

First Presbyterian Church
Edmonton, Alberta
(Founded 1881)

5th Sunday of Easter
11:00 am – May 15th, 2022

PRELUDE and PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: “The Peace of Christ be with you.”

People: “And also with you.”

**WELCOME, INTIMATIONS
LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE**

WE APPROACH GOD

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

L: In Christ, the God of heaven has made his home on earth.

P: Christ dwells among us and is one with us.

L: Highest of all creation, he lives among the least.

P: He journeys with the rejected and welcomes the weary.

L: Come now, all who thirst,

P: We come to drink the water of life.

L: Come now, all who hunger,

P: We come to be filled with good things.

L: Come now, all who seek,

P: We come to be found by the God of Love.

**HYMN: 730 O for a world where everyone
1.O for a world where everyone respects each other’s ways,
Where love is lived and all is done
with justice and with praise.**

2. O for a world where goods are shared and misery relieved,
Where truth is spoken, children spared, equality achieved.
3. We welcome one world family and struggle with each
choice
that opens us to unity and gives our vision voice.
4. The poor are rich, the weak are strong, the foolish ones
are wise.
Tell all who mourn: outcasts belong, who perishes will rise.
5. O for a world preparing for God's glorious reign of peace,
where time and tears will be no more,
and all but love will cease.

PRAYERS OF APPROACH AND CONFESSION: (responsively)

L: Lord, you come to us, but we do not recognize you;
you call, but we do not follow; you command, but we do not
obey, you bless us, but we do not thank you.

P: Please forgive and help us.

L: Lord, you accept us, but we do not accept others;
you forgive us, but we do not forgive those who wrong us;
you love us, but we do not love our neighbors.

P: Please forgive and help us.

L: Lord, you showed us how to carry out your mission,
but we still insist on our own; you identified yourself with
outcasts, the needy, and the poor, but we do not bother to find
out what is happening to them; you suffered and died for *the*
sake of all, but we do not give up our comfortable lives.

*P: Please forgive and help us, through Jesus Christ, our
Lord. Amen.*

KYRIE ELEISON (Lord have mercy)

DECLARATION OF PARDON

THE LORD'S PRAYER (sung): Hymn #831

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

ANTHEM I give you a new commandment (John 13: 34-5)

Peter Aston

*I give you a new commandment;
Love one another; as I have loved you,
So you are to love one another.
If there is this love among you,
Then all will know that you are my disciples.*

SHARING A STORY

HYMN: 726 May the God of hope go with us every day

**May the God of hope go with us every day,
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to every land and race.
Refrain: Praying, let us work for peace,
Singing, share our joy with all,
Working, for a world that's new,
Faithful when we hear God's call.**

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

RESPONSIVE PSALM 148 Refrain 1

*Refrain: Heav'n and earth and all creation, praise
and magnify God's name.*

**L: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise the Lord in the heights!**

***P: Praise the Lord, all the angels; praise the Lord, all the
host in heaven!***

SERMON: “When Water is Thicker than Blood”

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

HYMN Concertato:

There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy Maurice Bevan

Congregation and Choir: verse 1

Choir: verse 2

Congregation and Choir verse 3 and refrain

1. There's a wideness in God's mercy
Like the wideness of the sea
There's a kindness in God's justice
Which is more than liberty.

There is no place where earth's sorrows
Are more felt than up in heaven
There is no place where earth's failings
Have such kindly judgment given.

2. For the love of God is broader
Than the measures of one's mind
And the heart of the Eternal
Is most wonderfully kind.

But we make God's love too narrow
By false limits of our own
And we magnify God's strictness
With a zeal God will not own.

3. There is plentiful redemption
In the blood that has been shed
There is joy for all the members
In the sorrows of the Head.

There is grace enough for thousands
Of new worlds as great as this
There is room for fresh creations
In that upper home of bliss.

If our love were but more simple
We should take God at God's word
And our lives would be all gladness
In the joy of Christ our Lord.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Gracious God, hear our prayer.

Response: And in your love answer.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY Biblical Song No. 5 Antonin Dvorak

Soloist: Kathy Haddadkhar

Songs of gladness will I sing Thee,
Telling Thy praises on a psaltery.
Oh, let my song find favour in Thine eyes.
I will delight in exalting Thee
Every day will I bless Thy name,
And I shall sing to my Saviour.

Lord my God, Thou art all my delight,
And great is Thy mercy.
And who shall declare all Thy greatness and Thy glory?

Oh glory and honour to Thee and to Thy works.
Thy greatness my song shall extoll, And praise Thy mercy.
Yea, all shall tell of thy great mercy and love
and Thy wondrous insight.
And I shall loudly sing of Thy glory and Thy power.

DOXOLOGY #830

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore;
praise Triune God, whom we adore.*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

WE TAKE CHRIST'S LOVE TO THE WORLD

HYMN 480 In Christ there is no east or west

1. In Christ there is no east or west,
In him no south or north,
But one great fellowship of love
Throughout the whole wide earth.

2. In Christ shall true hearts everywhere
Their high communion find;
His service in the golden cord
Close binding humankind

3. Join hands, companions in the faith,
Whate'er your race may be!
Who loves and serves the living God
Is surely kin to me.

4. In Christ now meet both east and west;
In him meet south and north;
All Christly souls are one in him,
Throughout the whole wide earth.

BENEDICTION

SING 264 Sing Amen

Sing Amen. Amen, we praise your name, O God.

Sing Amen. Amen, we praise your name, O God.

Sing Amen. Amen, amen, amen, amen,
amen we praise your name, O God.

POSTLUDE Caprice sur les grands jeux L N Clérambault

WARMEST GREETINGS: We are pleased to welcome all who join us this morning.

Worship is live streamed at <https://www.twitch.tv/firstpresbyterianedmonton/>

We welcome back the Rev. Roy Berkenboasch as our preacher and worship leader. Roy is the recently retired founding director of the Micah Centre for Justice Education at The King's University and an ordained minister at Fellowship Christian Reformed Church.

Pandemic Policy:

First Presbyterian Church is **OPEN**. Vaccinations are encouraged but not required. Masking is encouraged but not required.

During Rev. Currie's absence you may contact the Interim Moderator with pastoral needs or questions. Contact information: Phone 439 4669. Email ab6576@telus.net

- Session will meet Monday evening at 7pm
- Choir practice is on Wednesday's at 7:30pm
- Church School has resumed in-person.

Food Bank Depot @ First Presbyterian Church - Hampers are served by our volunteers every Tuesday between 1:30 and 2:30pm to our community.

Thank You for all the ways you give! Here are some options for giving from a distance: **mail a cheque** or your church envelope with a cheque enclosed (please do not mail cash); **PayPal** on the church's website, just click the donate button; **e-transfer** to treasurer@firstpresbyterian.ca (auto-deposit is set up, so no need to use a secret question). Best of all, please consider **pre-authorized remittance (PAR)**; more information here: <https://presbyterian.ca/plannedgiving/pre-authorized-remittance-par-program>. If you have any questions about donating or church finances, contact the Treasurer, Javed Sommers, at treasurer@firstpresbyterian.ca.

At the annual meeting, the congregation approved creation of a new Humanitarian Relief Fund which will raise money for Presbyterian World Service & Development, with the church matching up to \$7,500/year. Session is working to confirm terms of reference for the fund, but donations will be gratefully received immediately. For 2022, all proceeds are being directed to the Ukraine Crisis Appeal: <https://presbyterian.ca/pwsd/2022/02/28/ukraine-crisis/>

Mission Moment - Sunday, May 15

In Malawi, unreliable rainfall patterns are a significant issue affecting farmers. As a result of climate change, these unpredictable rains greatly impact food security and limit what farmers can and cannot plant. To assist farmers in Malawi's Karonga District, workshops that teach conservation agriculture techniques are held. Farmers learn how to use mulch and make compost to nourish the soil and grow better crops. Farmers also learn other essential techniques, including weed and pest management, to address the ongoing challenges of climate change. **Since implementing a conservation agriculture approach, many farmers have significantly increased their crop yields.** This agricultural project is supported by Presbyterian World Service & Development, in partnership with Canadian Foodgrains Bank.

Prayer: We give thanks for Presbyterian World Service & Development partners who teach farmers in Malawi about conservation agriculture, helping them to protect and revitalize life-giving soil and cultivate plentiful harvests.

Stewardship Thought - May 15

The environment is where we all meet, where we all have a mutual interest, it is the one thing all of us share.

Lady Bird Johnson - Former First Lady of The United States

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