



Kensington Presbyterian Church

Communion with us

October 4, 2020

WELCOME, during these times of physical isolation we are putting out these worship services that you can do at home.¹ This doesn't mean you have to do them alone. You can invite those who live with you, or connect with others through the phone or computer, or even in small groups outside.

If you have any prayer requests, ideas, or just want to talk, please reach out to your elder or Rev. Peter (Peter@Kensingtonchurch.ca).



liturgical table - Jan Richardson

¹ note: that the footnotes are not as thorough as an academic paper.

Announcements

Communion: Today we will be celebrating the Lord's Supper. This has been done remotely by a number of congregations, and many find it meaningful. That said, you'll have to provide your own bread and juice/wine.

Re-opening the Church: We have plans to improve the ventilation in the building to reduce the risks, and improving the Audio/Visual equipment so that we can include people at home in our on site worship. We are hoping to reopen in November, and continue what we do now.

Prayer Group: will be meeting through Zoom on Wed. at 11:30 a.m.

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/78266904325?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/78266904325?pwd=dkhMcklZRxBKTmdvK2VsaHRlOFFlUT09)
[pwd=dkhMcklZRxBKTmdvK2VsaHRlOFFlUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/78266904325?pwd=dkhMcklZRxBKTmdvK2VsaHRlOFFlUT09)

or phone: 438-809-7799

Meeting ID: 782 6690 4325

Passcode: 7864826

Youth Night: on the 2nd and last Fridays of the month, 6 - 7:30 p.m

Movie Night: a fun cartoon called Free Birds, October 17th @ 6 p.m.

Baking Activity: cupcakes & fun inspired by Thanksgiving and Halloween, Oct 31, 4:30

Presbyterian Connections: The Fall issue is available. Peter has some copies he can drop off, or you can order here:

<https://presbyterian.ca/presbyterian-connection/>

Please continue to check out the website <https://kensingtonchurch.ca/>

or facebook <https://www.facebook.com/KensingtonChurchNDG/>

Contacts

Church Office: 514-486-4559.....info@Kensingtonchurch.ca

Rev. Peter Rombeek (pastor).....Peter@Kensingtonchurch.ca

Antoinette (families).....Antoinette@Kensingtonchurch.ca

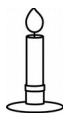
Kris Epps (music).....Kris@Kensingtonchurch.ca



Approaching God

Prelude: Holberg Suite, Op.40 - 2. Sarabande.....Grieg

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G5ZBwVWHaDc>



lighting the candle

Jésus Chris est la lumière du monde.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.



Call to worship

In Christ, the God of heaven has made his home on earth.

Christ dwells among us and is one with us.

Highest of all creation, he lives among the least.

He journeys with the rejected and welcomes the weary.

Come now, all who thirst,

and drink the water of life.

Come now, all who hunger,

and be filled with good things.

Come now, all who seek,

and be warmed by the fire of love.



Prayer of approach

Dear God,

We come, now, to spend time with you.

Joining together with others from Kensington, and around the world.

We gather, remembering what Jesus has done for us,

and paying attention to what your Spirit is doing now.

Your love is amazing,

always opening your arms to us.

Please open our hearts and minds to you.

As we remember you, we remember the prayer that you left us.

Help it shape us as we say it together...



Lord's Prayer (feel free to use another version/translation)

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those

who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours

now and forever. Amen.



Loaves and Fishes - Berry

♪ Hymn: Thou whose almighty word.....pg 9

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OGuUQjDkQA4>



Listening to God



Prayer²

Lord God,

you have declared that your kingdom is among us.

Open our eyes to see it,

our ears to hear it,

our hearts to hold it,


our hands to serve it.

This we pray in Jesus' name.

Amen.

Intro to the readings

- Passage from 1 Kings isn't about a king, it's about Elijah. He had a big success, but things took a turn and now he feels alone... isolated... unable to go on. What does God do?
- The book of Acts has already told us how the followers of Jesus are waiting for something to happen, as Jesus promised. One day the Holy Spirit descended on them. It was amazing. They streamed outside and people from all over heard their amazement in their own language. Peter preached an amazing sermon and thousands believed. Then we have this description of their life.

 Reading: Please look up the passages in your own Bible,³ or click on the name to be taken to an online version (NRSV).

[1 Kings 19: 1-8](#)

[Acts 2: 42-47](#)



Supper at Emmaus - Caravaggio

³ If you'd like a new Bible with helpful notes, I recommend the 'Life with God Bible' NRSV from Renovaré. ISBN 0061834963 or for the more academically inclined, The New Oxford Study Bible NRSV

Sermon: Communion with us

Dear Lord, please bless these words
and the meditations of our hearts.⁴ Amen.

Life for the first Christians was different than life today. For one thing, when it says "All who believe were together" I think it meant more physically than we are allowed to do this month. Not that they all lived together. Apparently "about three thousand persons⁵ were added"⁶ after Peter's sermon - added to those who already believed. That's way too much to live in one house, but it seems they did form a strong community; one that "had all things in common."

They also went to the temple "day by day" to discuss the way of Jesus. This, I'm sure, helped them grow in their faith. It is always easier to do that in a community.

Now, both they and the temple were still Jewish. But they were adding new ways of thinking and acting. One was to remember the way the Lord Jesus had sat at tables with people and shared the meal... and so they did that too. Our passage says, "they broke bread at home."

It's something that we do and don't do. We do eat at home. In non-pandemic times many of us like to have friends over. But this is more. This is a reference to sharing the Lord's Supper in communion with each other and God. It is remembering what Jesus had done and what God would do. ...and doing it at home.

One of the sad things about living through a pandemic is that we can't get together. Even when we might have in the summer, it didn't feel safe then. Now we are stuck at home once again.

⁴ Psalm 19:14

⁵ apparently a Roman placed the population around 600 000. Archaeologists disagree with each other and will add or subtract 400 000 to that. Either way, 3 000 is a lot of people, but still small for Jerusalem.

⁶ Acts 2: 41

This passage is a nice reminder of both the importance of keeping in touch with each other, and that we can do church at home... even Holy Communion.

Some of my fellow students were Anglican. Their worship service generally focuses on the Eucharist. Even though they shared Communion every Sunday, if we didn't share the Lord's Supper in our school worship for a few weeks they would get a little unsettled. Personally, I've been missing it.

Communion is an important thing to share.
Why?

A simple answer is that Jesus told us to,
but he did that because it's special.

At the risk of sounding 'like a child', "Why?"

Communion is a special way that God's grace is shared with us. Not that it's the source of the grace, that's God. It also doesn't make grace happen. God's grace is offered to us, not by a ritual we do, but because God wants to.

And in receiving God's grace, the Holy Spirit nourishes our souls and helps to grow our faith, and hope, and charity. Christians have found this since, well, the very first Christians.

Why is that?

We don't know. It's a mystery.
and the experience is different for different people,
and at different times.

We even have three names for this action: Holy Communion,

the Lord's Supper, and the Eucharist. *Living Faith*⁷, a statement of faith written by the Presbyterian Church in Canada, has a section on this. I invite you to join me in reading part of it.

*In **Holy Communion***

*Christ places his table in this world
to feed and bless his people.
The Holy Spirit so unites us in Christ
that in receiving the bread and wine in faith
we share in his body and blood.*

*The **Lord's Supper** is a joyful mystery
whereby Jesus takes the bread and wine
to represent his atoning sacrifice,
deepening our union with himself
and with each other,
giving us of his life and strength.
Here Christ is present in his world
proclaiming salvation until he comes-
a symbol of hope for a troubled age.*

*The **Eucharist** is thanksgiving to God.
We pray for the world
and with gratitude offer our lives to God.
We celebrate his victory over death
and anticipate the joyous feast we shall have
in his coming kingdom.
We pledge allegiance to Christ as Lord,
are fed as one church,
receive these signs of his love,
and are marked as his.*

⁷ found in section 7.7
The whole document is available from Rev Peter, or here in English, French, Korean, Taiwanese & Mandarin <https://presbyterian.ca/resources/resources-od/>

What does this tell us?

Holy Communion brings people together from all walks of life, from all over the world, and from throughout time - even from different branches of Christianity. There are issues we disagree on. We even disagree on exactly what happens in this experience, but we are still invited into community, into communion, with each other and with God.

When we call it *The Lord's Supper* we recognize it is a tangible bridge between Heaven and Earth. This is the LORD's table present on Earth. This is a way that the God's Spirit feeds us. It's obviously no longer a meal, but still we are nourished.

Eucharist comes from the Greek word for gratitude. When we call it *The Eucharist* we remember the sacrifice Jesus made for us on the cross, and his victory over all brokenness - even death. We also remember with gratitude and hope the promised feast to come when all the brokenness is gone.

Now, I know some of you always ask, "What's this got to do with my daily life?"

Well, Ezekiel's story reminds us that when we are isolated or depressed, God will feed us. The act of Holy Communion, The Lord's Supper, The Eucharist is a way that we can experience the grace of God. It is a way that God meets us and nourishes us. It is a way that we remember Jesus and the promises to come. And the Acts passage reminds us that we can celebrate Communion in our home. It's not a daily event, but it is something that shapes us for our daily lives.

With that in mind, let us read the two remaining section of *Living Faith* on Communion.

*In breaking bread and drinking wine
Jesus told us to remember him.
In this action
called Holy Communion, Lord's Supper, or Eucharist,
Christ offers himself to us
and we present ourselves to him
in worship and adoration.*

*Those who belong to Christ come gladly to his table
to make a memorial of his life and death,
to celebrate his presence,
and together as his church offer him thanks.*

*To God be all the glory
Amen.*

♪ musical moment: Andante, RV 583.....Vivaldi
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eXgVem5A9wA>



We are all One in Jesus Christ - S Watanabe



Responding to God

FaithTalk

These are some questions for you to discuss with somebody... or many somebodies. Do what you feel safe with (and practice stretching a little).

Memories: Share an early memory of communion.

Values: Can you describe different experience/feelings/thoughts you've had participating in Communion at different times?

Etching: Which term do you relate to more (Communion, Lord's Supper, Eucharist)?

Actions: Thank God for this gift/opportunity.

Offering

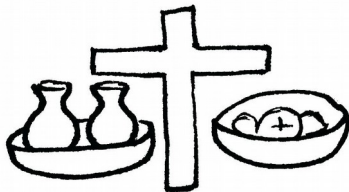
Financially, we have set up a donation option on **our website**. Just click the '[Donate Now](#)' button, and then the pretty button. It gives you various options that are easy to follow.

You can now donate through **interac e-transfer**. Our name is [Kensington Presbyterian Church](#) and the e-mail address is info@kensingtonchurch.ca.

Mailing a cheque or signing up for Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) are also good options.

🎵 **Anthem:** I Couldn't Hear Nobody Pray.....Anonymous
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-NLhZxrOLDY>

🎵 **Hymn:** For the bread which you have broken verses 1-3.....pg 10
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z2FZ3_C7P4c&feature=youtu.be&t=46



Invitation to the table

This is a strange time to share Communion.

We are not gathered at one table, or even at one time, but we are gathered with one Lord.

It is the will of Jesus that those who want to experience him should meet Jesus here.

C'est la volonté de Dieu

que tous ceux qui veulent connaître Jésus
devraient partager ce repas.

So, come,
you who have much faith,
and you who would like to have more,
you who have come often
and you who have not come for a long time,
you who have tried to follow
and have done so imperfectly.⁸

As we come together to share the Lord's Supper,
we also come together with a statement of faith that we share
with Christians of many types, around the world and through the
centuries.

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.

⁸ very adapted from Iona Wee Worship Book 4th ed

He ascended to heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come 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.

Great prayer of thanksgiving & the Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you.

and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

We come to you in these moments of uncertainty,
of days which seem endless,
wondering what tomorrow will bring.

We come, at your invitation.

Accepting your grace,
that you freely give to all who gather.

Gather with you,
and being fed hope and love;
being invited to join you
at your table
and in your work, creating beauty in the world.

Thank you for all your gifts,
and forgive us when we act out of fear,
or distance ourselves from others in need,
or fail to use our gifts and talents.

Help us to remember all the women and men you have sent in the

past, and now, to show us your way. Help us to remember we are
not alone. Help us to look for the meal you have prepared for us.

and help us join with the whole creation
to lift our hearts in joyful praise.

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

and you showed us so much when you went from being the highest
to walking with us through the troubles of life
when you came as Jesus.

Healing divisions between people and cultures, sickness and health,
bringing us into community by inviting us to sit at your table;
to share your table with everyone else.

to share your life, and death, ...and resurrection with everyone.

Together, we proclaim the mystery of the faith.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

For which we are amazed and grateful.

Thank you for your gift of life and hope,
that can overcome all things - from individual sickness to
pandemics.

Still Lord, there are situations that weigh us down.

We pray now for... [please add your own]

- for our neighbours and community.
- for our leaders

- those who have moved to new residences
- those who are physically sick...
and those who are suffering mentally...
- ...

May these people feel your peace and hope as your Spirit continues to work towards to heal all brokenness.

And may your Spirit nourish us
as we share your bread and your cup,
drawing us closer to you and to each other
as we wait for the promised feast to come.

Amen.



Words of Institution

On the night before he met with death, Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks to God
he broke the bread and shared it, saying
“This is my body; it is broken for you.”
“Ceci est mon corps, qui est rompu pour vous”

[take and eat]

In the same way, he took the cup of wine after dinner and said,
“This is the new relationship with God, sealed in my blood
Take this, all of you, in remembrance of me.”
“Cette coupe est la nouvelle alliance en mon (saunt) sang; faites ceci en mémoire de moi”
These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

[take and drink]

♪ musical moment: Trio sonata in E minor Op.1 No.2.....Vivaldi
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iODwXaOuCHI>



Prayer after Communion

Jésus, il n'y a rien qui puisse te séparer de nous.

Vous êtes ici maintenant avec espoir et amour.

Resurrected Jesus, you come alongside our everyday lives,
and set a holy place among us,
filling us with salvation and hope.

Amazing God, send us out with tenderheartedness
to touch our neighbours as you would
with the promise of your blessed Spirit.

Amen.

♪ Hymn: For the bread which you have broken verse 4.....pg 10
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z2FZ3_C7P4c&feature=youtu.be&t=46

Benediction

*Now to him who by the power at work within us
is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or
imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all
generations, forever and ever.
Amen.⁹*

postlude: I Go To The Rock.....Whitney Houston
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TpP1oaNWtKA&list=PL5EQrMUNII1YMTuwXBEMWtD0C-_z0b35d&index=6



Prayer (National Day of Action for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls)

We pray for greater action, safety and justice for missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQIA people. We pray that those who are still searching for a missing loved one, and those who are mourning the death of someone they miss and love, find comfort, peace and justice.



Making a Difference in the Lives of Women and Girls

Mistawasis Memorial Presbyterian Church in Mistawasis Nehiyawak First Nation, Saskatchewan, holds a unique place within the history of The Presbyterian Church in Canada. Not only is this church one of the oldest within our denomination, it is also the only PCC church located on a reserve. Gifts to Presbyterians Sharing have enabled this congregation to faithfully provide ministry in the Mistawasis community. In addition to a yearly Vacation Bible School program and a women's craft club, Mistawasis Memorial PC has launched a new girls' empowerment program. After school, girls in grades 1–8 gather to learn about fitness and life skills. The prayer of this program is that these skills will help the girls live fulfilling lives.

DAILY PRAYERS

Monday, October 5 We pray for the Rev. Tim Choi (Executive Director) and the staff of Edmonton Urban Native Ministry as they serve Indigenous individuals facing various issues, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Tuesday, October 6 We pray for the ministries and mission of the Presbytery of Central Alberta.

Wednesday, October 7 We pray for all those involved in women's ministry—participants and leaders—who come together to share their faith.

Thursday, October 8 We pray for the members of the Committee on History in their ongoing work to help us better know and understand the historic witness of the church.

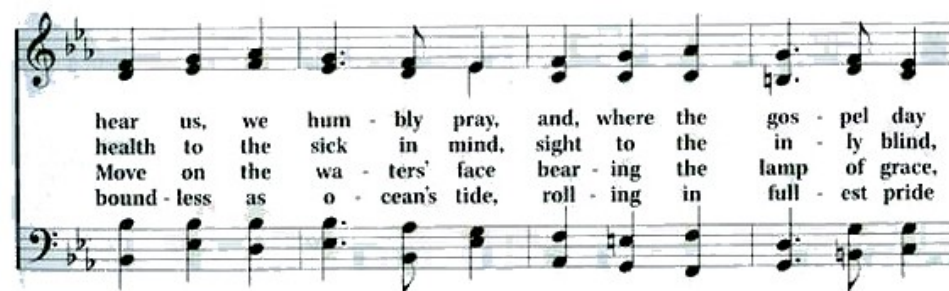
Friday, October 9 We thank God for those who have worked hard to care for elderly or isolated church members through months of sheltering at home.

Saturday, October 10 We give thanks for the blessings we see daily in our lives.

Thou, Whose Almighty Word

5

Deal bountifully with Thy servant, that I might live and keep Thy word. — Psalm 119:17 KJV

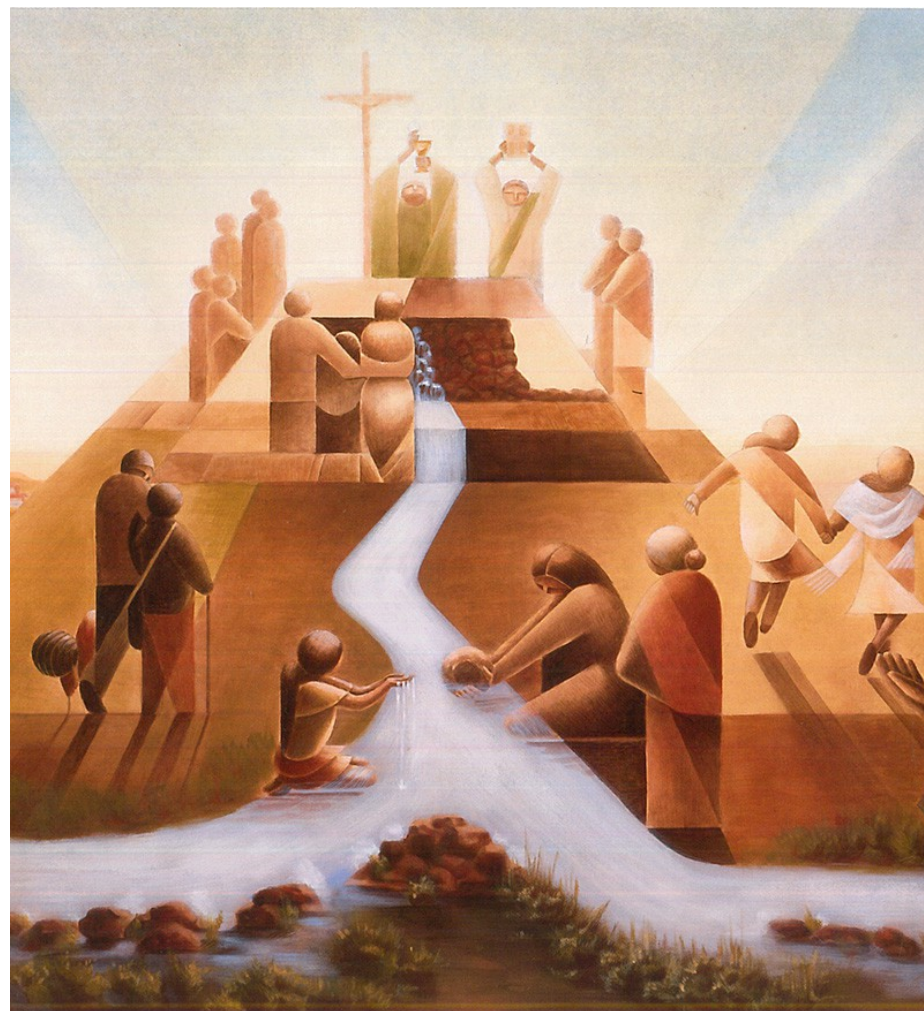


516 For the Bread Which You Have Broken

1 For the bread which you have bro - ken, for the
 2 By this prom - ise that you love us, by your
 3 With the saints who now a - dore you seat - ed
 4 In your ser - vice, Lord, de - fend us; in our

wine which you have poured, for the words which you have
 gift of peace re - stored, by your call to heaven a -
 at the heav - en - ly board, may the church still wait - ing
 hearts keep watch and ward; in the world to which you

spo - ken, now we give you thanks, O Lord.
 bove us, hal - low all our lives, O Lord.
 for you keep love's tie un - bro - ken, Lord.
 send us let your king - dom come, O Lord.



Eucharist, Source & Summit - Garcia