Puzzle Lady by Parnell Hall

#### **Ladies Lunch**

Ladies Lunch this month will be at The Country Boy Restaurant. We will meet on Friday, May 30 at 12.30. Let Sue if you will be joining us by May 28. suzie\_del-simpson@outlook.com

Looking forward to seeing you all.

# **Capital Project Donations to Date**

From March 30th to May 11th, a total of \$7,559.00 has been contributed in donations. Thank you so much for your response so far.

Nelson Cuthbert for the Capital Project Campaign.

## SPRING CLEANUP - SAT. JUNE 7 (9 AM - 11:30 AM)

Yes, it is time once again for us to assemble at St. George's to clean-up the grounds after winter. We will do some work on the Rectory lot as well. Bring your work-gloves and rakes. Coffee/tea/timbits will be available in Thompson Hall. Thanks to all volunteers from your Property Committee!

## **Church of Holy Saviour**

On Friday, June 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm enjoy an evening of Choral Music featuring the Chapel Youth Choir of Boston Avenue United Methodist Church. At 33 Allen Street, Waterloo. Freewill offering.

## **Conrad Grebel University College**

Art is Always Conflict | April 1 - June 17, 2025. Grebel Gallery, Conrad Grebel University College. Orbiting themes of disability, abuse and suffering, belief and unbelief, destruction and regeneration, this retrospective exhibit features needlepoint, line drawing, and poetry by Liz Wenger, a Mennonite artist who lived and worked in Goshen, Indiana. Visit <a href="https://www.uwaterloo.ca/centre-peace-advancement/grebel-gallery">uwaterloo.ca/centre-peace-advancement/grebel-gallery</a>

**Embracing Aging as Culmination** – Annual Spirituality and Aging Seminar | Friday, June 6, 2025,

9:30 am – 3:30 pm. Guest speaker: Dr. Carol Orsborn, spirituality and aging expert, and author of seven books that embrace spiritual aging as life's culmination. For seminar details and pricing, visit <a href="https://www.uwaterloo.ca/grebel/events/embracing-aging-culmination">uwaterloo.ca/grebel/events/embracing-aging-culmination</a>

There's still time to register for *Ontario Mennonite Music Camp* (OMMC), August 10–22, 2025. OMMC is a place where youth develop and enrich relationships, faith, musicality, and leadership in a fun and supportive summer camp environment. More information at <a href="mailto:grebel.ca/ommc">grebel.ca/ommc</a>

Conflict Management and Congregational Leadership Workshops - a few spots are still available in May for the "Understanding Conflict" workshop, offered in-person. Save the date September 23 -26 for "Leading the Church Through Conflict and Polarities" workshop, offered online. Visit <a href="https://www.uwaterloo.ca/conflict-management/workshops">uwaterloo.ca/conflict-management/workshops</a>.