



Kensington Presbyterian Church

What to do?

February 6, 2022

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)

Announcements

Clicking on or tapping blue text will take you to a web-site

Visits: If you would like to talk or have a prayer

please contact Rev. Peter anytime. We can have a visit in a manner that you are comfortable with.

Building Use: The Session will be receiving recommendations about opening the building safely at their meeting this week and an update will be available soon.

Children's activities: There is Sunday School after regular worship.

Please contact Antoinette or Rev. Peter for the Zoom info.

The Chosen: a TV series about the disciples (and Jesus)

Thursdays Jan 13 to Feb 24 7pm video, 8pm discussion

We had more people join for the first time this week, as well as returning people, and everyone enjoyed both the series and the discussion afterwards. If you're also curious, or think this might appeal to a friend, please join us. It's appropriate for most ages.

Contact Rev. Peter for more information.



Contacts

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



Approaching God



Lighting of the Christ Candle
 Jésus Christ est la lumière du monde.
 Jesus Christ is the light of the world.



Call to worship (based on Psalm 138)

We come before You with thanksgiving in our hearts
We bow our knee before You to praise Your name

We praise You for Your constant love and faithfulness
You have never failed us O Lord

You answer us when we call
With Your strength You strengthen us

You fulfill Your promises
Your love is eternal

♪ Hymn: Holy, holy, holy.....pg 11 (299)
www.youtube.com/watch?v=OSHDNs7Dt5M



Prayer of Approach

Holy and Almighty God,
 Creator and ruler of the universe,
 we meet you not in an overwhelming throne room,
 but in our homes.
 because you are here,
 with each of us
 joining us together
 with you

and each other.

We recognize that sometimes we don't live well
 with you,
 with each other,
 or with creation.
 Please forgive us...

Help this to be a time to realign our needs
 with your way.
 and to trust you to provide our needs,
 sometimes through skills you give us,
 sometimes by turning to others
 and sometimes by recognizing what we thought were needs
 were not.

We thank you that you are not separate from us,
 but walk with us,
 inviting us to walk with you.

In Jesus name
Amen.



Assurance of Pardon

Read the good news
 If you repent and believe in God's mercy and grace,
 your sins are forgiven.
 Trust in God's promises and start again
 with God and all people
 in the name of Jesus Christ.²
Amen.

² adapted from *Worship Sourcebook* 2.4.33



Listening to God

♪ Hymn: This little light of mine.....pg 12

www.youtube.com/watch?v=J2kDsqGeoLU



Prayer for Illumination

Immanuel, as we wait for your return,
may your Spirit help us see your gifts
feel your love and receive your call
through the reading and preaching of your Word. Amen.³



Intro to the readings

- Isaiah has a dream or vision. How would you feel in his place?
- Our Gospel reading comes from Luke. In the previous chapter Jesus starts his ministry preaching a sermon in the church he grew up in... and gets driven out of town. He then goes down to the coast where he rebukes some demons and teaches in the local synagogue. This time people are not only interested, but he gets invited over to Simon's for dinner. After that Jesus visits neighbouring towns. This scene is near Capernaum.

What does this scene tell us of God? or ourselves?

- ...and Simon will become Peter
- Psalm has some follow-up in the FaithTalk section



Reading: Please look up the passages in your own Bible,⁴ or click on the name to be taken to an online version.

[Isaiah 6: 1-8](#)

[Luke 5: 1-11](#)

[Psalm 138](#)

³ adapted from Worship Sourcebook D.3.1.7

⁴ 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: What to do?

Dear Lord, please bless these words
and the meditations of our hearts.⁵ Amen.

What struck you from the readings?
specifically the passage with Jesus?

I remember hearing about the miraculous catch of fish since I was a kid. Back then it was about the amazing (miraculous) catch of fish, and didn't go much beyond being amazing. That was good and fine, but as we grow and change, how the Holy Spirit

⁵ Psalm 19:14

touches us through the Bible also grows and changes. Sometimes we see more; sometimes deeper; sometimes we see a completely different perspective on the same thing - like approaching a building from a new angle. I don't promise that today will turn your life in a completely new direction like Simon's, but perhaps God's Spirit will bring you some insight - an epiphany.

If you're still amazed by the catch, that's good. It is amazing. It's meant to get your attention. Did you notice how much we hear of Jesus' teaching? Nothing. That's not the point here. Instead we skip past it to Jesus' encounter with Simon.

As I said earlier, this isn't Simon's first meeting with Jesus in Luke. We don't know how that happened, but we do know Jesus went over to Simon's house after teaching at the Synagogue (where after teaching he rebuked a demon). While at Simon's he rebuked the fever in Simon's mother-in-law, after which she was healthy and able to return to the community.

Now Jesus asks Simon for the hospitality of his boat, and then pushes Simon further. Jesus says, *"Push out now into deep water and let down your nets for a catch."*⁶ This is coming from someone who grew up inland, trained as a carpenter and is now a religious teacher. Peter would probably know that from his accent, even if they hadn't talked over dinner.

"Simon replied, 'Master! We've worked all night and never caught a

thing'

I wonder what tone of voice Simon used. How would you feel after working hard all night and having nothing to show for it. Fishing with nets isn't sitting around relaxing. They either toss the weighted net in and hoping to catch some fish under it... and then they get into the water to scoop the net around the fish and lift the net, weights and fish out of the water. Or two boats connect the net between them and row it to shore - dragging the

net and everything it catches with them. You work at night because it's harder for the fish to see the nets. After doing that all night they need to look after the equipment.

How would you feel after a work 'day' like that? One that didn't put any food on the table or bring in money to pay the taxes?

Would your response to somebody who doesn't know what they are talking about be eager? patient? sarcastic? exhausted? exasperated? As a kid, I didn't feel any of the feelings behind Simon's words, but now,

Miracle Catch - M Moyers
in this pandemic, I hear that.

Am I just imposing my feelings on the text? This is an important question, but I don't think so. The fishermen would have been very fit, but it's still physically hard work. The lack of a catch would have added stress to that exhaustion. Very very very few people were wealthy in that time.



⁶ from J.B. Phillips paraphrase

On top of the 'daily grind' the tax load was heavy - taxes to the Romans, the temple, etc. Having a night with no catch would make life hard - at best.

Personally, I think Simon sounds a little reluctant, but Jesus has built up enough trust in Simon to be obeyed - or at least humoured.

and then the impossible happens - the miraculous catch.

and then something new happens.

Simon had met Jesus before. Jesus had healed his mother-in-law. Now he responds - very much like Isaiah when faced with God. Simon realizes how completely wrong it is for him to be involved in whatever God is doing. Simon knows all sorts of reasons why Jesus should not choose him for anything - apparently even fishing. Yet Jesus does - and Simon will grow into Peter, the leader of the early church.

It's probably good that Jesus didn't mention that part of the plan yet.

But this is something else you might be able to relate to - it might be even easier to relate to than the miraculous catch. Here is one of many examples where Jesus is asking someone to do something that makes them feel completely uncomfortable. Something that is outside their experience. Simon & Isaiah are both convinced that this should be somebody else... yet, that's not who God asks.

This is one of the hard things about meeting Jesus. The meetings happen in different ways, but they always challenge us to move out of our comfort zone. We are challenged to help others become more, which in turn makes us more. Sometimes it's a big ask, but it's always a possible one... with God.

There's three important points going on here.

One is the choosing of a person like Peter, or any of the other disciples. None of them were the best, or the brightest, or the most connected, or rich. They were ordinary people. People like you, me, and the people living around us.

In Simon's case, Jesus calls him to leave his comfort zone, learn about something different, and after lessons and experience will ask him to become the leader of the early church - taking that group further out of it's comfort zone to share God's love, hope and healing with anyone.

An interesting point in this is the setting. In Isaiah's vision he was in the throne room of God. How did that make him feel? How would you feel faced with six winged Seraphs flying around, singing and the voice of God the Almighty?

Simon had a very different experience. God came to him. There was no throne or heavenly beings; instead God was an ordinary looking person.

Which encounter would you prefer?

If we're going to invite people to experience the love, hope and healing of God... what setting would be best? Like Isaiah in a strange and, perhaps, intimidating place and situation like our Sunday worship? or would it be easier for people if we were to be like Jesus and go meet people where they are physically - and, perhaps more importantly, in their needs.

A last point is that all of this is only possible with God. The professionals were trying to catch fish all night long, and nada. Through Jesus they caught so many fish the boats were in danger of sinking. This would have provided for their meals, and by selling the extra at market payment for their debts, and fed many others as well. This abundant looking after our needs is part of

God's gifts - though rarely do we see it in fish.

Usually the problem is that we are looking to both define what we need, and to provide it ourselves. We leave God out of both parts. This is a pretty good definition of sin that came out of the Bible study discussion last Thursday. 'Sin is when we have too much faith in ourselves and not enough in God.'

For the first few episodes of 'The Chosen' TV show they create backstories for some of the disciples. I don't agree with all of it, but they make some good points - and it really brings you into the story. One of the main characters is Simon. Like many people of the day, he is struggling to pay his taxes - and is behind. Like we see in the Bible, he makes some choices that aren't particularly great - and he realizes it afterwards but stubbornly tries to work it out himself. He is determined to look after his wife and brother. He is putting his faith in himself and not looking to God. In the discussion after we realized that he, and us, were wrong about Simon's problems. It wasn't that the Romans were going to imprison him, take his boat, etc. His problem was his lack of faith in God to both define what he needed and provide it.



As a curious blessing, the episode from this week and the lectionary both include the miraculous catch. In *The Chosen* they

include other parts from the Gospels, as well as some dialogue they make up.

You can watch it through this link: www.youtube.com/watch?v=hWGCKovAUWM

You probably noticed a variety of things. Some that are noticed are the same as what was in the Scripture passage - a good sign.

Jesus is leaving the throne room to meet people where they are physically and in their needs.

Jesus is choosing ordinary, even unlikely people to go out of their comfort zones to share God's love, hope and healing.

That by listening to Jesus, amazing (and unexpected) things will happen.

*To God be all the glory
Amen.*



Responding to God

♪ Hymn: Here I am Lord.....pg 13 (592)
www.youtube.com/watch?v=mgLwH5RdtPk

🗣️ FaithTalk: These are some questions for you to discuss with somebody... or many somebodies. This week they are a little more personal than usual. Do what you feel safe (and practice stretching a little).

Values: Psalm 138 is summarized in the first verse: "I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart". Share a list of things you are thankful for - and give God the credit. If you're more artistic, draw a heart and inside it write or draw things you are thankful for.

Memories: Share of a time when you unexpectedly had some need provided for.

Wonder: How could you personally help share God's love, hope and healing in a new way this week? Will this be outside your comfort zone? How could Kensington support you (if we knew)?

Value: Is being independent and strong (not being a burden) important to you? With prayer, turn more over to God. This is probably like Yoda said to Luke, 'do or don't do, there is no try.' Share with each other something you will focus on, pray together, and check in with each other.

✦ Spirit Sighting

The Spirit's presence is seen in the insight, ideas and community experienced during the discussion after our weekly watching of *The Chosen* (Thursdays - see announcements pg 1). Please contact Rev. Peter if you'd like to find a way to join in.

✦ 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 also 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.



Communion

Communion Hymn: Let us talents & tongues.....pg 13 (563 #1-2)
www.youtube.com/watch?v=6P16lQrkbNU



Great Catch - Swanson

Invitation to the table

Once again, 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.⁷

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.
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.

⁷ very adapted from Iona Wee Worship Book 4th ed

 Great prayer of thanksgiving
& the Lord's Prayer.....Alex Plant

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.

It is right to recognize the power and glory that shines from
God the everlasting creator. We give thanks for your endless love
that surrounds us, resounding in the echoes of Scripture and
witnessed in the beauty of creation. From the fields and forests
to the animals and creatures, we give you our most humble
thanks.

Therefore we join our voices
with all the angels, and the saints, alongside all of 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.**

We declare Hosanna with all of our hearts as we are gifted
with your mercy. As you came down unto the earth and revealed
to us your son Christ Jesus, you blessed us with grace and truth.
You showed us the love that brings joy to sorrow and healing to
sickness. You walked among us and taught us your ways. You call

upon us to not only listen to your perfect wisdom, but you also call upon us to recognize the mystery of faith.

So together, we proclaim the mystery of the faith.


Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

As we wait for your return, you have gifted us with the Holy Spirit which dwells within us, drawing us closer to your perfect love for us. With you, all things are possible. We pray for those who feel overwhelmed with dark moments in their lives. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon all those who are in need of your healing power, who need comfort and love in their lives. May we be one in the Spirit as we approach this table of remembrance.

As we approach this table, freely and openly called as one body of Christ, let us come together and pray the prayer that you taught us.

 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.**



Bread in hands - Safet Zec



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; faites ceci

en mémoire de moi”
These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

[take and drink]

Prayer after Communion

Jésus, tu nous invites toujours à te rejoindre.
We thank you for bring us together with you,
and each other, through your table and eucharist.
Vous êtes ici maintenant avec espoir et amour.
Help us to feel your love, hope and healing,
and to live it for all the world.
In Jesus name
Amen.

♪ Hymn: Let us talents and tongues employ.....pg 14 (563 #3)
youtu.be/6P16lQrkbNU?t=68

✦ Benediction (Romans 15:13)

May the God of hope
fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that you may overflow with hope
by the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.



Sunday, January 30 — MISSION MOMENT

In October 2019, a devastating fire destroyed much of St. Matthew's Presbyterian Church in Grand Falls-Windsor, Newfoundland.

But, even with this loss and devastation weighing heavy on the hearts of the congregation, they still continued their outreach ministry to support the local community. During the pandemic, congregation members produced hats, mittens and incubator blankets for the local hospital, and also supported the local Food Bank and Salvation Army. Now that the church building has been fully restored and the congregation is able to gather again, they continue to show love to their neighbours by exploring new opportunities for using and sharing their restored space. St. Matthew's Presbyterian Church is supported by gifts to Presbyterians Sharing.



DAILY PRAYERS

Sunday, January 30 We give thanks and pray for the congregation of St. Matthew's Presbyterian Church in Grand Falls-Windsor, Newfoundland, as they gather and worship together in their restored church building.

Monday, January 31 We pray for the people, ministries and mission of the Presbytery of Western Han-Ca.

Tuesday, February 1 (Black History Month) We celebrate and give thanks for the contributions and prophetic witness of Black people in Canada.

Wednesday, February 2 We pray for the people who gather and serve at Cedar Tree Ministries on Vancouver Island, British Columbia, and we give thanks for their mission and ministry.

Thursday, February 3 We pray for the people, ministries and mission of the Presbytery of Northern Saskatchewan.

Friday, February 4 Generous God, may your Holy Spirit form and empower the newly ordained as they share in the ongoing ministry of the Risen Christ.

Saturday, February 5 We pray for the members and work of the Committee on History.

Holy, holy, holy

NICAEA 11 12 12 10

D Bm A 7 D G (A9/G) (A9/G) D

1. Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly, Lord God al-might-y!
 2. Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly! all the saints a-dore thee,
 3. Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly! though the dark-ness hide thee,
 4. Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly, Lord God al-might-y!

A/C# D A/C# Bm E/B A/C# D A/E E7 A 7

ear-ly in the morn-ing our song shall rise to thee.
 cast-ing down their gold-en crowns a-round the glass-y sea,
 though our eyes in sin-ful-ness thy glo-ry may not see,
 all thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.

French

- Gloire, gloire, gloire, honneur et puissance;
que ton nom soit exalté sur terre et dans les cieux!
Gloire, gloire, gloire, force, obéissance,
Pour ton amour, pour tes dons merveilleux!
- Gloire, gloire, gloire, redisent les anges,
joignant leurs sublimes voix au chœur mélodieux:
Gloire, gloire, gloire, des chants, des louanges,
partout frémit l'immensité des cieux.

Words: Reginald Heber (1783–1826), Hymns Written and Adapted, 1827, alt., French translation,
 H. Arnéra, revised R. Gerald Hobbs, 1996 Music: John Bacchus Dykes (1823–1876);

D Bm A 7 D G D

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly, mer-ci-ful and might-y,
 cher-u-bim and ser-a-phim fall-ing down be-fore thee,
 on-ly thou art ho-ly; there is none be-side thee,
 Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly, mer-ci-ful and might-y,

Bm D/F# D7/F# G D 7 G Em/G A7 D

God in three Per-sons, bless-ed Trin-i-ty!
 who wert and art and ev-er-more shalt be.
 per-fect in power, in love and pu-ri-ty.
 God in three Per-sons, bless-ed Trin-i-ty!

- Gloire, gloire, gloire, victoire, espérance,
les saints et les bienheureux proclament tous en chœur:
gloire, gloire, gloire, Dieu de toute grâce;
de nos péchés tu es libérateur.
- Gloire, gloire, gloire, honneur et puissance;
toute la création chante à notre Rédempteur:
Gloire, gloire, gloire, force, obéissance,
au Père, au Fils, au Saint Consolateur.

This Little Light of Mine

This lit - tle light of mine, I'm gon - na let it shine;
 Eve - ry - where I go, I'm gon - na let it shine;
 Je - sus gave it to me; I'm gon - na let it shine;

this lit - tle light of mine, I'm gon - na let it shine;
 eve - ry - where I go, I'm gon - na let it shine;
 Je - sus gave it to me; I'm gon - na let it shine;

this lit - tle light of mine, I'm gon - na let it shine, let it shine,
 eve - ry - where I go, I'm gon - na let it shine, let it shine,
 Je - sus gave it to me; I'm gon - na let it shine, let it shine,

let it shine, let it shine.
 let it shine, let it shine.
 let it shine, let it shine.

Hide it under a bas-ket? No! I'm gonna let it shine...

Don't let anyone (blow) it out. I'm gonna let it shine...

Share my light with others! Yes! I'm gonna let it shine...

I, the Lord of sea and sky

HERE I AM, LORD 14 11 14 11 with refrain (8 9 8 9)

G Am G C/G G D/F#

* 1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo-ple cry.
 2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo-ple's pain.
 3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

G Em Am7 /B C /B Am F#m/G D D/C

All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
 I have wept for love of them: they turn a-way.
 I will set a feast for them; my hand will save.

G Am/G G C/G G D/F#

I who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
 I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a-lone.
 Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat-is-fied.

G Em7 Am7/B Am/C/B Am G/B Am7/C Dsus4-3

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain /F# G Gsus G /B (Am7) G C/E /D G

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have

Cmaj7/G Am G/B Am/C Dsus /F# D7

heard you call-ing in the night; I will

G Gsus G C/E /D G

go, Lord, if you lead me. I will

C/G G Am7 C/D D G C/G D.C. G Fine

hold your peo-ple in my heart.

* Verses may be sung by a soloist

Words: Daniel L. Schutte (1947-) Music: Daniel L. Schutte (1947-);
harmony, Michael Pope, John WeissrockWords: copyright © Daniel L. Schutte and New Dawn Music, 1981. All rights reserved. Used with permission.
Music: copyright © Daniel L. Schutte and New Dawn Music, 1983. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Let us talents and tongues employ

Linstead 8 8 8 LM with refrain (5 5 5 3)

C Dm7/C F/G C G7

1. Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a
 2. Christ is a - ble to make us one; at the ta - ble he
 3. Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a

C F/C C C Dm7/C F/G C

shout of joy: bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured,
 set the tone, teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless,
 world of doubt, gives us love to tell, bread to share:

G7 C/G G C Refrain C

Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
 love in word and in deed ex - press. Je - sus lives a - gain,
 God (Im - man - u - el) eve - ry - where!

F (Dm7) G7 C F C

earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

Words: Fred Kaan (1929-) Music: Jamaican folk song; adaptation, Doreen Potter (1925-1980);
 arrangement, Andrew Donaldson (1951-) CCLI #4440603

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