

St. Mark's Presbyterian Church 7366 Darcel Avenue, Malton, Ontario. (905) 677-4514 stmarksmalton@gmail.com

> Minister: Rev. Germaine Lovelace Music Director: Jo-Ann Bischoff

September 1, 2019

* Please stand for these moments during the service if you are able to.

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude: Morning has broken

*Responsive Call to Worship (Psalm 81, Jeremiah 2)

Sing aloud to God our strength!

Sing the story of our faith.

Sing of God's providential care:

God provides water in the desert and gives honey from a rock.

Sing of God's sorrow at our wandering!

God's love calls us anew.

To sing aloud to God our strength!

Hymn of Praise: Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer #651 Blue

Prayer of Approach

Prayer of Confession: (In Unison)

Generous God, we confess often fall short of the kindness and compassion we meet in Jesus. You have blessed us in so many ways and yet we want more. You have welcomed us like guests to a banquet, yet we find it hard to welcome a stranger in church. You have shown us what matters most in life, but we are distracted by our worries, busy with things that do not matter. Forgive us, O God, and teach us to honour you in all that we do and say, for the sake of Christ, our Saviour and our Friend. Amen.

Welcome and Announcements:

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

*Children's Hymn: When We Are Living # 630 Blue

Children's Story:

Special Item: In Remembrance - from The Shadow of the Cross -

sung by Velda Walkes

Psalm: 112 Refrain # 1

The Scriptures:

Reading: Luke 14: 1, 7-14 (page 849)

Special Music: I Came to Believe - Johnny Cash -

Bryan, Ashitha and Jo-Ann

Sermon: Humility Is A Tough Call

Hymn of Response: Take My Life And Let It Be # 449 Red

WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Invitation
We Confess Our Faith: Apostles' Creed (BoP#539)
The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving (BoP#564)
The Communion of God's People
Prayer of Thanksgiving

WE GO OUT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Offertory: Somebody whispered that Jesus loves me - Scott Lawrence *Offertory Hymn:

We bring the sacrifice of praise, Into the house of the Lord. We bring the sacrifice of praise, Into the house of the Lord. And we offer up to You, The sacrifices of thanksgiving; And we offer up to You, The sacrifices of joy. **Amen**.

*Offertory Prayer

*Closing Hymn: O Jesus I Have Promise # 569 Blue

*Benediction:

*Choral Praise God, Praise God.

Postlude: Go now in peace - Don Besig and Nancy Price

Welcome to St. Mark's

Today is the 12th Sunday after Pentecost and we welcome everyone to this worship service as we celebrate the Sacrament of The Lord's Supper and give joyful praise to the God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We wish for everyone a happy, safe and peaceful Labour Day. We extend special welcome to anyone who is worshipping with us for the first time.

If you are new to St. Mark's, we pray that your time with us this morning will be a blessing to you, and we invite you to fill in the blue Welcome Card in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate so that we have a record of your time with us.

Infants, toddlers, and children are welcome as part of our worship in the sanctuary! Following the first part of the service each Sunday, many of our children and youth go with their teachers to Sunday School. Children who are visiting are invited to join in!

<u>Nursery:</u> The Service can be heard from the Nursery downstairs for the convenience of parents with babies and toddlers

Thank You for Helping with Today's Service:

Greeters: Agnes Kuball and Evelyn Bola Duty Elder: Mavis Thomas

Sound Technicians: Edward Forsyth & Bryan Pradeepson Bulletin: Sheba & Anthony Sampras

If you wish pastoral services please fill out one of the cards in the pew and place it in the offering plate, contact Rev. Germaine Lovelace at 204-297-3950 or 905-677-4514. His email address is: lovemarlon2000@yahoo.com.

Rev. Lovelace is also available here at the church office every Tuesday – Friday 10:30 am to 4:00 pm.

Upcoming Worship & Church Events

Today is the 12th Sunday after Pentecost-We share in worship and communion as we give joyful praise to God for drawing us together in service, faith and love. All are invited to share in a time of fellowship following this worship service. We are also seeking volunteers to prepare refreshment on Sundays during the summer and also to set up for this time of fellowship.

- <u>Communion:</u> We will celebrate the sacrament of the Lord's Supper during this worship service. Everyone is invited.
- Memorial Service and Dedication of Stained-Glass
 Windows: On Saturday September 7, 2019, a Memorial
 Service will be held for Samuel Jhingree at 10:30 am. In
 Samuel's memory, his family has donated new stained-glass
 windows for our sanctuary. These stained-glass windows will
 be dedicated during this memorial service.
- <u>Kirk/Session:</u> The Kirk/Session will reconvene on Monday September 9 at 7:00 p.m.
- St Mark's Anniversary Service: On October 27th, St Mark's will be celebrating its 47th Anniversary. All are invited to make a special donation of \$ 47 to the church for this special occasion. We will also share in a time of fellowship after our Anniversary Service.

Music Ministry

The Senior choir will resume practise on Thursday, September 5 at 1:30 p.m.

If you are interested in volunteering to help with the greeting and welcoming ministry or if you have notices for the bulletin, please talk with the Duty Elder for that Sunday or contact Sam Alfred at 416-258-4435 or sla1302@sympatico.ca. (A Duty Elder's list is on the notice board in the narthex.)

Flowers in the sanctuary today and for the months of August and September will be donated by Abhijit Ghosh

A Flower Chart is posted in the Narthex kindly fill in the Sunday or month you would like to donate flowers for the Sanctuary or Contact Cynthia Gooden at 905-673-7246 or lvy Jones at 416-878-6620

Offering Envelopes: If you need 2019 Offering Envelopes please contact Shirley Sumere @ 905-676-9850 or an Elder.

Especially in our prayers

- "Please be in prayer for members of our church family who are sick, or who are homebound:
- " Hazel Humeniuk
- "Nashwill & Advira Gordon

- " Helen Forsyth
- " Edna Hazel
- "Verna Dockendorff
- "Tara Kallwitz and Valerie Kallwitz
- " Advira Gordon who is in hospital recovering from pneumonia
- "Sarwar Paul Hussain, Azar Paul's Father who will undergo gallbladder surgery on August 30.
- "Greg Somar & Joseph Seecharran (Susan Ramneres' nephew and 1st Cousin who are both recovering from illness)
- " Abhijit Ghosh who had bypass surgery on Thursday and is now in recovery.
- "Ivy Jones who is recovering from knee replacement surgery.
- " Mr. Devaprasad Martin (Father of Charles Martin who is faithfully going through chemotherapy as he battles cancer)
- " Other members of our church family who are recovering from surgeries.
- " Members of our church family and community who are facing health issues and mobility challenges.
- "Each week we join millions of Christians who pray for one another. Let us hold in our hearts Christians in parts of Asia & the Middle East, Africa and other parts of the world who are being persecuted because of their faith.

Please also hold these concerns in your prayers, today and throughout the week:

- For refugee families and individuals seeking shelter and safety, and for all who are working to provide it: May God magnify their efforts.
- " For all discerning the way forward in difficult circumstances, may God's light lead and guide them forward.

Prayer Chain: If you would like the prayer chain to pray for you or for a particular concern please contact Hazel Humeniuk at 905-677-6828 or hazelandwilliamhumeniuk12@gmail.com.

Please contact the church office if you would like to hear more about St Mark's at 905-677-4514 or stmarkschurchmalton@gmail.com

Sermon Focus: Luke 14:1,7-14

Whatever Jesus is talking about in this 14th chapter of Luke's account of the Gospel, he's certainly not talking about seating arrangements or etiquette in general.

Jesus had witnessed some jockeying for position and seating around himself, particularly as his popularity increased. He watched people who had forgotten some fundamental rules of decorum and hospitality; and he seized this instance to teach the greater lesson that we find our best selves in humility and sacrificial service and, ultimately, then that so very much depends upon how we treat and live with one another.

This text also makes the point that we are called to be God's servants marked by humility. In humility there is obedience and obedience is its own reward. The knowledge that we have fulfilled God's purpose for our lives is the assurance of peace of soul and spirit and not any down payment on premium seating. The scripture tells us that our host may come and move us to a more exalted place...and then again, he may not. Perhaps the lesser seat might be our permanent place.

I think the beautiful reminder in this scripture and of the Christian experience is that we are called by Almighty God to live lives of humility and sacrificial service. But the difficult part is that we are called to live those lives right now, today, among the broken and damaged people whom we meet every day. That is the difficult part. Amen.