

ORDER OF SERVICE  
August 23, 2020 - Pentecost 12

INTRODUCTION

“When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, “because,” she said, “I drew him out of the water.””

Good morning everyone. This is Fr. Dean Mercer and I welcome you as the parish of St. Paul's gathers on the 12th Sunday of Pentecost. Separated physically, we join in spirit, sharing in the joy of the resurrection of our Lord.

Reading the lessons is Dr. Rob Knetsch. The anthem is performed by David McCartney. And the litany is led by Linda Esty.

So let us hear Holy Scripture, reflect and pray together, and open our hearts to the Living Word, Jesus Christ - our risen Saviour and Lord.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, we are taught by your word that all our doings without love are worth nothing. Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtue; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. AMEN.

LESSONS

First Reading

READER: A reading from Exodus.

**Exodus 1:8–2:10 (NRSV)**

**8** Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph.

**9** He said to his people, “Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we.

**10** Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land.”

**11** Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh.

**12** But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites.

**13** The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites,

**14** and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

**15** The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah,

**16** “When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live.”

**17** But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live.

**18** So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, “Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?”

**19** The midwives said to Pharaoh, “Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them.”

**20** So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong.

**21** And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families.

**22** Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, “Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live.”

**1** Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman.

**2** The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months.

**3** When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river.

**4** His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

**5** The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it.

**6** When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. “This must be one of the Hebrews’ children,” she said.

**7** Then his sister said to Pharaoh’s daughter, “Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?”

**8** Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Yes.” So the girl went and called the child’s mother.

**9** Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.” So the woman took the child and nursed it.

**10** When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh’s daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, “because,” she said, “I drew him out of the water.”

READER: From the Psalms.

**Psalm 124**

If the Lord had not been on our side, let Israel now say;

if the Lord had not been on our side, when enemies rose up against us;

then would they have swallowed us up alive in their fierce anger toward us;

Then would the waters have overwhelmed us and the torrent gone over us;

then would the raging waters have gone right over us.

Blessed be the Lord! he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.

We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

Our help is in the name of the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.

READER: A reading from the Gospel of Matthew

**Matthew 16:13–20**

**13** Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?”

**14** And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”

**15** He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?”

**16** Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”

**17** And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven.

**18** And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it.

**19** I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”

**20** Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

#### LITANY

Litanist: In peace let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, hear and have mercy.”

We pray for all who confess the name of Christ: fill us with the power of your Holy Spirit.  
Lord, hear and have mercy.

We pray for those whose lives are bound in mutual love, and for those who live in celibacy: be their joy and their strength.  
Lord, hear and have mercy.

For all in danger, for those who are far from home, prisoners, exiles, victims of oppression: grant them your salvation.  
Lord, hear and have mercy.

For all who are facing trials and difficulties, for those who are sick, and those who are dying: show them your kindness and mercy.  
Lord, hear and have mercy.

We pray for one another: may we always be united in service and love.  
Lord, hear and have mercy.

We pray to be forgiven our sins and set free from all hardship, distress, want, war, and injustice.  
Lord, hear and have mercy.

May we discover new and just ways of sharing the goods of the earth, struggling against exploitation, greed, or lack of concern: may we all live by the abundance of your mercies and find joy together.  
Lord, hear and have mercy.

May we be strengthened by our communion with all Christ’s saints.  
Lord, hear and have mercy.

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: And now as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

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.

#### BLESSING

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Sunday Prayers**

The parish of St. Paul's is called to prayer this morning at 10.30 a.m.. A short video and handout are available for those who wish to follow along: [www.stpl.ca/services.html](http://www.stpl.ca/services.html).

A service is also conducted in Tamil. Please contact Fr. Milton Solomon directly: ([solomon.milton@ymail.com](mailto:solomon.milton@ymail.com)).

A Bible study and prayer meeting in Chinese is organized by Pastor Andrew and Kevin Zhang, Saturday evenings at 8.00 pm. To participate, contact Pastor Andrew: [shenxunhong@gmail.com](mailto:shenxunhong@gmail.com)

### **Sunday School every Sunday morning at 10 am - on Break until September.**

Information about how to connect is available on the Church Calendar: [www.stpl.ca/events.html](http://www.stpl.ca/events.html)

### **Evening Prayer on Sundays via Zoom**

Evening Prayer is said every Sunday at 6 pm. Information about how to connect is available on the Church Calendar: [www.stpl.ca/events.html](http://www.stpl.ca/events.html)

Or, directly here:

Computer link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/729301821?pwd=N29KK1JtTXp0RzVvcHZBMzN0ZXpDZz09>

Telephone: 647-374-4685, OR 647-558-0588

Meeting ID: 729 301 821

Password: 010558

### **Backpacks for School**

Ivy Matthews has a supply of backpacks for kids headed back to school. If interested, call her at: 905-947-4635. Thank you, Ivy.

### **York-Scarborough Area Grant**

Our sincere thanks to Bishop Kevin Robertson, his secretary Sue Willoughby, and the applications committee for the York-Scarborough Area Grant for making this grant available. And in the parish, our thanks to George Coomarasamy for coordinating the application process. Joshua Jayakumar, Timothy, Jeyamanoharan, and Aliyah Knetsch were this year's parish recipients.

### **The Berthebell Moo & St. Paul's Memorial Academic Scholarships and the St. Paul's Memorial Music Scholarship**

Each year bursaries of \$600 each are awarded to St. Paul's youths who are High School graduates and are pursuing post-secondary education at a university, a community college or in an apprenticeship program. The number of bursaries awarded is decided upon receipt of applications. The Bursary Program is also open to students who have already enrolled in the university, college or an apprenticeship program.

Additionally, bursaries of \$600 are awarded to young people who are members of St. Paul's and/or are involved in the St. Paul's youth music program, who show promise in music and are pursuing musical studies.

Please note - the dead line for both: **August 31.**

The bursaries are awarded on Thanksgiving Sunday

Forms available here: <https://stpl.ca/applications-forms--reports.html>

### **Re-opening - September 13**

The Archbishop for the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario and all Bishops in the Province (which includes Toronto), have instructed that churches will re-open for in-person services and programs in September. On Friday, Bishop Asbil announced that churches in Toronto will re-open *September 13*, in accordance with safety guidelines now being released. The Ecclesiastical Province has issued general guidelines. On June 30, the Diocese of Toronto offered specific safety guidelines for the re-opening.

When we re-open, there will be a blend of in-person and online programs because there will still be a sizeable number who will not be participating in group activities due to the virus. And, as has been true all along, the situation remains dynamic. We'll do our best to keep everyone updated.

### **ACSA Food Bank**

Thanks to Councillor Jim Karygiannis for highlighting the needs of the Agincourt Community Services Food Bank. As always, St. Paul's is eager to support ACSA. A monetary gift is the most practical and serves the exact needs of the food bank. Gifts can be given online:

<https://www.agincourtcommunityservices.com/donate>

### **S.P.Y. - St. Paul's Youth - Friday Nights, 7 p.m. - Resuming in September**

Friday fellowships carry on. Information about how to connect is available on the Church Calendar: [www.stpl.ca/events.html](http://www.stpl.ca/events.html)

### **Morning Prayer - Now Daily**

The regular schedule of Morning Prayer according to the Book of Common Prayer meets Monday to **Sunday** at 7.30 a.m. and will continue throughout the summer. All are welcome and may participate by phone or internet. It's short, simple and quiet, but a proven path and one of the gems in the Anglican tradition. We follow the Book of Common Prayer, beginning on page 6. If you want to look ahead, the lessons from the Old and New Testaments, as well as the Psalm, are taken from The Daily Office Lectionary and can be found here: <https://lectionary.anglican.ca/>.

Here's the link: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/397231088>

Here are the phone numbers and ID: 647-374 4685, or 647-558 0588; Meeting ID: 397 231 088

### **Looking for Work**

Slowly, businesses are opening and jobs are resuming, and while some of the employment projections are encouraging, we could also be looking at a lot of lost jobs. If you're looking, or know someone who is, this is the national job site: [www.jobbank.ca](http://www.jobbank.ca)

### **Friday Night Bible Study - on Zoom - Resuming in September**

On May 22, we began a study of the Book of Revelation, a book that is often avoided due to its coded language and many symbols. But here's from the study guide we will follow: "In fact, Revelation offers one of the clearest and sharpest visions of God's ultimate purpose for the whole creation, and of the way in which the powerful forces of evil, at work in a thousand ways, can be and are being overthrown through the victory of Jesus the Messiah and the consequent costly victory of his followers."

Paperback copies or electronic versions of the study guides can be purchased online at Amazon.

Paperback: [Revelation \(N. T. Wright for Everyone Bible Study Guides\) - Paperback](#)

Kindle: [Revelation \(N. T. Wright for Everyone Bible Study Guides\) - Kindle](#)

For those interested, the commentary is also available: [Revelation for Everyone](#)

*The study resumes in September.*

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/830877703>

Telephone: 647-374 4685, or 647-558 0588; Meeting ID: 830 877 703

### **Church Calendar**

We have updated the online Church Calendar to list all the events that are available online - [www.stpl.ca/events.html](http://www.stpl.ca/events.html) - including the information about how to phone in or connect by internet.

### **Extension of the Diocesan Jubilee - Month of June**

In light of the Covid-19 outbreak and the large financial strain on the parishes, Bishop Andrew Asbil announced a Jubilee through to the end of May. On Friday, May 22, it was announced that the Jubilee has been extended to include the month of June due to the help of the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS), in place through to the end of August. During the Jubilee, parishes will not be required to pay their allotment to the Diocese or to pay the costs of clergy remuneration (stipend, housing and associated benefits).

The extension of the Jubilee is closely related to the September 13<sup>th</sup> re-opening of the churches for in-person Sunday services. As mentioned above, guidelines are being released "for congregations to follow to ensure a safe return."

The assistance from the diocese and federal government has relieved parishes of their diocesan assessments and incumbent's stipend through to the end of June. The CEWS will continue until the end of August and depending on the diocesan application, we may be eligible for some months of coverage (we already know that not all months will be covered). For this assistance we give thanks, and for the faithfulness and generosity of the parish.

It is important to remember that the situation is in a state of constant flux right now, one of the large unknowns being what we will face when and as the emergency measures are lifted. But these offers of support are of great assistance, and the support of the parish remains strong.

### **Brother's and Sister's Keepers**

If you are willing to be your brother's or sister's keeper by being in regular contact with one or two other persons from the parish, please contact the office or any of the clergy for more information.

### **Have you moved?**

If you have moved recently, kindly notify the office of your new address, phone number and e-mail address. We appreciate your help.

### **Gifts and Offerings - E-Transfers now Available**

The emergency measures and suspension of all church services and programs presents a large challenge to churches and charities dependent on regular gatherings and fundraising events. Your faithful support is as important now as it has ever been.

Church Envelopes can be sent by mail.

Members may wish to sign up for the Pre-Authorized Giving Program (contact the office).

Gifts can now be made by E-Transfer (call or email the church office).

Or, gifts can be made online at our website through CanadaHelps here: [www.stpl.ca/give.html](http://www.stpl.ca/give.html)

*Please note* - the church office is closed and the deposit of gifts received is usually once every three to four weeks.

**Thank You** - through all the ways you've given, the parish has been faithful and the situation has remained steady through the quarantine. Thank you. God bless you.

*One generation shall laud your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.*

(Psalm 145:4)

### **Staying in Touch**

The clergy of St. Paul's are all in the vicinity. If any one of us can be of service, don't hesitate to call or write.

Church website: [www.stpl.ca](http://www.stpl.ca)

Church phone: 416-499-1545

Church email: [stpl@stpl.ca](mailto:stpl@stpl.ca)

Fr. Dean Mercer: [deanmercercer@hotmail.com](mailto:deanmercercer@hotmail.com)

Rectory phone: 416-497-6352