

Anglican Parish of Woodstock

St. Luke's Church

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6th Sunday of Easter



Morning Prayer



**Control & Click icons to
Facebook & YouTube!**



On-line Worship from St. Luke's Church

Anglican Parish of Woodstock

This Service was pre-recorded for

May 17, 2020

Officiant: Rev. Shirley Noseworthy

Lector & Video: Armin Hackelsperger

Order of Service

(Book of Alternative Services)

The hymns are from Common Praise and may be viewed on YouTube by placing your cursor on the link, then left click. The liturgy is from the Book of Alternative Services.

The service video may be viewed on either the Anglican Parish of Woodstock Facebook Page, or the Anglican Parish of Woodstock NB YouTube channel.

Morning Prayer

Book of Alternative Services p. 45

Hymn 205: The Day of Resurrection

<https://youtu.be/Czh8YTVfyCU>

Welcome to our service of Morning Prayer. An anonymous author wrote: “The Lord commanded a lockdown during the Passover in Egypt, that every member of the household was to be home, hidden and protected under the blood of the Lamb, partaking the Passover Lamb with members of the family. During this lockdown period, do not worry. Our faith is being tested and strengthened. We are being taught something and God is doing a work.” Be still and know He is God! Come, let us worship!

For those who may have a Book of Alternative Services, the service begins on page 45.

Scripture Sentences: If you love me, you will keep my word, and my Father will love you, and we will come to you. John 14:23

The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit: a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. Psalm 51:1

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleans us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:8,9

Call to Prayer

During this Covid19 crisis, Bishop David Edwards has called us to join in prayer with our brothers and sisters in Christ across our province, our country, and around the world.

Let us pray:

Gracious God, thank you that you are over all, in all and through all. We lift our world before you as we face the advent of the COVID-19 virus. We pray for those who are suffering its effects, the medical personnel who are caring for them and those who are seeking a vaccine or cure. We are grateful for the lives of people who have died and pray for their families and friends in their bereavement. We ask that you enable us to know your love for all and give us your peace which passes all understanding. In the name of Christ. **Amen.**

(Prayer by Bishop David Edwards)

The Penitential Rite

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Confession

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Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,

have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Absolution

Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, And keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Invitatory

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Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed.

Response: O come, let us worship.

Say the **Jubilate** (Psalm 100) together

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Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.

Know this: The Lord himself is God; he himself has made us, and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise; give thanks to him and call upon his name.

For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed.

Response: O come, let us worship.

The Proclamation of the Word

Mission Statement: Together: We are a worshipping Anglican Community, nourished by Liturgy, Scripture, Sacraments, Prayer, and Fellowship. We are guided by the Holy Spirit to care for God's creation, so that all may know the peace of Christ and the power of His Resurrection.

Gospel: John 14:15-21

Armin Hackelsperger

Sermon: The Answer to Loneliness

Rev. Shirley

Apostles Creed

p. 52

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of 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. He ascended into heaven; and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sin, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Traditional Hymn

Hymn 482: Come Down, O Love Divine

<https://youtu.be/zXO4rqBQOAU>

Or Contemporary Hymn

Hymn: May the People's Praise you (The Getty's)

<https://youtu.be/7BrfkjHdKVI>

Prayers of the People (adapted from prayers by our Primate Archbishop Linda Nicolls)

Let us pray: Almighty God our Heavenly Father, on this 6th Sunday of Easter, we give thanks for your church through the world. In our Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we remember: The Anglican Church of Korea, Archbishop Moses, their Primate. Archbishop Linda Nicholls, Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada. Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario, Archbishop Anne, and the Provincial Council. Our Companion Diocese of

Ho, Ghana, West Africa, and their Bishop Matthias. Diocese of Yukon, Patti - Yukon Apostolate; Bishop's School of Yukon Ministries; Yukon Diocesan youth ministry; their PWRDF Diocesan representative Betty; Yukon Diocesan ACW president Blanche and ACW members; and their Bishop Lesley. David, our Bishop, Claude, William and George, retired Bishops, and their families; and all who give leadership within the Diocese of Fredericton. For Shirley our Rector, Harold our Curate, our parish family, and every congregation. God of compassion and mercy, we lift our hearts to you in thanksgiving:

For your never-failing presence with us, through your Holy Spirit, at all times, in all circumstances.

For the gifts of this world, that lift our hearts to see beauty and hope—the promise of spring; the beauty of creation; the bonds of community in friends, family, and church.

For the promise of Easter, that nothing is stronger than your love for us.

Response: We thank you, Lord!

May our gratitude strengthen us in hope as we lift to you these for whom we pray:

All who are ill at this time with the COVID-19 virus and other causes, especially those on our prayer list.

All health-care workers, especially Nurses during this “Nurses Week”, who are sacrificially serving our communities.

All in quarantine and self-isolation, those who are lonely and disconnected from anyone who may offer comfort.

All who are homeless and vulnerable.

All who continue to provide food and shelter to those in need.

All who are unemployed, due to closures and cancellations.

All church, health, and government authorities, who must make critical decisions for the good of the whole community, that they may be strong, courageous, and thoughtful.

All families who are coping with quarantine or isolation, and the fears that children absorb.

All refugees stranded with few resources and without the capacity to practice physical distancing and other safety protocols.

All areas of the world where the emergence of this virus has placed unbearable strain on medical care.

Remembering all who have died from Covid-19 and other causes, especially Bud Hood, who passed away at Carleton Manor this week, we pray for his family and all who mourn; that you would bring comfort and peace to every grieving heart.

Response: Lord, hear and have mercy.

We “pray for the peace of Jerusalem: May they prosper who love you. Peace be within your walls.” (Ps. 122:6)

Loving God, we pray for your healing grace to be at work in and through us, in and through the gifts of medical science, and in and through our parish communities. May your light and grace continue to be known in the darkest of times through us. We pray with confidence and hope in the name of Jesus Christ our Risen Lord and Saviour. **Amen.**

The Collect of the Day together:

Merciful God, you have prepared for those who love you riches beyond imagination. Pour into our hearts such love toward you, that we, loving you above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Lord’s Prayer

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Vision Statement: *Together: (standing)*

We will become a more caring community of believers who learn together, nurture and support each other, and reach out to the community at large with the love of Christ.

The Dismissal

Priest: Alleluia! Let us bless the Lord!

People: **Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

The Grace

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

Blessing

Hymn 425: Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

<https://youtu.be/eMY3ivdNzwE>

Our Special Prayers are requested for: Janet, Kim, Ernest, Mavis, Gordon, Ellen, Karla, Amanda, Jennifer, Randy, Colin, Liam, Sadie, Emma, Scottie, Kate, Gail, Tanya, Terry, Brad, Billy, Lorne, Kent, Doreen, Dick, Susanne, Wesley, Jim, Trevor, Lindsay, Lois, David, Carrie, Barry, Freda, Barbara, Bishop David's mother, Doreen, and his father John.

Condolences are extended to the family of Bud Hood, who passed away on May 12, 2020, at the age of 89 yrs., at Carleton Manor. Sending love and sympathy his family, relatives, and friends. May God grant his comfort and peace in the days ahead.

Blessed to be a Blessing

At the end of March 2020 our parish had a negative balance on hand end of (\$7,258.52). Thank you to those who are doing your utmost to continue your offering to the church during these challenging times. It is thanks to your generosity that we will still be here when the lockdown is over.

Here are three options of giving to consider.:

1. **E-offering.** Thank you to those who already give through e-offering! Folks may consider signing up for e-offering even for the short-term. You may always go back to offering envelopes at any time. Contact Ruth at 328-4304 for details.
2. **Mail** your envelopes to St. Luke's Church, 104 Church Street, Woodstock, NB E7M 5Z7.
3. A new option is **e-transfer**. Simply log in on-line to your bank account and select the e-transfer option. Follow the prompts and enter St. Luke's email address: stlukes@nb.aibn.com.

Genesis 12:2 - I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.

Celebrating Birthdays & Anniversaries!

Happy birthday to: Colin Craig, John Wetmore Jr., and anyone else celebrating their special day.

Best wishes to anyone celebrating their wedding anniversary.

Caring for One Another during this Crisis

We are here for you during the Covid-19 crisis. If you would like to speak with someone or need help, please contact Nancy English (328-2295) or Mary-Beth Rideout (325-3476) on our Pastoral Care Team, or Rev. Shirley Noseworthy (328-9913). Jesus said, "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." John 13:35

Bulletin Board

All public worship and church activities are suspended until further notice – likely until mid-June.

It is out of love for our neighbors, that we forego the blessing of being physically together for worship. In so doing we seek to promote health and healing needed at this time.

Please pray for one another and remember to contact your family, friends, and neighbors by phone or social media to ensure everyone is coping well during this difficult time.

On-Line Worship

We will continue to pre-record services for viewing on Facebook and YouTube, until are able to open our doors for public worship. Watch for the pre-recorded service for the 6th Sunday of Easter, May 17, 2020 – Morning Prayer!

On-Line Sunday School & Children's Talks!

Watch for children's video postings on our Parish Facebook. Also, Rev. Harold Boomer has set up an on-line Sunday School through Zoom each Sunday at 10:30 am! If you have not already received the Zoom I.D., please email Harold at wattrboy@rogers.com for details.

Vestry Meeting via Zoom next Sunday, May 24, 2:00, 2 pm.
The info to join the meeting will be e-mailed to vestry members.

Sounds of Hope each Sunday!

Listen for Sounds of Hope from our church bells, each Sunday at 12:00 noon for 10 minutes during the Covid-19 lock down, a reminder that we are still here loving our neighbors and serving our God! Thank you to our bell ringers, Jon Tait at St. Luke's, and Richard Wetmore at Christ Church!

Families Helping Families

Thank you to those from our congregation who are helping Wes Corey & the fine staff at the River deliver meals to seniors and shut-ins who appreciate a dinner delivered each Sunday during Covid-19 lockdown: Nancy & Bobby English, MaryBeth, Jeff & Carson Rideout, Julie & Doug Brown, Pat & Blair Whitehouse, Jill & Colin Craig, and Zoe Frame. God bless you as you participate in this wonderful outreach ministry in our community!

Eastertide Blessings!

To those who are self-isolating at home, in hospitals, nursing homes, or wherever you may be, and for those essential workers who are out there doing your job under stressful conditions, may God bless you and grant you His peace and a safe and Blessed Eastertide!

New Rules for Visiting Patients in Hospital who are Nearing the End of Their Lives

Dr. Jennifer Russell, Chief Medical Office of Health, announced on May 11, new rules for visiting patients who are nearing the end of their lives, in hospitals, nursing homes, and hospices.

Patients will be permitted to designate two visitors to provide comfort and support. The two individuals selected will be the only visitors permitted and only one visitor is permitted at a time. No substitutions will be permitted. If a designated visitor, such as a frail elderly spouse, or a person with a disability, requires a second person to support them, this person would count as the second chosen visitor.

“The elderly, particularly those with underlying health issues, are at grave risk from the Covid-19 virus,” Russell said. “We will maintain our vigilance on their behalf. But I believe we can provide compassionate access for loved ones while continuing to protect those at greatest risk.”

All designated visitors will be required physical distancing and limit their interactions with facility staff and the public.

Rector’s note: Unfortunately, this restriction means it is unlikely that clergy will be able to provide end-of-life pastoral care.

When Will We Have Public Worship? Update

This week the clergy of our Diocese met with Bishop David Edwards to discuss the phases of reopening, after the Covid-19 lockdown.

We are in Phase 1 of the phased reopening in New Brunswick. This means 10 or less for public gatherings, appropriately distanced, and following all the other Covid-19 protocols. Given all the restrictions involved and the small number allowed to enter our facility, we have decided to wait for the next phase before opening our doors.

Phase 2, which allows up to 50 people for a public gathering, will begin in 3-4 weeks – perhaps mid-June, depending on the number of active Covid-19 cases at that time. In order to meet the criteria to reopen, there are certain steps to take. We must prepare a risk assessment and a comprehensive COVID-19 Operational Plan, outlining how we will meet all the guidelines of physical distancing, cleaning and sanitizing, entering and exiting, how communion may be administered, etc.

Once completed, a copy of this Operational Plan will be emailed to everyone on our Parish mailout list, and a copy must remain on site in the event of an unannounced inspection by health or government authorities. We wish to ensure that everyone will know what to expect once you step inside St. Luke's.

The Rector, the Curate, Wardens and Safe Church Officer are currently working on compiling the required documents in preparation for Phase 2 when we can have up to 50 people gathered for public worship.

Please be aware that once we open, it will not be back to business as usual. Worship will look very different, with screening taking place as you enter the facility, designated seating with appropriate physical distancing, directional signs, etc.

Further updates will be forthcoming.

A Time for Spiritual Spring Cleaning

Our lives seem to be governed by the seasons, with each season bringing specific events. Spring is the season to clean up accumulated winter debris, prepare soil for planting, clean the cobwebs out, and open the windows to let fresh air in.

This spring - the spring of the virus - we can do the same thing, but on a more personal level. We probably all have unfinished, incomplete feelings of injustices done to us. So why not use this time to right some wrongs, heal some hurts, mend some relationships, and bring harmony back into our lives - essentially clean up accumulated debris.

How about if we clean the cobwebs from our minds, get rid of unhealthy thoughts and make way for new ideas? We all get 'stuck' in the way we think, act, and speak. Can we be more thankful and less critical? More accepting and less restrictive? More open to other ways instead of thinking we know best?

All our minds, hearts and souls can use fresh air to keep the devil from walking around our brains with his dirty feet! We can see the promise instead of the impossible, can share a vision instead of ignoring it. We can live into our purpose, our calling, with renewed enthusiasm.

Try these exercises...

1. Write a personal 'prayer letter' to God. One of the most important blessings is the gift of prayer. After writing your prayer, put it away for a few days - then re-read it. What changes? What stays the same?
2. Make a list of 3 people-people you don't particularly like. Pray for them by name for 1 week. Have your feelings about them changed?

When we strip away the unnecessary, the clutter of our lives, we become God's story of wonder, hope, love, and faith.

Finally, a short prayer - Jesus, walk beside me. Live in me. Help me find you today. Fill my life with everything you know I need, and that will be enough. Amen.

(by The Rev. Deacon Fran Bedell, Regional Dean)