

ORDER OF SERVICE
October 11, 2020 - Harvest Thanksgiving

INTRODUCTION

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.”

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

Reading the lessons is Veriann Chalmers. The anthem is performed by Jocelyn Belfer, Matthew Waterman and David McCartney. And the litany is led by Joshua Jayakumar.

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

Creator of the fruitful earth, you made us stewards of all things. Give us grateful hearts for all your goodness, and steadfast wills to use your bounty well, that the whole human family, today and in generations to come, may with us give thanks for the riches of your creation. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. AMEN.

LESSONS

First Reading

Philippians 4:1–9, NRSV

READER: A reading from Philippians

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

READER: Psalm 65

- 1 You are to be praised, O God, in Zion; to you shall vows be performed in Jerusalem.
- 2 To you that hear prayer shall all flesh come, because of their transgressions.
- 3 Our sins are stronger than we are, but you will blot them out.
- 4 Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there! they will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your temple.
- 5 Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation, O Hope of all the ends of the earth and of the seas that are far away.
- 6 You make fast the mountains by your power; they are girded about with might.
- 7 You still the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, and the clamour of the peoples.
- 8 Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvellous signs; you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.
- 9 You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God is full of water.
- 10 You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.
- 11 You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.
- 12 You crown the year with your goodness, and your paths overflow with plenty.
- 13 May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, and the hills be clothed with joy.
- 14 May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; let them shout for joy and sing.

READER: A reading from the Gospel of Luke.

(Luke 17:11–19, NRSV)

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” When he saw them, he said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were made clean. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, “Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?” Then he said to him, “Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.”

LITANY - THANKSGIVING LITANY

Litanist: Thanksgiving Litany

Let us give thanks to God our Father, always and for everything, saying, “We thank you, Lord.”

For the beauty and wonder of creation,

We thank you, Lord.

For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women, revealing the image of Christ,

We thank you, Lord.

For our daily food, for our homes and families and friends,

We thank you, Lord.

For minds to think and hearts to love,
We thank you, Lord.

For health, strength, and skill to work, and for leisure to rest and play,
We thank you, Lord.

For those who are brave and courageous, patient in suffering and faithful in adversity,
We thank you, Lord.

For all who pursue peace, justice, and truth,
We thank you, Lord.

Today we take a moment to give thanks for that which is in our hearts and on our minds,
We thank you, Lord.

For Paul and all the saints whose lives have reflected the light of Christ,
We thank you, Lord.

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.

Thanksgiving Food Bank Drive

Please consider a gift to the Agincourt Community Services Food bank during our annual Thanksgiving food drive. And this note - you can make your financial donation directly by contacting ACSA, *or* you can make it through St. Paul's by using your envelopes and indicating that it is a "special" offering for "The ACSA foodbank". Doing it through St. Paul's eliminates the commission fee for making a donation by credit card. Donations will be accepted until the end of October.

Notes from Outreach

A couple of notes on behalf of the Outreach Committee. Several things are in the works, but these three are starting to roll.

First, the annual Outreach Walk-a-thon has been adapted. We are asking walkers:

- 1) To sign up - (call the office or send an email)
- 2) To collect sponsorships as usual,
- 3) to complete a 6 kilometer walk on their own (which is the distance of our usual walk),
- 4) and then to hand in forms, donations and pledges on All Saints Day - Sunday, November 1.
- 5) And . . . take a picture and send it in (stpl@stpl.ca). We'll create a collection of all the trails our walkers walked.

The sponsorship form is available from the office or online: www.stpl.ca/outreach.html

Secondly, we are hoping to re-start the Thursday after school program, concentrating on tutorials in Math and English. Due to safety guidelines, the number of students will be limited to 12. We are now in search of volunteers willing to tutor in English and Math, up to Grade 8. Like everything else, this is tied to what provincial and diocesan safety standards and guidelines will permit and recommend.

Thirdly, start looking ahead for a "Virtual Maytime Melodies Concert" of St. Paul's musicians, with proceeds to Outreach.

For more information, contact the office or Kathy.

Notes from Bursary Committee

– George Coomasamy

The recipients for this year's Bursary award are:

Leah Hope-Bachelor of Psychology at Ryerson University;

Aliyah Knetsch -Honours in Life Science at University of Waterloo;

Joshua Jayakumar -Engineering & Architectural Science at Ryerson University;

Jenifer Milton -Bachelor of Commerce at Ryerson University;

Ruby Chen - Seneca College.

They will receive an award of \$600.00 each and this will be given at the 10am Service on Sunday Oct 11th. The awards come from two funds , Berthebell Moo Bursary fund and St.Paul's Memorial fund. The Berthebell Moo Bursary has been made possible by a gift from the estate of the late Berthebell Moo. The St.Paul's Memorial Bursary is an ongoing bursary with gifts given and received in memory of loved ones. I thank the current Bursary committee comprising of Fr. Dean Mercer, Doug Brawley & Kathy Barnes for their recommendations. I also thank the wardens, Bernie Bellis & Fr. Dean who make every effort to find the necessary funds to help the youths who are pursuing post-secondary education.

The Doors of St. Paul's Have Re-opened - 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 online services will continue for the foreseeable future.

Four services are offered in the church. Ninety (90) people, which is 30% of capacity, are allowed in the church proper - main floor and balcony - at any one time. The hall, kitchen and rooms downstairs remain closed.

Sunday Schedule:

8.00 a.m. (at the church)

10.00 a.m. (at the church)

10.00 a.m. - Sunday School (online - see the church calendar)

10.30 a.m. - English service (online - see the church calendar)

1.00 p.m. (Chinese)

3.45 p.m. (Tamil) - also being streamed.

6.00 p.m. - Evening Prayer (online - see the church calendar)

Morning Prayer will continue to be offered on Zoom, Monday through Saturday, as of September 13th.

Sunday School and the Sunday recording will continue to be offered.

Safety Guidelines

As required, St. Paul's is following the safety guidelines issued by the Diocese of Toronto which can be read on the Diocesan website

Other Services, Programs and Meetings - Gradually, we plan to resume other services, programs and meetings, but safely and carefully. Watch for updates and announcements.

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.

S.P.Y. - St. Paul's Youth - Friday Nights, 7 p.m.

Looking for Work - If you're looking, or know someone who is, here's the national job site:

www.jobbank.ca

Friday Night Bible Study - on Zoom - Next Friday, October 2. Revelation 11, Lesson 11.

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/830877703>

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

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 - 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). Or, gifts can be made online at our website through CanadaHelps here: www.stpl.ca/give.html. Members who use online banking may now also make E-transfers (contact the office).

Contact

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.

Website: www.stpl.ca;

Church phone: 416-499-1545;

Email: stpl@stpl.ca

Fr. Dean Mercer: deanmercerc@hotmail.com;

Rectory phone: 416-497-6352.