



A Parish of the
Diocese of Toronto
Anglican Church
of Canada



Parish e-News

St Thomas' Anglican Church

16 Centre Street

P. O. Box 187

Millbrook, ON, L0A 1G0

705-932-2233

email: cavmanparish@nexicom.net

web: www.stthomasanglicanchurchmillbrook.ca



Photo: Paul Chantler

Public Worship at St Thomas' Remains Cancelled Due to Covid-19

The Priest-in-Charge will celebrate the Liturgy of the Word -
on behalf of the whole congregation - in the church every Sunday at 10.30 am.
A video of this liturgy will be sent out on Sunday afternoons no later than 4 pm.
The *Order of Service* is found below for those who wish to follow along at home.

Here are some links to other online Sunday liturgies in our diocese:

- St John's, Peterborough: <http://stjohnspeterborough.ca/>
- All Saints', Peterborough: <https://www.allsaintspeterborough.org/at-home-resources>
- St James' Cathedral & other parishes throughout the diocese: <https://www.toronto.anglican.ca/2020/03/13/covid-19-updates/#worship>

As a simple act of daily or weekly worship, you may wish to make use of the virtual *Light a Candle* prayer resource from the Church of England website:
<https://www.churchofengland.org/our-faith/light-candle>

Forward Day-By-Day - daily Bible readings & other resources for prayer and study - available online at: <https://prayer.forwardmovement.org/>

From the Priest-in-Charge:

“We learned last week that the bishops of our province have decreed (wisely, in my opinion) that Anglican churches must remain closed until September at the earliest. This week, our provincial bishops have issued a new document, ‘Loving our Neighbours: A Template for the Safe Re-opening of Our Churches.’

The document can be found at this link:

<https://files.constantcontact.com/99e294e0401/f1685c1f-2438-4915-93f8-2c658ad28e9f.pdf>

I am still seeking guidance on the advisability of having some small, outdoor gatherings for worship during the summer months.” RR

From the Trustees of St Paul's Cemetery:

“We regret that, in view of the current COVID-19 situation, there are no plans for a Decoration Day Service or any kind of formal gathering at St. Paul's Cemetery, 1304 Zion Line, on Fathers' Day, June 21st. The cemetery remains open to the public, and for those who are planning to pay their respects on June 21st, trustees will be present from 2 pm until 3.30 pm. Free-will offerings will be accepted with gratitude (tax receipts issued for gifts of \$20 or more). We ask that those who choose to visit the cemetery respect physical distancing. We trust that you will stay safe and well. With thanks! Trustees: Bev Hilditch, Sherry-Lynne McMahon, Ruth Roberts, Jill Stocker”

The Diocese of Toronto has produced a new document entitled “Policy on Marriage” which outlines some important changes in our pastoral practice.

The document, along with a short video presentation by the Bishop of Toronto, can be found at the following link:

<https://www.toronto.anglican.ca/parish-life/marriage/>

Contacting the Parish Office - Telephone contact with the parish secretary is possible from 9.30 am to 11.30 am, Tuesday to Thursday. **Please leave a message on the parish office voicemail and Gail will return your call as soon as possible.** For an urgent matter, please call the Priest-in-Charge at home at 705-932-1231.

Community Care Millbrook is offering grocery delivery and prescription pick up and delivery to people who not able to get out. Please call 705-932-2011 for more information. Volunteers from the parish are also available to offer assistance.

Some of our parishioners are making cloth face masks which may be helpful in reducing possible transmission of the Covid-19 virus from the wearer to others, especially in situations where physical distancing is very difficult to maintain. To obtain a mask, please contact the Priest-in-Charge. There is no charge (donations accepted).

The Churchwardens continue to be grateful to those parishioners and friends of St Thomas' Church who are making a concerted effort to keep up their regular offerings, especially as we face an extended 'sabbatical' from regular church services this summer! Thank you so much for your on-going support!

Weekly or monthly offerings (for those who are not on PAR) can be made in the following ways:

- **By regular mail** - to St Thomas' Anglican Church, P. O. Box 187, Millbrook, Ontario, L0A 1G0. Cheques only please--made out to St Thomas' Church. *Post-dated cheques, for future contribution periods, would be welcome and very much appreciated.*
- **By e-transfer from your bank account.** Please call Gail at the parish office at 705-932-2233 (leave message) or email her at cavmanparish@nexicom.net to arrange.
- **By pre-arranged 'drop off' at the home of the Priest-in-Charge.** Please call 705-932-1231 to arrange a mutually convenient time.
- **By pick-up from your home if you can't get out** - please call 705-932-1231 to arrange a mutually convenient time. All public health protocols ('physical distancing,' etc) will be strictly followed.
- **By Pre-Authorized Remittance:** If you wish to enroll in PAR, please call the parish office during office hours. An authorization form will be mailed (or emailed) to you.
- **By using the secure online donations link on our parish website.** Here is the link: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/119202950RR0001-st-thomas-church/>

Liturgy of the Word
3rd Sunday after Pentecost
Proper 12, Year A
June 21st, 2020

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;
and blessed be God's kingdom now and for ever. Amen.

**Almighty God, to you all hearts are open,
all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden.
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Come, Holy Spirit of God
and search our hearts with the light of Christ.

(silence for reflection)

**Lord God, we have sinned against you;
We have done evil in your sight.
We are sorry and repent.
Have mercy on us according to your love.
Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.
Renew a right spirit with us
and restore us to the joy of your salvation,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

**May the God of love and compassion
forgive us and free us from all our sins,
heal and strengthen us in the Holy Spirit,
and raise us to new life in Christ. Amen.**

Collect of the Day

O God our defender,
storms rage about us and cause us to be afraid.
Rescue your people from despair,
Deliver your daughters and sons from fear,
and preserve us all from unbelief;

through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and ever. Amen.

A reading from Genesis (21.8-21)

The child grew, and was weaned; and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac. So she said to Abraham, "Cast out this slave woman with her son; for the son of this slave woman shall not inherit along with my son Isaac." The matter was very distressing to Abraham on account of his son. But God said to Abraham, "Do not be distressed because of the boy and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for it is through Isaac that offspring shall be named for you. As for the son of the slave woman, I will make a nation of him also, because he is your offspring." So Abraham rose early in the morning, and took bread and a skin of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed, and wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba. When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes. Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, "Do not let me look on the death of the child." And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept. And God heard the voice of the boy; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, and said to her, "What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid; for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make a great nation of him." Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. She went, and filled the skin with water, and gave the boy a drink. God was with the boy, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness, and became an expert with the bow. He lived in the wilderness of Paran; and his mother got a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

Holy Word; Holy Wisdom. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 86 (1-10, 16-17)

Incline your ear, O LORD, and answer me, for I am poor and needy.

Preserve my life, for I am devoted to you; save your servant who trusts in you.

You are my God; be gracious to me, O Lord, for to you do I cry all day long.

Gladden the soul of your servant, for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call on you.

Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer; listen to my cry of supplication.

In the day of my trouble I call on you, for you will answer me.

There is none like you among the gods, O Lord, nor are there any works like yours.

All the nations you have made shall come and bow down before you, O Lord, and shall glorify your name.

For you are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God.

Turn to me and be gracious to me; give your strength to your servant; save the child of your serving girl.

Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame, because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

Glory to God: Source of all being, eternal Word, and life-giving Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be for ever. Amen.

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans (6.1-11)

Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in the newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Holy Word: Holy Wisdom. **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of truth will bear witness to me, says the Lord; and you also are witnesses. **Alleluia!**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (10.24-39)

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

"A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household! "So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows. "Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. "Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and one's foes will be

members of one's own household. Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

The Gospel of Christ. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

(Silence for reflection)

Homily - available on the 'Youtube' video to be distributed Sunday afternoon

Affirmation of Faith

**Hear, O Israel,
the Lord our God, the Lord is one.**

**Love the Lord your God
with all your heart,
with all your soul,
with all your mind,
and with all your strength.
This is the first and the great commandment.**

**The second is like it:
Love your neighbour as yourself.**

There is no commandment greater than these.

Prayers of the Faithful

In peace, let us pray to Jesus our Lord,
who for ever lives to make intercession for us to the Father.

King of peace,
be present in all places of suffering, violence and pain,
and bring hope even in the darkest night. We remember especially those affected by
acts of terror those forced to seek refuge from persecution and all affected by
Covid-19. Inspire and protect all who continue your work of compassion &
reconciliation throughout the earth. *(silence)*

We pray to the Lord:
Lord, hear our prayer.

Lord of the Church,
empower by your Spirit all Christian people,
and the work of your Church in every land.
We pray especially for Andrew & Riscylla our bishops.
In the Anglican Communion we pray for the newly-appointed Archbishop of York,
Stephen Cottrell. Give all of your people grace to proclaim the gospel joyfully in word
and deed. *(silence)*

We pray to Lord:
Lord, hear our prayer.

Shepherd and Guardian of our souls,
guide and enable all who lead and serve this community,
and those on whom we depend for our daily needs.
Grant that we all of us may seek the best for other people, loving our neighbours as
ourselves. *(silence)*

We pray to the Lord:
Lord, hear our prayer.

Great Physician,
stretch out your hand to bring comfort, wholeness and peace
to all who suffer. Fill us with compassion, that we may be channels of
your healing love. In the silence of our hearts, we pray for the sick & frail.
(silence)

We pray to the Lord:
Lord, hear our prayer.

Conqueror of death,
remember for good those whom we love but see no longer. Help us to live this day in
the sure and certain hope of your eternal victory. *(silence)*

We pray to the Lord:
Lord, hear our prayer.

Gracious God,
you have heard the prayers of your faithful people;
you know our needs before we ask,
and our ignorance in asking.
Grant our requests as may be best for us.
This we ask in the name of your Son
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for the coming of God's kingdom,

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as 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 for ever. Amen.**

Act of Spiritual Communion

Adapted from the Book of Common Prayer

O God, your Son Jesus Christ has given us a meal of bread and wine as an outward sign of his living presence. May we, who at this time cannot celebrate the holy mysteries of his Body and Blood, receive him spiritually in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving; that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us. Amen.

**Glory to God, whose power working in us,
can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.
Glory to God from generation to generation,
in the Church and in Christ Jesus,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The peace of God, which passes all understanding,
keep our hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God,
and of God's Son Jesus Christ our Lord:
and the blessing of God almighty,
Source, Word, and Holy Spirit,
be among us and remain with us now and always. **Amen.**

"The Blessing - Canada":

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BSuwlEaQi54>

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

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