



A Parish of the
Diocese of Toronto
Anglican Church
of Canada



Parish e-News

St Thomas' Anglican Church

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

During these summer months, the Priest-in-Charge will celebrate the Sunday Liturgy - on behalf of the whole congregation - in the church on *Saturdays* at 4 pm.

A Youtube video of this Sunday liturgy will be sent out following the service. The Order of Service is found below for those who wish to use it at home.

*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/>

Our bishops have set September 13th as the day that we are free to resume our regular Sunday services at 10.30 am. The diocese has set out strict requirements that must be followed by parishes for the conduct of public worship: e.g., physical distancing, obligatory non-medical face masks, no congregational singing (only instrumental music and/or a cantor/soloist), holy communion in one kind only, etc. The Priest-in-Charge and Churchwardens will provide detailed information on these rules closer to the time. *We look forward to seeing you back at church this fall!*

The parish office (with Gail still working from home) is open Tuesday-Thursday, 9.30-11.30 am, telephone 705-932-2233 (please leave message). For urgent matters, please call the Priest-in-Charge at home (705-932-1231). If (and *only* if) the home voicemail is turned off, please call 705-313-9002, and leave message.

Some of our parishioners are making cloth face masks which are now strongly recommended (and in some parts of the province now required) by Public Health for use in indoor settings. To obtain a mask, please contact the Priest-in-Charge.

The Churchwardens continue to be extremely grateful to parishioners and friends of our parish who are making a concerted effort to keep up their regular offerings. Thank you for your 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
8th Sunday after Pentecost
Proper 17, Year A
July 26th, 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)

Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

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,
the protector of all who trust in you,
without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy,
increase and multiply upon us your mercy,
that with you as our ruler and guide,
we may so pass through things temporal,
that we lose not the things eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A reading from Genesis (29.15-28)

Then Laban said to Jacob, "Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?" Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah's eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, "I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel." Laban said, "It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me." So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her. Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed." So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?" Laban said, "This is not done in our country--giving the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years." Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

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

Responsorial Psalm (105.1-11, 45)

O give thanks to the LORD, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples.

Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works.

Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually.

Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he uttered, O offspring of his servant Abraham, children of Jacob, his chosen ones.

He is the LORD our God; his judgments are in all the earth.

He is mindful of his covenant forever, of the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations,

the covenant that he made with Abraham, his sworn promise to Isaac, which he confirmed to Jacob as a statute, to Israel as an everlasting covenant, saying,

"To you I will give the land of Canaan as your portion for an inheritance." Praise the LORD!

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 (8.26-39)

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

Alleluia, alleluia! Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia!

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (13.31-33, 44-52)
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened." "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. "Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

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

Homily - will be available on the 'Youtube' video of this liturgy

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, we pray to our compassionate God.

For peace from on high and for our salvation, we pray:

Lord, hear and have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all, we pray:

Lord, hear and have mercy.

For Linda our Primate, for Andrew and Riscylla our bishops, for all the clergy and people of our diocese, and for the church in England, North India, and the South Sudan we pray:

Lord, hear and have mercy.

Recalling that diversity is our strength, for the nations and peoples of this country--especially those who work for justice, peace, and reconciliation, we pray:

Lord, hear and have mercy.

For all municipalities--especially this county and township--that their citizens and leaders may work for the common good of all, we pray:

Lord, hear and have mercy.

For our parish, for its members, its leaders, and its outreach to others--especially for those who have continued a ministry of prayer during the present pandemic--we pray:

Lord, hear and have mercy.

For our fragile planet, especially in this time of rapid climate change, that we may challenge our leaders to make good decisions for our well-being and for survival of generations to come, we pray:

Lord, hear and have mercy.

For the sick or frail, especially those commended to us... and for all in need of patience, strength, and healing, we pray:

Lord, hear and have mercy.

For all the faithful departed, that they may rest in peace and rise with Christ in glory, we pray:

Lord, hear and have mercy.

In unity with all the saints, known and unknown, we commit ourselves, one another, and our whole lives to Christ our God:

To you, O Lord, our God.

Grant these our prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever. **Amen.**

As our Saviour Christ has commanded and taught us, we are bold to say

**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,
Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier,
be among us and remain with us now and always. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God!