

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Perth
Sunday, May 31st, 2020
Series: Believe
"Humility"

Note: Sunday, June 7th is Communion Sunday. We will be observing the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. I want to give you lots of notice so that you can make sure to have the necessary elements on hand. Grape juice, red wine, cranberry juice serve best for the Cup, but water or even Coke or Pepsi can be used if you have nothing else. For the loaf, any type of bread or even a cracker can be used. I invite all those who love the Lord – all who are followers of Jesus Christ - who know Him as Saviour and Lord – to come and share in this Sacred Meal.

Introductory Song: "O Breathe of Life, Come Sweeping Through Us"
 (Click on the link below to play the hymn. The lyrics are on the screen.)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oAjmYffP0us>

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|---|---|
| <p>1.O breath of life, come sweeping through us,
 Revive Thy church with life and power;
 O Breath of life, come, cleanse, renew us,
 And fit Thy church to meet this hour.</p> | <p>2.O wind of God, come bend us, break us,
 Till humbly we confess our need;
 Then in Thy tenderness remake us,
 Revive, restore, for this we plead.</p> |
| <p>3.O breath of love, come breathe within us,
 Renewing thought and will and heart;
 Come, Love of Christ, afresh to win us,
 Revive Thy church in every part.</p> | <p>4. Revive us, Lord! Is zeal abating
 While harvest fields are vast and white?
 Revive, us Lord, the world is waiting,
 Equip Thy church to spread the light.</p> |

Call to Worship

Come and celebrate!
 Shout joyfully to the Lord, your God!
 Glorify him with your praise!

**Everything on earth will worship you;
 they will sing your praises,
 shouting your name in joyful songs.**

Come and see what our God has done,
 what awesome things he has done for us!

**Let the whole world bless our God and sing his praise.
 For our lives are in his hands,
 and he keeps our feet from stumbling.**

Prayer of Invocation

Praise be to you, O God the Father:

You created all things by your power and wisdom
and so loved the world that you gave your Son to be our Savior.

Praise be to you, O God the Son:

You became human like us in all things, except sin,
died for our offenses, and rose again for our justification.

Praise be to you, O God the Holy Spirit:

You lead us into all truth and spread the love of God in our hearts.

All praise and glory be to you, O God,

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Hymn:

“O Worship the King”

(Click on the link below to play the hymn. The lyrics are on the screen.)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u0a1Pq9avbg>

1. O worship the King all glorious above,
and gratefully sing his power and his love:
our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendour and girded with praise.

2. O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space;
his chariots of wrath the deep thunder-clouds form,
and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

3. Your bountiful care, what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
and sweetly distils in the dew and the rain.

4. We children of dust are feeble and frail -
in you do we trust, for you never fail;
your mercies, how tender, how firm to the end!
our maker, defender, redeemer, and friend.

Call to Confession

God’s Word assures us:

If we say that we have no sin,
we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
If we confess our sins,
he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins
and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

In humility and faith let us confess our sin to God.

Prayer of Confession

Triune God,
 we praise you as the God of love and life.
 Though Jesus prayed that we would be one,
 we confess that we fail to live in unity with each other and with you.
 We break our communion through hostile words and unkind actions.
 We long for your Spirit to heal us and to correct us.
 We long for you to help us experience communion
 with you and with each other
 as we gather around your Word.
 Even now, dependent on your grace, we commit ourselves
 to live more fully in the unity you desire.
 Through Christ, our Lord, **Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

You did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear,
 but you have received a spirit of adoption.
 When you cry, "Abba! Father!"
 it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit
 that we are children of God,
 and if children, then heirs,
 heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ.
 In Christ, by the power of the Spirit, we are forgiven.
 Thanks be to the triune God. (based on Romans 8:15-17)

The Lord's Prayer

**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.
 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the Evil One.
 For Thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory,
 Forever and ever. Amen**

Responsive Reading

Psalm 26

Vindicate me, LORD, for I have led a blameless life;
 I have trusted in the LORD and have not faltered.

Test me, LORD, and try me, examine my heart and my mind;
 for I have always been mindful of your unfailing love

and have lived in reliance on your faithfulness.

I do not sit with the deceitful, nor do I associate with hypocrites.

I abhor the assembly of evildoers and refuse to sit with the wicked.

I wash my hands in innocence, and go about your altar, LORD,
proclaiming aloud your praise and telling of all your wonderful deeds.

LORD, I love the house where you live, the place where your glory dwells.

Do not take away my soul along with sinners, my life with those who are bloodthirsty,

in whose hands are wicked schemes, whose right hands are full of bribes.

I lead a blameless life; deliver me and be merciful to me.

My feet stand on level ground; in the great congregation I will praise the LORD.

In Reformed Tradition, the Psalms have always played a huge roll. At one time the Book of Praise would have been made up almost entirely of Psalms set to music. Over the last 100 years this has decreased to the point where very few Psalms are sung any more. In recent years, groups like The Song Project have sought to reverse this trend by rewriting both words and lyrics so that they resound better with our music sensibilities. Here is one example.

Ministry of Music:

"Psalm 22 - " (lyrics)

(Click on the link below to listen to the Ministry of Music.)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UaJ-moljATU>

1. My God, my God,
Why have you left me here?
Where are you now,
When I need you near
To rescue me
Deliver me from fear
Please, don't forsake me.

Chorus 1

My God, my God,
Why have you left me here?
Where are you now,
When I need you near
To rescue me
Deliver me from fear
Please, don't forsake me.

3. See, O my God,
That I am poor and weak
I have no voice
I have no strength to speak
They scoff and stare,
Have pierced my hands and feet
My heart is melting

O LORD, my God!
My enemies despise me
They steal my clothes
they mock and compromise me
Where is your God?
They taunt and terrorize me
Don't stay away

Chorus 2

2. LORD, answer me!
Do you not hear my sighing?
All day and night,
My eyes are sore from crying
I long for you,

To keep my hope from dying
I find no rest

Chorus 2

My God, my God,
Why have you left me here?
Where are you now,
When I need you near
To rescue me
Deliver me from fear
Please, don't forsake me, my God

Scripture Reading:

Philippians 2:1-11

Imitating Christ's Humility

1 Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, **2** then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. **3** Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, **4** not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

5 In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

6 Who, being in very nature^a God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

7 rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

9 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name,

10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

11 and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn:

“What Grace Is Mine” – Kristin Getty

(Click on the link below to play the video. Lyrics are on the screen.)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yazxxkbSkZE>

1. What grace is mine
 That He who dwells in endless light
 Called through the night
 To find my distant soul
 And from His scars
 Poured mercy that would plead for me
 That I might live
 And in His name be known

Chorus

So I will go wherever He is calling me
 I lose my life to find my life in Him
 I give my all to gain the hope that never dies
 I bow my heart, take up my cross and follow Him

2. What grace is mine
 To know His breath alive in me
 Beneath His wings
 My wakened soul may soar
 All fear can flee
 For death's dark night is overcome
 My Saviour lives
 And reigns forevermore

Ending

I bow my heart take up my cross and follow Him

Prayer for Illumination

Lord, to whom shall we go?
 You have the words of eternal life!
 Help us now to hear and obey what you say to us today.
 Through Christ, our Lord. **Amen.** (Based on John 6:68)

“Humble Yourselves”

Believe Chapter 30 “Humility”

Back in September we started on this 30 week journey called Believe. Now we have had some breaks in between, but I am sure there must have been times when you wondered if this journey would ever reach its final destination? Well, today the train pulls in to the last station and we look at the very last of the ten virtues with which the series closes. Today's virtue is humility. Max Lucado says: “God loves humility.

Could that be why he offers so many tips on cultivating it?" We are going to look at some of those tips, but we are going to start off with a true story.



In 1884, King Humbert of Italy was awakened at midnight by a messenger informing him that an epidemic of cholera had broken out in Naples. Though the king was scheduled to be in Monza the next day for a magnificent reception, he telegraphed his hosts: *"Banquet at Monza; cholera at Naples; I am going to Naples. If you don't see me again, good-bye."*

On reaching Naples, King Humbert found only the common people at the station to receive him. The rich, the aristocracy, and even most of the officials had fled. The king, however, did not care for that. It was the people he had come to save. For weeks, he worked incessantly to check the plague and to relieve the sufferers;

he entered the hospitals, took the hands of the sick and dying into his own, and by his example shamed others into duty. After a week, one of his ministers said to him, "Your Majesty, there were three thousand, four hundred cases yesterday. This is getting to be alarming. Ought you not to return to Rome?" *"You may go if you like,"* replied the king. *"I shall remain till I see Naples free from cholera."* And he kept his word.

When a king descends his throne to serve those he rules and to risk his life, it is a grand picture of the meaning of humility. Is this not what Jesus did for us? He stepped off his throne and humbled himself and became a man. In most kingdoms, the people offer their lives to save the king. I am sure we have all heard the phrase, "For King and Country" which is the patriotic cry of those who desire to serve their King and their country, and if necessary, give their lives in the process. King Jesus, on the other hand, offered his life to save people.

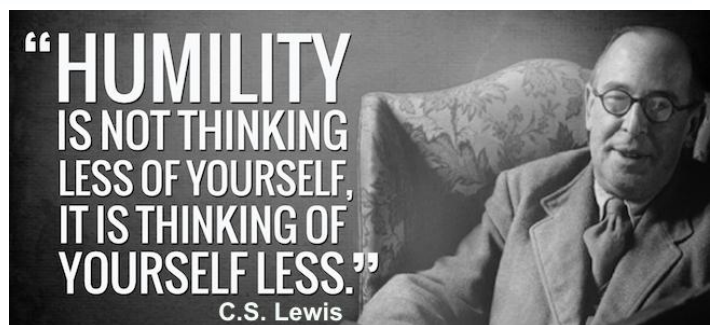
Humility has nothing to do with humiliation. It's *not* about maintaining a low self-esteem or having a lack of confidence. Jesus certainly did not suffer from low self-esteem, and yet he lived a life of complete humility. Many have come to view a humble Christian as a virtual doormat for others. In reality, a believer has a strong sense of self-worth and a secure position of identity as one who no longer feels the need to elevate the flesh or pump up personal pride. King Humbert was still the King,

whether he was sitting on the throne in Rome or serving on his knees in the cholera ward in Naples. The state of his heart is what determined his true place and position.

Proverbs 23 says: **7 for as a man thinks in his heart, so is he.** What we have learned in this Believe series is that the person you become is tied to your internal beliefs. It is not tied to what you believe in your head, but in your heart. I have beliefs in my head, but I don't necessarily own them or act on them. It is what I believe in my heart that forms my actions. I believe that fruits and vegetables are the healthiest way to eat, but I will take a second piece of cake every time! That is in my heart. I eat fruits and vegetables every day for lunch and for supper, but I can't say no to a piece of cake! God's vision for each one of us is that we become like Jesus in this life. In order for that to happen, we are going to have to replace our current beliefs with his truth. Where our current beliefs match up with God's truth, fine and good. But all of us have areas in our lives where our beliefs do not match up with God's truth and if we are going to be like Jesus – to live, act and believe like Jesus – then those beliefs have to change.

Our Key Question for today is this: **“What does it mean to value others before myself?”** Our Key Idea: **“I choose to esteem others before myself.”** Our Key Verses are found in Philippians 2 or on page 481 of Believe: **3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, 4 not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.** In Philippians 2 we probably find the best teaching on humility in the Bible. Verses 3 and 4 outline the essential teaching. We see that true humility is valuing others and putting their interests above our own. But there is a catch here

that has caused some people to miss what humility really is. C.S. Lewis puts it very simply: “Humility is not thinking less of yourself, it is thinking of yourself less.” Read that quote again and make sure that you understand it. It makes a very important distinction. I have known many wonderful



Christians over the years who have put themselves down, believing that they are being humble. This is misguided thinking. Christianity does not put the “self” down. After all, we are made in the image of God and Jesus shed his precious blood for us. No, we recognize our worth in God's eyes, but we do not make ourselves the centre of the universe. We make God the centre of our universe and we put others before ourselves.

Philippians chapter 2 is so important because it first gives us the teaching and then it gives us the example of Jesus and encourages us to make his example the paradigm on which we mould our lives. Verses 5 to 11 provide us with what is believed to be a very early Christian hymn that focuses on the life and actions of Jesus and their results. If you put these verses in diagram form, it would look something like this.

Jesus - being in very nature God

Made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant

- being made in human likeness
- being found in appearance as a man

He humbled himself by becoming obedient to death

Even death on a cross!

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place

Gave him the name that is above every name

At the name of Jesus every knee should bow

- in heaven and on earth and under the earth

Every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

For every downward step of humility that Jesus took, God responded by exalting or lifting him up. Exalting or lifting up does not come first. Humility comes first. The giving up comes first. The stepping downward comes first. Receiving and uplifting follows.

Now, the opposite of humility is pride. Pride can be so subtle at times that it is easy to slip from humility into pride. As a man named Paul Powell once observed, at such times our “virtues become vices. We can easily become like the Sunday School teacher who, having told the story of the Pharisee and the tax collector, said, ‘Children, let’s bow our heads and thank God we are not like the Pharisee!’”

One of the proverbs I was required to memorize growing up was Proverbs 16: [18](#) **Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.** In a certain pond, there were two ducks and a frog who were neighbors and the best of friends. They played together all day long during the summer time. But as the cold drew near and the water dried up, the ducks realized they would have to move. This would be easy for them, but what about their friend the frog?

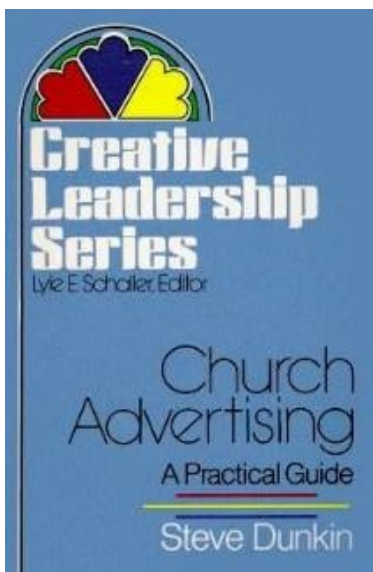


Finally, it was decided that they would put a stick in the bill of each duck, and then the frog would hang onto the stick with his mouth and they would fly him to another pond. And so they did. Just then, a farmer looked up and said to his wife, "What a great idea! I wonder who thought of that?" Proudly, the one frog said, "I did!" and dropped his end of the stick, thus illustrating the truth of this Proverb that **"Pride goes before a fall!"**

I have not had a lot to brag about in my life, but one of the things that you may not know about me is that I am a published author. It was back in the early 80's. I had done some work on creating advertising for my church and discovered that nothing had been written on the subject for years. So I went back to my marketing books from university days and the result was a manual on advertising for churches. In those days, I attended workshops led by a man named Lyle Schaller, who became known as the "Elder Statesman of Church Leadership". I loved his workshops because what he provided was so practical. He was widely published and so I took my manual along to show him. Before he took it to his room that evening, he asked me one question: "Do



you write well?" I said I thought I did. The next morning he said to me: "Yes, you do write well. How would you like to have it included in my 'Creative Leadership Series'? He said the manuscript would need to be revised and there were chapters that needed to be added. So that is how I became a published author. Church Advertising went on to sell over 14,000 copies. I was one of only two Canadians to be included in the series and the only Presbyterian. A number of the authors were big names in the church growth movement of the time. I was a "nobody". It was an exciting experience – until the book was published and went on sale. Then the reviews started to roll in. Now, you have to have a thick skin to read magazine reviews about what you have written. I didn't have a thick skin and some of the



reviews were very critical. But the most devastating thing to me was the response from within the Presbyterian Church in Canada. It was never reviewed or even mentioned in the Presbyterian Record and I was shunned by the Church. It was like I had been blacklisted. It was a very negative experience. A few years later I left the ministry and went to work as a building contractor. What should have been a great experience turned out to be one of the more humbling experiences of my life. I was relieved when that chapter of my life came to an end and the book was not republished. In some ways I wished that I had never written the book.

Then several years ago when I was attending General Assembly, I met a retired minister who told me that he had completed a Doctor of Ministry degree at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, California. One of his professors was Peter Wagner. Wagner was one of the giants of the church growth movement at the time and was recognized internationally as such. This minister told me that my book was required reading in Peter Wagner's class. That was probably the most positive thing I ever heard about that book. I often wondered what went wrong. Did I allow pride to slip into my life? If I did, then it would certainly explain some of the problems I faced.



In 1 Peter 5 we read: **5 All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble." 6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.**

Now, we could spend more time on the subject of humility. In actual fact I have only scratched the surface. But as this is our last Sunday on Believe and because of the changes that St. Andrew's will face over the next 4 months, I want to take a few moments to share with you some pertinent thoughts. I started preaching at St. Andrew's on a regular basis in January of 2017. I basically became your minister on March 1st of that year and have been ever since. The official name for my position is Stated Supply and my contract comes to an end on August 31st. You may remember that I moved to Perth to retire, but it became obvious that the Lord had something different in mind! During this time I have also served as your Interim Moderator. The aim of that position was to help St. Andrew's heal from the division that had arisen in the congregation and to lead you in the process of calling a new minister. Several things have hindered me in fulfilling this last obligation – the turmoil in the

Presbyterian Church in Canada over changes to the church's stance on same sex marriage and the unexpected arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic. At this point in time, our search for your next minister is dead in the water.

I will cease to be Stated Supply as of August 31st, but I am not going to abandon St. Andrew's. I will continue to be your Interim Moderator – I will be responsible for arranging Sunday supply and helping you find your next minister. I will be preaching only once a month – twice when a month has five Sunday's. I will be taking the month of August as my holidays.

By most standards, three and a half years is not a long time for a minister to be in a church. Possibly you will hang my picture in the Rogue's Gallery in the narthex by the front entrance. I will go down as the minister who had the shortest tenure at St. Andrew's. But then, the longest I have ever been in a church is 6 ½ years. When I look at the ministry of the Apostle Paul, the longest he stayed in any one church was two years. Most often, the length of his ministry was measured in days, weeks and months. What was important was not the length of ministry, but the impact. I am not trying to compare myself to Paul. I am certainly not in his league. But I know this: "Only eternity will reveal the true effectiveness of my ministry, not the length of time I was here."

What I want to give you this morning are some guidelines that I believe are crucial to you as individuals and as a congregation. The main focus of my ministry has not been just to bring healing to a troubled church, but to help you to understand what it means to "know God". I realize that for some, the words "knowing God" and "having a relationship with God" have little or no meaning. Yet Jesus says this in his prayer in John 17: **3 Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.** We are not talking about something which is inconsequential. We are talking about eternal life – the most important factor that will determine the quality of your Christian experience here on this earth and where you will spend eternity. What is eternal life? It is **know(ing) you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.** We do not receive eternal life because of what we know about God. We receive eternal life by knowing God and his Son Jesus. J.I. Packer, the British-born Canadian theologian, who was for many years associated with Regent College in Vancouver and considered one of the most influential orthodox theologians in North America, wrote a whole book entitled "Knowing God". If I, as your minister, have left you uncertain about what knowing God and having a relationship with Jesus is all about, then I ask you – no, I beg you – to make this your prayer: "Lord, teach me what it is to know you. Lead me into an experience of knowing Jesus."

The second thing that I would like to say is something that has also been a dominant focus of my ministry for the last 3 ½ years. It is simply this: “Make the Bible the touchstone of truth in your life.” If you were to go back and look at all the sermons I have preached in my time here, you will notice that I have worked hard not to give you my opinion on a subject, but to present you with what the Bible teaches. Quite frankly, my opinion is worthless. It is of no more value than anyone else’s opinion. My aim has been to teach you what the Bible proclaims. Throughout my ministry, from the time I was ordained until now, I have tried to keep before me the words of the Westminster Confession of Faith, which declares that the Bible, consisting of the Old and New Testament, is the Word of God and is our only rule of faith and conduct. If you make the teaching of Scripture the foundation upon which what you believe and how you act is built, then you cannot go wrong. When you and I stand before the Judgment Seat of Christ, we will not have to answer for what our society stood for or even this denomination. We will only have to answer for ourselves.

Finally, I urge you to keep your eyes focused on Jesus. Hebrews 12 begins like this: **1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, 2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of (our) faith.** Again I say to you that if in your life you keep your eyes fixed on Jesus, you cannot go wrong. How does a farmer plough a straight furrow across a field? The farmer looks across the field and picks out a fencepost, a large rock or a tree. It does not matter whether he is plowing with horses or a tractor, all he has to do is fix his eyes on that object and never take them off. If the farmer aims for that object and never takes his eyes off it, he will plow a straight furrow. If on the other hand he looks down at the furrow, then it will be as crooked as a dog’s hind leg. The same is true for us as Christians. Fix your focus on Jesus and you will walk God’s straight line. Take your eyes off Jesus and you will lose your way.

Hymn:

“In Christ Alone”

(Click on the link below to play the hymn. Lyrics on screen.)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JWiFYJMGas0>

1. In Christ alone my hope is found
 He is my light my strength my song
 This Cornerstone this solid Ground
 Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
 What heights of love what depths of peace
 When fears are stilled when strivings cease
 My Comforter my All in All
 Here in the love of Christ I stand

2. In Christ alone who took on flesh
 Fullness of God in helpless babe
 This gift of love and righteousness
 Scorned by the ones He came to save
 Till on that cross as Jesus died
 The wrath of God was satisfied
 For every sin on Him was laid
 Here in the death of Christ I live

3. There in the ground His body lay
 Light of the world by darkness slain
 Then bursting forth in glorious Day
 Up from the grave He rose again
 And as He stands in victory
 Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
 For I am His and He is mine
 Bought with the precious blood of Christ

4. No guilt in life no fear in death
 This is the power of Christ in me
 From life's first cry to final breath
 Jesus commands my destiny
 No power of hell no scheme of man
 Can ever pluck me from His hand
 Till He returns or calls me home
 Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

The Christian Faith lost its most eloquent spokesperson on Tuesday, May 19th with the death of Ravi Zacharias at age 74. How I will miss that voice which contended for the truth and validity of the Christian faith in a very humble spirit. He spoke incisively and yet was always gracious to his opponents. If you would like to listen to several tributes to Ravi, check out the following links.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eoWJUdcTU&feature=youtu.be>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pTO38KMMLSw&feature=youtu.be>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y03zCRJTgVs&feature=youtu.be>

Ravi's last sermon.

Offering

Presenting our tithes and offerings is an act of worship. I want to encourage you to write a cheque and drop it in the mail to the church using your envelope, if you have one. (St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, PO Box 161, 1 Drummond St W, Perth, ON K7H 3E3) We also have another option for you for giving and that is you can make an e-Transfer. This note from our treasurer.

E-transfers are now accepted. Please note the new email address for this purpose only.
standrewspertthoffering@gmail.com Please include your Offering Envelope # in the

message section of the INTERAC transfer page you fill in. If you wish any part of your donation to go to a specific fund (eg Presbyterian Sharing) please mention this in your message.

Offertory Prayer

Generous God, you have given us life,
 a place to live in, and people to live with.
 Open our eyes to each other and to all our brothers and sisters,
 especially the poor, the oppressed, the alienated.
 Make us humble enough to help and comfort them,
 so that your love and justice and peace may come to them.
 We make bold to consecrate ourselves and our gifts
 to you and to the service of others,
 through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayers for the People by the People – please continue to pray for members of our congregation and others that you personally know of.

- For the leaders in our government (federal, provincial and municipal) to make responsible plans for reopening the economy and other activities that will not put our province at risk of further outbreaks of COVID-19.
- Those in hospital or needing medical attention other than for COVID-19 related needs.
- **Those on the front line in the fight against COVID-19, especially the nurses and PSW's in our congregations.** (Destiny Bowes, Glenda Gould, Connie Young, Tracey Laffine)
- **Those who are out of work and struggling financially to pay their bills.**
- **Joanna Savage:** Joanna is back in hospital as of Friday, May 22nd and has been suffering from cluster seizures. Fortunately, Marilyn is able to stay with her and the doctors are working to stabilize her. Things have calmed down somewhat. Joanna is unable to talk at this point and is having trouble walking. However she is able to sing her Christian songs and repeat memory verses.
- **Stuart McKim & Louise Burke**
- **Ann Savage – continues to have here weekly chemotherapy sessions at Perth Hospital.**
- **Dave Crawley & Paul Thompson**
- **University and College Students** (Holly, Caitlin, Colleen, Jonathan, Liam, Caleb and Issac)
- **Angus Funston**

- **Shut-ins and Nursing Homes** (Elva Fair, Audrey Ferrier, Germaine Vanderklok, June O'Hara, Gwen Travis, Lyn Harrington, Bing Jeun, Jo Mott, Ruth McTavish, Jackie & Brian Stapledon – Karen McKim's parents, Nellie Larabie)
- **Carolina Suites** is slowly emerging from their lockdown. Residents have not been able to go outside for the past two months because of COVID-19 on the premises. But starting today (Tuesday) they will be allowed outside for a bit with masks on and social distancing. They still will be isolated at meal times to their units.
- **St. Andrew's – Thanks to our Board of Managers for all the work they do handling finances, repairing our church and maintaining the grounds even though we can't worship there.**
- **St. Andrew's Session – give our elders wisdom as they seek to provide leadership and pastoral oversight in these difficult times.**
- **Rick & Colleen Richardson and their daughter Deborah Richardson.**
- **Richard Hendry**

Closing Hymn:

“Go Now In Peace”

(Click on the link below to play the hymn. Lyrics will be displayed on the screen.)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5TKSLqIAcM>

Go now in peace, never be afraid
 God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day
 Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true
 Know God will guide you in all you do.

Go now in love, and show you believe.
 Reach out to others so all the world can see.
 God will there watching from above.
 Go now in peace, in faith and in love.

Benediction

Go now, and live by faith in the Son of God.
 Pray for God's justice,
 Never welcome evil,
 pour out your love freely.

And may God hear your cries for help;
 May Christ Jesus stand with you in the face of hostility;
 And may the Holy Spirit fill you with faith, humility and life.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.



On Palm Sunday and on Easter Sunday the Churches of
Perth Rang Their Bells
(Click on the link below to play)

[St. Andrew's Perth- Bell
Ringing](#) (short version)

[St. John's Perth-Bell
Ringing](#) (short version)

[St. James Perth -
Bell Ringing](#) (short
version)

St. Andrew's and St. John's are continuing the Sunday 12-12:10 pm ringing of the bells as a reminder of the Easter Season as well as a call to pray for all aspects of the current crisis and everyone affected. You are encouraged to do the same!