

**Genesis Cooperative
of the United Church of Canada
in Partnership with the
Glengarry East Pastoral Charge**

***Consisting of the congregations of:
Alexandria, Cassburn, Dalhousie Mills, East Hawkesbury,
Kirk Hill, Pendleton, Trinity (Vankleek Hill)***

**Sunday, May 29, 2022
7th Sunday of Easter**



Worship Leaders Today

Trinity / Cassburn
Alexandria / Kirk Hill
Pendleton
Dalhousie Mills
East Hawkesbury

Tammy Oswick
Martin Reichert
Deborah Suddard
Merle Marjerrison
Rev. Phyllis Dietrich

*“Surely God is in this place... help me notice”
(attributed to St. Lawrence)*

We Gather to Praise God

Welcome to our worship service today.

We pray you will feel God's presence as we worship together.

*You are invited to join in reading the responses and prayers, printed in **bold**.*

♪Prelude

Greeting and Welcome

The Life and Work of the Church

Minute for Mission

The Lighting of the Christ Candle

♪Sung Introit: *“Thine is the Glory”* **VU 173**

*Thine is the Glory, risen, conquering Son,
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded graveclothes where the body lay.
Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son.
Endless is the victory thou o'er death has won.*

The Call to Worship:

Listen. Can you hear it? **The sound of those imprisoned.**

Listen. Can you hear it? **The sound of those who have been silenced because of gender, race, age, ability, or orientation.**

Listen. Can you hear it? **The sound of those who cannot speak up for themselves.**

Listen. Can you hear it? **Let us, the people of God, clear their throats, and break the silence.**

Come, let us worship God.

The Opening Prayer:

Holy One, you come to us as a flash of lightning, an uncontrollable source of energy and power. Even while we try to keep you safely within the confines of our liturgy, hymns, and theology, your spirit continues breaking forth in new and unexpected ways, reminding us that you are the One in whom the whole Earth rejoices. In this time of worship and prayer, loosen our chains, open our hearts that we may hear and respond to the Spirit's call. **AMEN.**

🎵 Hymn:

“Holy Spirit, Hear Us”

VU 377

The Prayer of Confession:

Liberating God, we pray for those imprisoned in a silence not of their own, where a world has decided to take their voice and replace it with a deeper silence made of prejudice, and fear, and power. Hear us as we confess the times we have ignored another's need, leaving them without a voice to cry for justice, to cry for peace, to cry for truth. May we share their silence in our confession. *Pause.*

We confess the times we have turned our backs on those who are too much trouble. **Hear us, O God.** *Pause.*

We confess the times we have not listened to the needs of others. **Hear us, O God.** *Pause.*

We confess what we have taken for ourselves that which belongs to another. **Hear us, O God.** *Pause.*

We confess the times we have chosen not to see others. **Hear us, O God.** *Pause.*

We confess the times we have lost our own voice because of fear of speaking the truth. **Hear us, O God.** *Pause.*

We confess the times we have not been your disciples in seeking peace, and inclusion, and freedom. **Hear us, O God.**

The Words of Affirmation:

God's love is never bound by our limitations and failures. It rises renewed in each moment, waiting on the pathway of life to offer us grace. The chains which bind our lives are torn apart by the power of God's gift of forgiveness. (Tear apart one of the paper chains, link by link.) Thanks be to God!

🎵Hymn:

“Lord, Speak to Me”

VU 589

We Listen for God's Word

Scripture Lessons:

Acts 16: 16-34 Paul and Silas freed from prison.

Psalms 97 VU 817 God reigns; let the earth be glad.

Revelation 22: 12-14, 16-17, 20-21 I am coming soon.

John 17: 20-26 Jesus prays that they all may be one.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God!

Message:

🎵Hymn:

“In Loving Partnership We Come”

VU 603

We Respond to God's Word

Offering Invitation

🎵Response:

“We Give You But Your Own”

VU 542

*We give you but your own, whate'er the gift may be,
All that we have is yours alone, we give it gratefully.*

The Prayer of Dedication:

We dedicate ourselves to another's freedom, O God, to bring the fullness of life to those caught in life's shadows: to offer

grace where another's hurt has bruised; to offer peace where another's violence has damaged; to offer a heart where another's story entraps; to offer justice where another's power has oppressed. **AMEN.**

The Prayers of the People / The Lord's Prayer:

Our Father, who art in heaven ... (found at VU 959)

🎵Hymn: “Be Thou My Vision” VU 642

The Closing Words

🎵Sung Blessing: “Go Now in Peace”

**Go now in peace, never be afraid,
God will go with you each hour of everyday.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know he will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love and show you believe,
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above,
Go now in peace, in faith and in love.**

🎵Postlude

Our Worship Ends – Our Service Begins



Announcements

✝ *As church, we are called to pray for each other
and for our mission in the world* ✝

The People of the Ukraine;
The People in Eastern Ontario / West Quebec
still without power;
Bethel St. Andrews United, Fitzroy Harbour, ON



Question of the Day:

**Psalm 97: What do we mean when we declare
that we notice God's presence in creation?
How does that affect our interaction with creation?**



ONE MORE WEEK TO GO FISH! Now through Pentecost (**June 5**), all of our Genesis family will be collecting **cans of fish and meat** for our local food banks, as a great source of protein. We do this to remember the earliest of Christians, who would draw the fish symbol in the sand in order to find other Christians in those first days of Christianity. Help your local congregation “haul in the catch”, and build up the stock of protein in our local food banks over the summer months. **Come on! Let's GO FISH!**

Trash and Treasure is back in Vankleek Hill on **Saturday, June 4**. Trinity United will be participating again this year. If anyone has any “treasure” they would like to donate, please bring to the church on the morning of the sale.

The United Church of Canada gratefully acknowledges that its buildings and ministries, from coast to coast to coast, are on traditional territories of Indigenous Peoples.

Our vital, innovative, and healing ministries are supported by generous Mission and Service donations.

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Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

Announcement Deadline: Wednesday @ noon



Minute for Mission

The name calling started when she was about three years old.

The following is an excerpt from a blog written by Adele Halliday. Your Mission & Service gifts support anti-racism programs and initiatives like the ones Halliday develops as the United Church's Anti-Racism and Equity Lead to help all of us be in deeper, more equitable relationships with one another.

The name calling started when she was about three years old. They were racial slurs, and names, and taunts. My child, my own flesh and blood, was being ostracized for having Black skin. The people slinging the insults? Other children on the playground.

She may not have necessarily always understood the particular terms that they used, but she knew that it was related to her Blackness and her racial identity. And this deeply wounded her tender heart.

Despite all of our intentional modelling, teaching, and proactive actions, our child is still already developing internalized racism and inferior notions of herself.

The children who were taunting her were offering explicit and overt notions of racism, but they were children! They had not even started primary school! And yet, the children had already learned behaviour (at home, or elsewhere in society) that Whiteness is superior. And, they had the audacity to vocalize that to an innocent little child.

This is in part why I am so deeply committed to dismantling racism in all its forms—racism is damaging and destructive for all people in society. It reinforces negative notions for people of colour. I live it in a particular way because of my own racial identity, as a Black person who has lived with racial injustice my entire life.

The systemic nature of racism is something that cannot be ignored. This effort to overcome racism is a continuous effort. And I am committed to this work for the long haul.

I hope that you will be too.