

ORDER OF SERVICE
April 18, 2021, 2021 - 3rd Sunday of Easter

INTRODUCTION

“By faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.”

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

Reading the lessons is Avril Regault. The reflection is offered by The Rev’d Ajit John. The anthem is performed by David McCartney. And the litany is led by Michael Reckley.

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

O God, your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. AMEN.

LESSONS

First Reading

ACTS 3:12-19

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ACTS

Peter addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made this man walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

The Psalm

PSALM 4

READER: From Psalm 4

PSALM

Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; you set me free when I am hard-pressed; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

"You mortals, how long will you dishonour my glory; how long will you worship dumb idols and run after false gods?"

Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

Tremble, then, and do not sin; speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

Offer the appointed sacrifices and put your trust in the Lord.

Many are saying, "Oh, that we might see better times!" Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.

You have put gladness in my heart, more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

Second Reading

LUKE 24:36b-48

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO LUKE

Jesus himself stood among the disciples and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence. Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you - that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things."

HOMILY

The Rev'd Ajit John

ANTHEM

Hymn Medley, David McCartney

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER & BLESSING

Revised Provincial Stay at Home Order

On April 16, the Province announced a heightened stay-at-home order to combat the rising number of infections, effective Monday, April 19. The new order reduces attendance to 10 persons at church services. We support the stay-at-home order and as has been the case since last March, the ordinary Christian obligation of Sunday attendance remains in abeyance. Sunday services will now be reduced to 10 persons with full safety guidelines and practices in place. Prayers are ongoing for the health of the community and an end to the pandemic.

Schedule

The full schedule of in-person and online services and programs can be found on the online church calendar - www.stpl.ca/calendar.html - or here: www.stpl.ca/services.html. This is the quickest and easiest way to get service and program information.

Sunday Services by Phone on Zoom

The weekly Sunday recording can be heard by phone on Zoom. (It can also be seen, but the quality is diminished.)

Zoom Invitation:

By Phone: 647 374 4685; 647 558 0588;

Meeting ID: 854 0290 8277; Passcode: 970844

Ontario COVID-19 Vaccine Booking You can currently book an appointment at a mass vaccination clinic through the provincial online vaccine booking system (<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/book-vaccine/>) If you prefer to schedule an appointment by phone, call the Provincial Vaccine Booking Line at 1-833-943-3900 (TTY 1-866-797-0007). This line is available 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week. Information is available in more than 300 languages. *If St. Paul's can be of any help to you in this process, please let our office know.*

Easter Food Drive Usually this time of the year, St. Paul's sponsors a three or four week Easter drive in support of the Agincourt Community Services Food Bank (www.agincourtcommunityservices.com/). St. Paul's is eager to support ACSA and the needs of the food bank. As always, a monetary gift is the most practical and serves the exact needs of the food bank. Donations can be given online: www.namf.ca/donate-now.html

New Honorary Priest at St. Paul's

Effective December, 2021, The Rev'd Canon Kim Beard has been appointed by Bishop Robertson as honorary priest at St. Paul's, L'Amoreaux. Canon Beard is the recently retired priest of St. Paul on the Hill, Pickering.

Sunday School Every Sunday at 10.00 on Zoom

Check the church calendar for links and information: www.stpl.ca/calendar.html

S.P.Y. - St. Paul's Youth - Friday nights at 7 pm. Contact Sarah for more information: splyouthministry@gmail.com. Check the online church calendar for link information:

www.stpl.ca/calendar.html.

TAIBU

For several years now St. Paul's has benefitted from the services of TAIBU, a community service agency which provides health care and related services for Black populations across the Greater Toronto Area. Through the assistance of Kareem Marshall, St. Paul's began a reading club and Saturday exercise program. Right now TAIBU is providing special services for those touched by COVID. Services include education support, household support, homelessness support, income support, mental health services, access to food, masks, shields and sanitizer, social connections, and support using the internet and online devices. For more information, contact TAIBU: 416-803-8654, or Covid-19en@taibuchc.ca, or www.taibuchc.ca.

Friday Night Bible Study - on Zoom - Fridays, 7.00 p.m.

Join us Friday evenings for Bible study and prayer, right now in a 12-week study of the letters to Timothy and Titus. Study guides are available online (www.amazon.ca or www.parasource.com or www.christianbook.com) or may be ordered through Fr. Dean.

This Friday's study (April 16): 1 Timothy 4.

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

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

Thank you for your Faithful Gifts and Offerings - St. Paul's is a strong parish and remains strong due to everyone's faithful support. Gifts can be sent by mail. Kindly ensure that your name and envelope number is included. 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 and visiting in homes again, abiding by diocesan safety guidelines. 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.