



Kensington Presbyterian Church
Growing in Faith and sharing God's Love
 since 1786

It comes down to...

May 5, 2024

WELCOME to worship. We are offering a variety of ways for people to gather. We are welcoming people to worship in person, as well as through Zoom, YouTube, and this printable PDF.¹ 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

Communion this week: All who want to know our Lord better are invited to join us the Lord's Supper.

Youth Group: next week with Kathryn & Ines!

Zoom Prayer Group: Wednesday at 6:30 a.m.

[us04web.zoom.us/j/773730107?](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/773730107?pwd=eUo2M09YMEw5dkZvdm9uQmpHNIUrUT09)

[pwd=eUo2M09YMEw5dkZvdm9uQmpHNIUrUT09](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/773730107?pwd=eUo2M09YMEw5dkZvdm9uQmpHNIUrUT09)

Jesus & Java: Join us as we share the joys and questions of faith.

Thursday, 3:30 pm at Beetz, 5914 Sherbrooke @ Clifton

May's Marvelous Meal & Majestic Movies Games: pizza at 6:30 pm

RSVP with Peter appreciated

Walk for New Hope: May 25 9:30-12:30

Join the community in raising money and enjoying a BBQ.

Drop Box: Food donations are welcome for the local Food Pantry, diapers for young mothers through Head & Hands, and cloths & accessories for the New Hope Boutique.

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



1 Corinthians 13 - Ivan Guaderrama

Contacts

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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

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, who rules all creation:

my soul, praise God who alone is our health and salvation.

Come, all who hear, sisters and brothers draw near,
joining in glad adoration.

♪ Hymn: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty.....pg 15 (321)
www.youtube.com/watch?v=rCnQNwQG5GI



Prayer of Approach by Jean-Baptiste Vianney (1786-1859)

I love you, O my God,

And my only desire is to love you until the last breath of my life.

I love you,

and I would rather die loving you
than live without loving you.

I love you, Lord,

and the only grace I ask is to love you eternally.

My God,

if my tongue cannot say in every moment that I love you,

I want my heart to repeat it to you as often as I draw breath.

Amen.

Listening to God

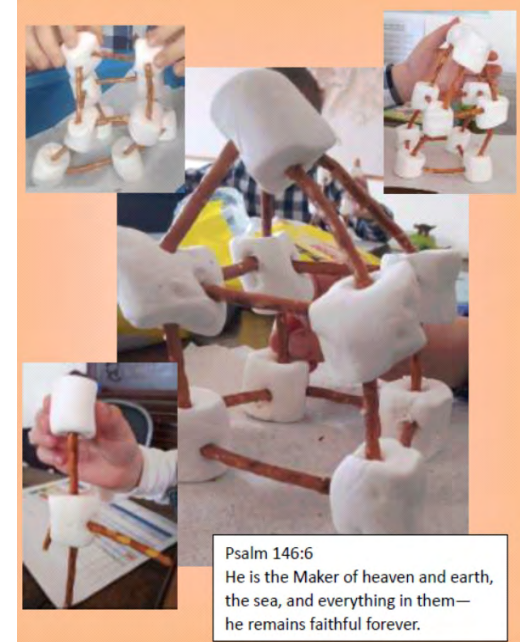


Children's Time: Show and Tell

Over the last 2 months our Sunday School explored the different things God has created, from the initial creation story to floods and rainbows. We tried to create people and houses using marshmallows and pretzel sticks and learned that God truly did an awesome job.

As the church season changed from Lent to Easter we looked at what Jesus did in Jerusalem and helped change our black cross full of our wrong doings into a beautiful cross full of flowers on Easter Sunday.

Last week we finished our "God created" session, by looking at what we can do to be good stewards of our planet and learned how we can reduce, reuse and recycle.



REFUSE



REDUCE



REUSE



RECYCLE

Today we will start our next topic "Us and Them". We will learn about Abraham, Isaac and Ishmael and the so-called "abrahamic religions". It is more than ever important to learn who we are as a people, what divides and unites us and how we can embrace each other with loving kindness.

prayer

Dear Jesus, thank you for creation: from atoms to stars and all the cuddly, slimy and wonderful things in between. Thank you for bringing light into the dark.

Amen.

♪ Hymn: Come down, O love divine.....pg 11 (386)

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



Beloved - Carolyn C Brown

🧘 Prayer for Illumination

Lord,
open our hearts and minds
by the power of your Holy Spirit,
that your love may fill us to overflowing. Amen.

✦ Intro to the readings

The Bible is a collection of stories, songs & prophecies that were told and then written down - along with letters and other types of writing. In the early 1200s something was added to the Bible - chapters (with verses coming along in the mid 1500s).² They are very useful when trying to talk to somebody about what's in the Bible, but not everyone agrees with the divisions. For example, Calvin (grandfather of the Presbyterian Church) describes the start of our reading today as "a senseless division of the chapter" and wonders if the copyist put it in in the wrong spot. I think Calvin has a good point, so we'll start our reading with the last line of the previous chapter.

What's the moral - it's always good to look at the context of what you're reading.

Today's the lectionary gives us a very familiar passage: 1 Corinthians 13. It's often used at weddings, and it's a good passage for the couple to remember. But when we look at the context we see that this isn't what Paul has in mind.


Paul was responding to news from Corinth that the church there was continuing to struggle with diversity. It's not hard to imagine, because it still happens. People care more about those who share the same interests/passions as they do, which leads to prioritizing or caring less about those who are different - to loving them less. Can you relate to it being easier to like people who are like you? Does it form a healthy community?

One of the ways this came out in the Corinthian church were arguments over whose gift was more important: those who were wise, or could prophecy, or speak in various languages. Paul talks about this right before today's passage. He points out that they

² www.biblegateway.com/blog/2016/12/where-do-verse-and-chapter-numbers-come-from/

are all gifts from the Holy Spirit, and are all needed. He suggests it's like different parts of the body. You need them all to work well, and if any one is hurt, then all suffer.

So the context for today's passage is that Paul is speaking to a group arguing, again, about who does more for the church. What would you say to them?

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

[1 Corinthians 12](#): 31b - [13:13](#)

[Psalm 33](#): 1-12, 22



Love, Faith, Hope, Peace - Takoma Park, MD

Sermon: What's next?

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

After affirming all their different gifts in Chapter 12, Paul says, "*But now I will show you a still more excellent way.*" This is Paul boiling down the entire Gospel, the Good News, of Jesus Christ into one word: love. Judgment, suffering, grace, mercy, salvation are all part of the gospel, but the most important aspect is love.

The community in Corinth really needed to hear this because

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

⁴ Psalm 19:14

love is the glue that holds community together.⁵ As Paul says, it doesn't matter if you can speak every language, even that of angels; it doesn't matter if you can prophecy, or if you know everything... without love it doesn't matter.

What's that mean?

First is something you've heard before, but it needs repeating because there's so much in our society that says otherwise. Love isn't an emotion, or at least not only an emotion. The way the word love is used in the Bible is more about being loving. It's an action.

What does this look like? much more than bringing chocolates or cuddling on the couch. Paul tells us. Instead of re-reading it, here's a rewording. Let it soak in.

Love is patient. Love is kind.

Love loves to see others have a good time.

Love doesn't need to get its own way,

put itself first or have the last say.

Love doesn't lose it in anger and spite.

Love can say, 'Sorry, I'm wrong and you're right!'

Love isn't selfish, love isn't rude.

Even in bad times, love brings out the good.

When love gets hurt, it doesn't hit back.

Love can stand up to taking the flak.

Love's always honest, love is always true

Love brings out the best in me and in you

Love keeps going - love never gives up,

never stops trying; nor says, 'Enough!'

Love has the faith to keep strong every day

⁵ When writing to the Thessalonians he emphasizes hope, because that's what they need to hear. Both are good answers, and I don't think either contradict each other.

Love means living in the very best way!⁶

We could take the rest of the day and go through each of those, but I'm not sure we have the patience for that. Do think about the list: patient, kind, not forcing your way, not losing it when angry, yet being honest. These are actions, not feelings. They are hard for us to do.

An interesting observation I came across is that they are also a good description of God. God is patient and kind - even when people routinely live for themselves. God works through co-operation rather than force. God is honest with when people disappoint, even angry, but as the psalms say, "*God's steadfast love lasts forever.*" These actions of love that Paul lists are a description of God... and are for us to try.

But like the Corinthians, it's hard to live it.

How can we live love?

Well, there's all those gifts that the Holy Spirit has planted in us: wisdom, languages, healing, etc. Using them can be loving, or not. It depends on how you use them. Do you use them just because it makes you feel good? It will probably make you feel good, but do you share your gifts to help others? Do you come in as God's great answer to life's problems? or do you practice those characteristics Paul mentioned, such as patience & kindness?

Now if you don't get this completely, or especially if you think you do, Paul reminds us of what it was like when we were young. To borrow a phrase from a pin I saw on a teenagers back-pack, "Hire a teenager while they know everything." The great Paul says that as he gets older he realizes he knows just a fraction of the

truth. Can you make the same admission as Paul? That as you mature you realize that perhaps you don't know it all; perhaps you need the help of others. It adds some humility to Paul's message, and is helpful in trying to live love. Try to be there for others, but admit that you don't know the whole context - these humble actions help us practice love.

Which leads into another way we learn to live love: practice. Somewhere in your life you've experienced this: music, sports, math, Let's take a great musician as an example. They have a vision of what the music can sound like. To get there they practice every day, and not just the piece of music. They practice routine boring scales. They take it slow and gradually push themselves for better. They fail and try again. Often they discover beautiful aspects along the way. Taking our gifts and practising them for God & community is one way to get better at being loving.

I came across an interesting story this week about the witness of the Christians in Le Chambon, France, during World War II. Five-thousand Christians sheltered five-thousand Jews from the Nazis. When asked why they did it, they were confused by the question. They said things like, "It's just what you do." and "I don't know. We were used to it."⁷ They had practised loving their neighbours and offering hospitality so well before the war that when the need came they had the skills to play the harder music - to love greater.

It is possible to love, to accept this gift of the Spirit and allow it to grow in us in a way that will never end. Why not? Because this is the greatest aspect of God: love. Everything God does is out of love - and eventually we will know God as well as God knows us.

In the meantime, the Holy Spirit gives us gifts to support each

6 tweaked from *Spill the Beans* #18

7 Charles Campbell, *Belief: 1 Corinthians*. WJK press.

other - and offers all of us the gifts of “faith, hope and love - and the greatest of these is love.”

To God be all the glory
Amen.



Responding to God

🎵 Hymn: a new commandment.....pg 12 (225)
www.youtube.com/watch?v=485btt72V2o

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

Memories: Share a story about a situation where a community was loving.

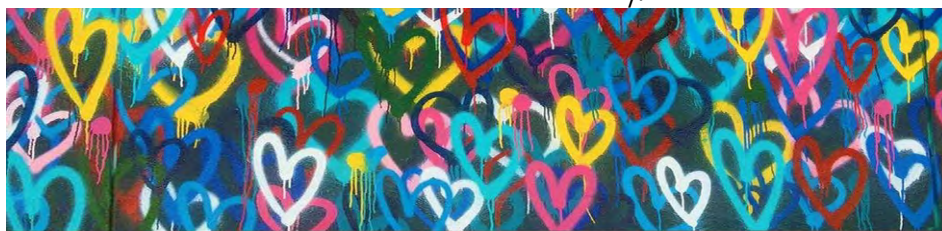
Values: Consider those you do things with. Who do you prioritize? How can you better love the diverse parts of the body of Christ?

Wonder: Would it be healthy to have all relationships equal? How could priorities be lived in a Godly way?

Actions: Thank of somebody you know who doesn't go to a church. How would you summarize the Gospel (good news) for them?

Wonder: What impression do 'outsiders' have of Kensington?

Prayer: ...that we may become more open to God's love, and able to share it abundantly.



Love Hearts - Banksy



✦ Spirit Sighting

This week's Mission Moment from the Presbyterian World Service & Development is about Sydney Nkhata. As a youth he participated in leadership training funded by the PWS&D. With these skills he is the chair of a youth network that is guiding & nurturing youth. Their teaching about sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) is seeing a change in behaviours.

✦ 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.

All donations are gratefully received and support God's work in our local and extended community.



Communion

♪ Hymn: We come as guests invited.....pg 13 (524)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GovCj8v8_vk (just music)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3fZXch9NHk0> (dif tune)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jafdLyZ0Dw8> (dif tune)

✦ Invitation to the table

Out of love,
Our Lord was revealed in Jesus the Christ,
who came to invite us all to rejoin God's family.
And the Holy Spirit still does,
and so the Lord has prepared this table.
Inviting everyone to return
so that together we may be drawn into
a closer relationship with Christ our King
Rassemblons-nous autour de la Table de notre Seigneur.

You who have much faith are invited,
and you who would like to have more,
you who have come often
and you who have not joined for a while,
you who have tried to follow Jesus,
and you who feel trapped by their failures.⁸

This is not my table, or the churches.
All who want to return to God
are invited to The LORD's table.

*C'est la volonté de Dieu
que tous ceux qui veulent connaître Jésus
partager ce repas.*

⁸ very adapted from Iona Wee Worship Book 4th ed



Pentecost - Kelly Latimore

As we come together to share this taste of Lord's Supper,
let us also join with Christians of many types,
around the world and through the centuries.
in a common confession of our faith.

🗣 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 the dead.
On 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.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

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 love you with sighs
too deep for words.

We love you
because you first loved us.

Providing light and hope for life,
shining into our hearts from your Kingdom coming.

We see your love reflected in glimpses around us.

Sometimes in relationships,
sometimes in experiences, like music from a great musician

and sometimes from other parts of nature
...like tulips lifting their colours to you.

Now we 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.**

As we remember that Jesus loved,
with a love so strong that those who were threatened or afraid
by its intensity killed him.
We recognize that we have also contributed to your crucifixion.

Love is patient and kind.
**Lord, it is hard to be patient when there is so much we need
and want to do. When other people slow us down, it is easy
to forget to be kind.**

Love is not jealous or conceited or proud.
**But we are, God. We look at some people and think we are
better than they are. We look at other people and feel
jealous of what they have and what they can do. Forgive us.**

Love is not ill-mannered or selfish or irritable.
**But we often blurt out rude, hurting names and accusations,
almost before we know what we are saying. Help us learn to
think before we speak.**

Love does not keep a record of wrongs.

But we remember even those wrongs we have really tried to forgive. We remember them and bring them up when we are angry or when we want our own way. We use them to hurt even the people we love. Help us to forgive and forget.

Love is not happy with evil. Love is happy with the truth.

But it is hard not to take secret delight when people get what they have coming to them. Teach us compassion, God.

Love never gives up; and its faith, hope, and patience never fail.

But we give up easily. We give up on other people. We give up on ourselves. We give up that anything will ever be any different. We give up on you.

Please forgive us.⁹

And your love continues
and so

...Together, we proclaim the mystery of the faith.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

and even in advance of your return,
your Spirit brings us your love.

Forgiving us,
guiding us,

inviting us to join in community with you
and each other.

As we learn to love each other,

we pray for the communities you place us in.

- for our nation,
and also all our neighbours in this global village...
especially those struggling to show each other love.
- our community of neighbours who live around us. . .
- and of nature that shares this city with us. . .
- and of those who need to feel your love, hope & healing...

Lord God,

as we gather at your table,

we pray that in sharing your bread and your cup.

your will make them alive

so that we may be closer to you

and be strengthened by you until you come again.

Let us join together in speaking the words Jesus taught us to pray,
saying:



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.

⁹ from <https://worshipingwithchildren.blogspot.com/2016/01/year-c-fourth-sunday-after-epiphany.html>



Feasting in the Dessert - Carol Grace Boomer



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 sang;
faites ceci en mémoire de moi”
Take and drink.

[take and drink]



Prayer after Communion

Loving God,
We thank you for this time with you,
uniting us with Christ,
and with each other.
Let us go out, filled with the power of your Spirit,
sharing your faith, hope & love with our world.
In Jesus name,
Amen.

♪ Hymn: Come let us sing.....pg 14 (706)
www.youtube.com/watch?v=_hyicnAV1Ow



Benediction (2 Corinthians 13:13)

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with all of you.
Amen.



Come down, O Love divine

DOWN AMPNEY 6 6 11 D

D A/C# D Asus4-3 G Em6 D 6 A/C# Bm A/C# E7sus4-3

1. Come down, O Love di - vine, seek now this soul of
 2. Oh let it free - ly burn, till earth - ly pas - sions
 3. Let ho - ly char - i - ty mine out - ward ves - ture
 4. And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will

A D G A G/B D Em/G D/F# G6 Em7 Asus4-3 7 D

mine, and vis - it it with your own ar - dour glow - ing;
 turn to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing,
 be, and low - li - ness be - come mine in - ner cloth - ing,
 long, shall far out - pass the power of hu - man tell - ing,

Bm Dmaj7/F# G D F#m E7 A C/E (D7) G D Em 6 D /F# (G) A

O Com - fort - er, draw near, with - in my heart ap - pear,
 and let your glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,
 true low - li - ness of heart, which takes the hum - bler part,
 for none can guess its grace, till we be - come the place

Words: Italian, Bianco da Siena (13??-1434); translation, R.F. Littledale (1833-1890), alt
 Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Words: public domain Music: copyright © Oxford University Press from The English Hymnal

/G D/F# G A G/B D /F# G6 Em7 Asus4-3 7 D

and kin - dle it, your ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
 and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
 and pride in earth - ly glo - ry scorns with loath - ing.
 where - in the Ho - ly Spir - it makes a dwell - ing.

A new commandment

A NEW COMMANDMENT Irregular

D Bm Em7 A /G

"A new com-mand-ment I give un-to you, that you
 "Je vous com-man-de, mes frè-res, mes soeurs: Ai-mez-

D/F# F#m Bm G 6 A /G D/F# F#m

love one an-o-ther as I have loved you, that you love one an-
 vous les uns les au-tres comme moi, j'ai ai-mé. Ai-mez vous les uns les

Bm 7 Em A D G (maj7) A Em (6)

o-ther as I have loved you. By this shall all know
 les autres comme moi, j'ai ai-mé. Et tous ver-ront que

Words: John 13:34,35; French translation, Andrew Donaldson (1951-) Music: Anonymous;
 arrangement, Lawrence Bartlett (1933-) CCLI #4440603

Words: French translation, copyright © Andrew Donaldson, 1996 Music: arrangement, copyright © from the Australian Hymn Book, 1977

D/F# F#m7 Bm 7 G A/G D/F# Gmaj7

you are my dis-ci-ples: if you have love one for an-
 vous êtes mes dis-ci-ples si vous ai-mez les uns les

A D G (maj7) A Em (6) D/F# F#m7

o-ther; by this shall all know you are my dis-
 au-tres, et tous ver-ront que vous êtes mes dis-

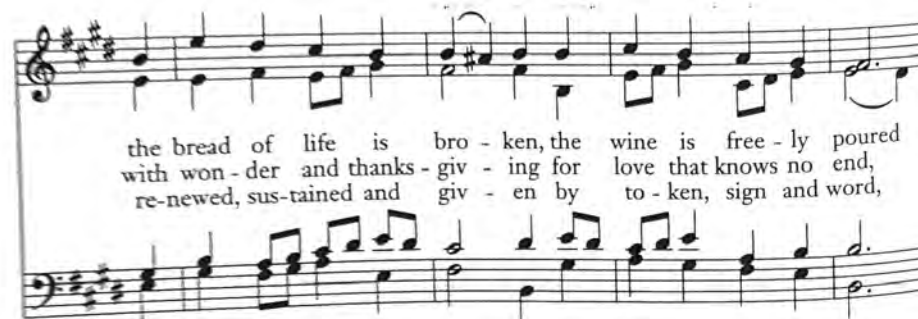
Bm G6 A/G D Gmaj7 A D

ci-ples: if you have love one for an-o-ther."
 ci-ples si vous ai-mez les uns les au-tres."


We come as guests invited



1. We come as guests in - vit - ed when Je - sus bids us dine,
 2. We eat and drink, re - ceiv - ing from Christ the grace we need,
 3. One bread is ours for shar - ing, one sin - gle fruit - ful vine,



the bread of life is bro - ken, the wine is free - ly poured
 with won - der and thanks - giv - ing for love that knows no end,
 re - newed, sus - tained and giv - en by to - ken, sign and word,



his friends on earth u - nit - ed to share the bread and wine;
 and in our hearts be - liev - ing on him by faith we feed;
 our fel - low - ship de - clar - ing re - newed in bread and wine

Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith (1926-) Music: Finnish hymn melody;
 arrangement, David Evans (1874-1948)



for us, in sol - emn to - ken of Christ our dy - ing Lord.
 we find in Je - sus liv - ing our ev - er - pres - ent friend.
 the pledge and seal of heav - en, the love of Christ our Lord.

Words copyright © 1984 by Hope Publishing Co. Music: arrangement, copyright © Oxford University Press from The Revised Church
 Hymnary CCL1 #4440603

Come, let us sing

1. Come, let us sing of a won-der-ful love, ten-der and true,
 2. Je - sus the Sav-iour this gos-pel to tell joy - ful - ly came,
 3. Je - sus is seek-ing the wan-der-ers yet; why do they roam?
 4. Come to my heart, O thou won-der-ful love; come and a - bide,

ten - der and true; out of the heart of the
 joy - ful - ly came, with the help - less and
 why do they roam? Love on - ly waits to for -
 come and a - bide, lift - ing my life till it

Fath - er a - bove, stream - ing to me and to
 hope - less to dwell, shar - ing their sor - row and
 give and for - get; home, wea - ry wan - der - ers,
 ris - es a - bove en - vy and false - hood and

you: won - der - ful love, won - der - ful love
 shame: seek - ing the lost, seek - ing the lost,
 home: won - der - ful love, won - der - ful love
 pride: seek - ing to be, seek - ing to be

dwells in the heart of the Fath - er a - bove,
 sav - ing, re - deem - ing at meas - ure - less cost.
 dwells in the heart of the Fath - er a - bove.
 low - ly and hum - ble, a learn - er of thee.

Words: Robert Walmsley (1831–1905) Music: Adam Watson (1845–1912)

Words: public domain Music: public domain

1. Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, who rules all cre -
 2. Praise to the Lord, who in all things so won - drous - ly
 3. Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work, who de -
 4. Praise to the Lord, and with all that is in me a -

a - tion: my soul, praise God who a - lone is your
 reign - ing hides you with shel - ter - ing wings, ev - er
 fends - you; sure - ly God's mer - ci - ful good-ness here
 dor - ing, all who have life and breath, come with glad

health and sal - va - tion. Come, all who hear, sis - ters and
 gen - tly sus - tain - ing. Have you not seen how your heart's
 dai - ly at - tends you; pon - der a - new what the Al -
 prais - es out - pour - ing! Let the a - men sound from God's

bro - thers draw near, join - ing in glad a - dor - a - tion.
 wish - es have been grant - ed through God's kind or - dain - ing?
 migh - ty can do, when in great love God be - friends you.
 peo - ple a - gain, now and for - e - ver a - dor - ing!

F Words: German, Joachim Neander (1650–1680); translation, Catherine Winkworth (1827–1878); alt
 f Music: Stralsund Gesangbuch 1665; Words: this version, copyright © The Presbyterian Church in Canada, 1997

15/15

MISSION MOMENT

Sunday, May 5

Sydney Nkhata, a 27-year-old from Northern Malawi, is the chair of a youth network made up of 12 clubs. His management journey was significantly influenced by the "Every Youth Empowered" project, which provided valuable leadership training and is funded by PWS&D. Equipped with new skills, Sydney has become a mentor—guiding and nurturing club members. His efforts ensure that youth actively embrace and take ownership of the project, where they learn about sexual and reproductive health rights—turning it into an integral part of the community. As a result, girls and boys are more aware of the risks related to early pregnancies and transmission of diseases and are changing behaviours. Sydney's story highlights the transformative power of leadership training and showcases his commitment to mentorship and community development.



DAILY PRAYERS

Sunday, May 5 We pray for the people attending Guidance Conference this week, that the student candidates will experience a Spirit-filled opportunity to reflect deeply on their sense of call to ministry in the church.

Monday, May 6 We pray for all who support PCC congregations and ministries with gifts of hospitality, helping strangers and seekers find a welcoming place in the church.

Tuesday, May 7 We pray for renewed relationships with church partners in Cuba as the church there seeks to continue Christ's ministry under the difficult circumstances of the embargo.

Wednesday, May 8 We pray for the Holy Spirit's leading as Atlantic Mission Society Presbyterians hold annual meetings this month.

Thursday, May 9 (Ascension Day) We give thanks for creative faith formation programs that congregations have developed to nurture people's faith

Friday, May 10 We pray for the Committee on Church Doctrine as it grapples with how Presbyterians respond to Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD).

Saturday, May 11 We give thanks for the beauty of creation and pray that the people and nations of the world are inspired to protect and care for the earth, as God intended.

May 5, 2024
 It comes down to...