

ORDER OF SERVICE
August 30, 2020 - Pentecost 13

INTRODUCTION

“God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM" . . . "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you': This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations."”

Good morning everyone. This is Fr. Dean Mercer and I welcome you as the parish of St. Paul’s gathers on the 13th Sunday of Pentecost. Separated physically, we join in spirit, sharing in the joy of the resurrection of our Lord.

Reading the lessons is Jacqueline Abel. The anthem is performed by David McCartney. And the litany is led by Cliff Seenan.

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

Author and Giver of all good things, graft in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us in all goodness, and of your great mercy keep us in the same; 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 3:1–15 (NRSV)

1 Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God.

2 There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed.

3 Then Moses said, “I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up.”

4 When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, “Moses, Moses!” And he said, “Here I am.”

5 Then he said, “Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.”

6 He said further, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.” And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

7 Then the LORD said, “I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings,

8 and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites.

9 The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them.

10 So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.”

11 But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?”

12 He said, “I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain.”

13 But Moses said to God, “If I come to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what shall I say to them?”

14 God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM.” He said further, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘I AM has sent me to you.’ ”

15 God also said to Moses, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘The LORD, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you’: This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations.

READER: From Psalm 105.

Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples.

Sing to him, sing praises to him, and speak of all his marvellous works.

Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

Search for the Lord and his strength; continually seek his face.

Remember the marvels he has done, his wonders and the judgements of his mouth,

O offspring of Abraham his servant, O children of Jacob his chosen.

Israel came into Egypt, and Jacob became a sojourner in the land of Ham.

The Lord made his people exceedingly fruitful; he made them stronger than their enemies;

Whose heart he turned, so that they hated his people, and dealt unjustly with his servants.

He sent Moses his servant, and Aaron whom he had chosen.

Hallelujah!

READER: A reading from the Gospel of Matthew

Matthew 16:21–28 (NRSV)

21 From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.

22 And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.”

23 But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

24 Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.

25 For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

26 For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

27 “For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done.

28 Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

LITANY (#5)

Litanist: Let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, hear our prayer."

Let us pray for the peace of the world: the Lord grant that we may live together in justice and faith.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Let us pray for this country, and especially for Queen Elizabeth, the Governor General, the Prime Minister, and all in authority: the Lord help them to serve this people according to his holy will.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Let us pray for children and young people: the Lord guide their growth and development.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Let us pray for the sick: the Lord deliver them and keep them in his love.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Let us pray for all who are condemned to exile, prison, harsh treatment, or hard labour, for the sake of justice and truth: the Lord support them and keep them steadfast.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We remember the prophets, apostles, martyrs, and all who have borne witness to the gospel: the Lord direct our lives in the same spirit of service and sacrifice.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all you have done for us. We thank you for the splendour of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love. We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side. We thank you for setting us tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us. We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone. Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom. Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know Christ and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER & BLESSING

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Doors of St. Paul's Re-open on Sunday, September 13.

In a series of careful steps, the doors are re-opening and services and programs are being resumed - starting with Sunday Services. We are working toward the resumption of other services and programs over the next few weeks. However, because the virus remains active, safety guidelines are in effect and all the online services will continue for the foreseeable future.

Beginning on *Sunday, September 13*, five services will be offered. Ninety (90) people, which is 30% of capacity, are allowed in the church proper at any one time. The hall and kitchen and rooms downstairs will be locked.

Sunday Schedule:

8.00 a.m.

10.00 a.m.

1.00 p.m. (Chinese)

3.45 p.m. (Tamil)

6.00 p.m. - Evening Prayer - beginning in October. It will continue on Zoom.

Morning Prayer will continue to be offered on Zoom, *Monday through Saturday*, as of September 13th. The Sunday recording will continue to be offered and will be available by early afternoon.

Safety Guidelines

As required, St. Paul's is following the safety guidelines issued by the Diocese of Toronto. Anyone is welcome to read the detailed guidelines available on the Diocesan website, but the following Ten Commandments are offered as a working summary:

1. Please do not enter the church if you have a temperature, feel ill or have been in contact with a COVID-19 positive individual over the past two weeks.
2. Reserve a seat - online (www.stpl.ca) or by calling the church office (416-499-1545). Maximum attendance is 60 on the main floor and 30 in the balcony.
3. Wear a mask.
4. On Sundays, enter and sign-in at Entrance A (the main church door). During the week, sign-in at Entrance C.
5. Wash your hands.
6. Keep your distance (six feet, except with your family or members of your "bubble").
7. No singing.

8. No eating (snacks for children may be brought, but not shared with other children). And BYOW - “bring your own water”.

9. Communion is in one kind (bread only) and in procession.

10. One at a time in washrooms and the elevator (with the exception of parents/guardians with children).

Before and After

General cleaning by cleaning staff resumes as before, and between services trained volunteers will ensure that high-touch areas will be cleaned: door handles, bannisters, the top of chairs, etc..

Summary

Due to broad cooperation across the country, the safety guidelines ensure that it is relatively safe to come back to church in the same way that it is now relatively safe to go to the grocery store, drug store, or hardware store.

We are grateful to the Bishops and Diocese for their guidance. Small steps, but all in the right direction.

And, as has been true all along, the situation remains dynamic. We’ll do our best to keep everyone updated.

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.

A service is also conducted in Tamil. Please contact Fr. Milton Solomon directly: (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

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

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

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.

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>

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, and more soon to come. Information about how to connect is available on the Church Calendar: 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

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 - including the information about how to phone in or connect by internet.

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

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

Church phone: 416-499-1545

Church email: stpl@stpl.ca

Fr. Dean Mercer: deanmercerc@hotmail.com

Rectory phone: 416-497-6352