



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

Minister: Rev. Germaine Lovelace  
Musician: Gary Blake

**September 8, 2019**

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

## **WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP**

Prelude: *Adagio in G minor for Strings & Organ* (Tomaso Albinoni)

\*Responsive Call to Worship (Psalm 1, Jeremiah 18)

Joy comes to those who follow the ways of the Lord.

**We will follow the Lord with joyful hearts!**

We are like trees planted by the river, bearing fruit each season.

**Our leaves will never wither! And we'll know God's blessing in all we do.**

Like clay in the potter's hand, we are shaped into vessels of divine will.

**We come with praise for the wonderful works of God.**

Hymn of Praise: Come Thou Fount **# 35 Red**

Prayer of Approach

Prayer of Confession: *(In Unison)*

Merciful God, you lead us on the path to true life  
but we confess that we do not always follow.

Forgive us when we are sidetracked by temptations of all kinds:  
seeking after money and success, keeping too busy or not busy  
enough,  
giving into indifference rather than caring.  
Strengthen our determination to keep choosing your way,  
and by the power of your Spirit at work in us,  
renew our determination to follow Jesus joyfully and faithfully. Amen.

Welcome and Announcements:

## **WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD**

\*Children's Hymn: When We Walk With The Lord **# 320 Red**

Children's Story:

Psalm: 1 Refrain # 1

**The Scriptures:**

Reading: Jeremiah 18:1-11 (page 629)

Special Item: Our Father *Charles & Justina Martin*

Sermon: Shaped by God

Hymn of Response: Have Thine Own Way Lord **# 445 Red**

Prayers of God's People concluded with The Lord's Prayer

## **WE GO OUT AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

Offertory: *To God be the glory* (8 Red - for Sam J.)

\*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: Heaven Came Down **# 525 Red**

\*Benediction:

\*Choral Praise God, Praise God.

Postlude: *My Tribute; aka 'To God be the glory' (Andraé Crouch)*

## Welcome to St. Mark's

Today is the 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost and we welcome everyone to this worship service as we give joyful praise to the God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We wish for everyone a tremendous blessing as we worship God together. 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!

**Nursery:** 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: Brian and Ashitha Pradeepson

Duty Elder: Sam Alfred

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](mailto: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 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**-We share in worship 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.**



- **Infant Baptism:** Next week Sunday, September 15 we will welcome baby Dawn Imperial Autida into our church family through the sacrament of Baptism.
- **Stained-Glass Windows:** Our Church family extends sincere thanks to the family of Samuel Jhingree for the dedication and donation of the stained-glass windows to our church. This very thoughtful gift will be cherished by our congregation.
- **Kirk/Session:** The Kirk/Session will reconvene on Monday September 9 at 7:00 p.m.
- **Food Friends:** Food friends will meet on Wednesday September 18 at 1:00 p.m.
- **St Mark's Anniversary Service:** On October 27<sup>th</sup>, St Mark's will be celebrating its 47<sup>th</sup> 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.
- **Presbyterian Connection:** Copies of the Presbyterian Connection, Fall Issue, are available on the table in the narthex. (Free of cost)
- **Bible Study:** All are invited to share in a study on the Epistle to the Ephesians. Studies will begin the week of September 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please speak with Rev. Lovelace if you intend to be part of this engaging study. A blessing await you.

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](mailto: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 Ivy Jones at 416-878-6620

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

### Website:

Our Technology committee has updated our website. Please visit our website at: <http://stmarksmalton.ca>. Give us your feedback!

### 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

“ Sandra & James Moravek

“ Edna Hazel

“ Verna Dockendorff

“ 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 1<sup>st</sup> Cousin who are both recovering from illness)

“ Abhijit Ghosh who had bypass surgery and is recovering well.

“ 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)

“ Please pray for the situation in Hong Kong, that the Lord will have mercy and bring peace, as pressure is building on all sides and emotions are becoming more raw and frayed.

“ Members of our church family and community who are facing health issues and mobility challenges.

“ **We pray for people in the Bahamas** who are today trying to recover from the devastation caused by Hurricane Dorian. This category 5 hurricane battered the 700-Island nation for over 24 hours, leaving a trail of disaster and disrupting lives and livelihood. Let us pray for relief agencies and other responders who are reaching out to them at this very sad time.

“ 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](mailto: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](mailto:stmarkschurchmalton@gmail.com)

### Sermon Focus: Jeremiah 18:1-11

Jeremiah's visit to the potter's house is a favorite scripture passage of artists, and not just clay artists. This is one of the few times when the visual arts play a major role in a scripture passage. This story, recorded in Jeremiah 18:1-11, is the reading from Hebrew scripture on this 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost. The point of the visit is to give a (literally) hands on demonstration of how the nation of Israel - the clay - is in the hand of and ultimately at the mercy of the potter (God).

Jeremiah 18 provides a very distinct view as to who we are in God's hands: **Our identity is shaped by God.** This shaping by God applies not only to individuals but also to nations. God says, *“At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it.”*

As clay, rather than trying to shape ourselves, the Bible invites us to pursue a relationship with our Potter. The hard truth is that God is going to shape us whether we like it or not. *“Now, therefore, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus, says the LORD: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.”*

The good news is that God offers us the chance to turn back to him before he reshapes us. Amen.