

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Perth
Sunday, August 9th, 2020
Guest Worship Leader: Rev. John McIntyre

Introductory Song: "Ancient Words" by Lyn Deshazo

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

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3vmTkXNpwzs>

Holy words long preserved
 For our walk in this world
 They resound with God's own heart
 O let the ancient words impart

Words of life words of hope
 Give us strength help us cope
 In this world where'er we roam
 Ancient words will guide us home

Chorus

Ancient words ever true
 Changing me and changing you
 We have come with open hearts
 O let the ancient words impart

Holy words of our faith
 Handed down to this age
 Came to us through sacrifice
 O heed the faithful words of Christ

Holy words long preserved
 For our walk in this world
 They resound with God's own heart
 O let the ancient words impart

Chorus x 4

Ancient words ever true
 Changing me changing you
 We have come with open hearts
 O let the ancient words impart

We have come with open hearts
 O let the ancient words impart

Call to Worship

Our hearts are ready, O Lord,
 our hearts are ready!

**We will sing and make melody!
We will awaken the dawn!**

We will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples,
we will sing praises to you among the nations.

**For your steadfast love is great above the heavens,
and your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.**

Responsive Prayer of Invocation (based on Ephesians 1:3-18)

We give thanks to you, O God our Father,
for mercy that reaches out,
for patience that waits our returning,
for your love that is ever ready
to welcome sinners.

**We praise you that in Jesus Christ
you came to us with forgiveness,
and that, by your Holy Spirit,
you move us to repent
and receive your love.**

Though we are sinners,
you are faithful and worthy of all praise.

**We praise you, great God,
in Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Hymn: **“Before The Throne Of God Above”**

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

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

1. Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea
A great High Priest whose name is love
Who ever lives and pleads for me
My name is graven on His hands
My name is written on His heart
I know that while in heav'n He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart
No tongue can bid me thence depart
2. When Satan tempts me to despair
And tells me of the guilt within
Upward I look and see Him there
Who made an end of all my sin
Because the sinless Savior died
My sinful soul is counted free
For God the Just is satisfied

To look on Him and pardon me
 To look on Him and pardon me

3. Behold Him there, the risen Lamb
 My perfect, spotless Righteousness
 The great unchangeable I AM
 The King of glory and of grace
 One with Himself, I cannot die
 My soul is purchased by his blood
 My life is hid with Christ on high
 With Christ my Saviour and my God
 With Christ my Saviour and my God

Call to Confession (Isaiah 30:15, 18, NIV)

In repentance and rest is your salvation,
 in quietness and trust is your strength,
 but you would have none of it.
 Yet the LORD longs to be gracious to you;
 he rises to show you compassion.
 For the LORD is God of justice.
 Blessed are all who wait for him!

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, we confess how hard it is to be your people.
 You have called us to be the church,
 to continue the mission of Jesus Christ to our lonely and confused world.
 Yet we acknowledge we are more apathetic than active,
 isolated than involved, callous than compassionate,
 obstinate than obedient, legalistic than loving.
 Gracious Lord, have mercy upon us and forgive our sins.
 Remove the obstacles preventing us
 from being your representatives to a broken world.
 Awaken our hearts to the promised gift of your indwelling Spirit.
 This we pray in Jesus' powerful name. **Amen**

Assurance of Pardon (from Isaiah 49:15; 66:13)

Can a woman forget her nursing child,
 or show no compassion for the child of her womb?
 As a mother comforts her child,
 so will I comfort you, says the Lord.

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 19

The heavens declare the glory of God;
 the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

**Day after day they pour forth speech;
 night after night they reveal knowledge.**

They have no speech, they use no words;
 no sound is heard from them.

**Yet their voice goes out into all the earth,
 their words to the ends of the world.**

In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun.

It is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber,
 like a champion rejoicing to run his course.

**It rises at one end of the heavens
 and makes its circuit to the other;
 nothing is deprived of its warmth.**

The law of the LORD is perfect,
 refreshing the soul.

**The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy,
 making wise the simple.**

The precepts of the LORD are right,
 giving joy to the heart.

**The commands of the LORD are radiant,
 giving light to the eyes.**

The fear of the LORD is pure,
 enduring forever.

**The decrees of the LORD are firm,
 and all of them are righteous.**

They are more precious than gold,
 than much pure gold;

**they are sweeter than honey,
 than honey from the honeycomb.**

By them your servant is warned;

in keeping them there is great reward.

But who can discern their own errors?

Forgive my hidden faults.

Keep your servant also from willful sins;

may they not rule over me.

Then I will be blameless,

innocent of great transgression.

**May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart
be pleasing in your sight,**

LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.

Ministry of Music: "That All My Ways Are Known To You", CityAlight

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

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=44mVzqGeS-Q>

1. In days of peace and days of rest
In times of loss and loneliness
Though rich or poor, Your word is true
That all my ways are known to You

2. No trial has come beyond Your hand
No step I walk beyond Your plan
The path is dark outside my view
Still all my ways are known to You

Chorus

And oh what peace that I have found
Wherever I may be
For all my ways are known to You
Hallelujah, they are known to You!

3. I do not fear the final night
For death will be the door to life
You take my hand and lead me through
For all my ways are known to You

Chorus

And oh what peace that I have found
Wherever I may be
For all my ways are known to You
Hallelujah, they are known to You!

Bridge

Open up my eyes so I may see
That You have made these ways for me
Open up my eyes so I may see
That You my God, will walk with me

Scripture Reading:**Proverbs 1:1-9**

1 The proverbs of Solomon son of David, king of Israel:
2 for gaining wisdom and instruction;
 for understanding words of insight;
3 for receiving instruction in prudent behavior,
 doing what is right and just and fair;
4 for giving prudence to those who are simple,
 knowledge and discretion to the young—
5 let the wise listen and add to their learning,
 and let the discerning get guidance—
6 for understanding proverbs and parables,
 the sayings and riddles of the wise.
7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge,
 but fools despise wisdom and instruction.
8 Listen, my son, to your father's instruction
 and do not forsake your mother's teaching.
9 They are a garland to grace your head
 and a chain to adorn your neck.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn: “Wonderful Words of Life”, Fountainview Academy
 (Click on the link below to play the video. Lyrics are on the screen.)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PVh--AlfkH4>

1. Sing them over again to me
 Wonderful words of life
 Let me more of their beauty see
 Wonderful words of life
 Words of life and beauty teach me faith and duty

Chorus

Beautiful words, wonderful words
 Wonderful words of life
 Beautiful words, wonderful words
 Wonderful words of life

2. Christ the blessed One, gives to all wonderful words of life
 Sinner, list to the loving call
 Wonderful words of life
 Oh, so freely given, wooing us to heaven

3. Sweetly echo the gospel call
 Wonderful words of life
 Offer pardon and peace to all
 Wonderful words of life
 Jesus only Savior, sanctify forever

Prayer for Illumination

Gracious God,
 we do not live by bread alone,
 but by every word that comes from your mouth.
 Make us hungry for this your Word,
 that it may nourish us today
 in the ways of eternal life.
 Through Jesus Christ, the bread of heaven. **Amen.**

“Wisdom From God For Winsome Living”

Rev. John McIntyre

The book of Proverbs talks a lot about “Paths.” For example (Pr 3:6) *In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He will make your **paths** straight.* (Pr 4:18) *But the **path** of the righteous is like the light of dawn, That shines brighter and brighter until the full day.* (Pr 4:26) *Watch the **path** of your feet And all your ways will be established.* (Pr 5:21) *For the ways of a man are before the eyes of the LORD, And He watches all his **paths**.*

As we take up this topic today, we do so at a juncture in history when there has never been so much knowledge. The Late Dr. Haddon Robinson writes that, *“Our generation possesses more data than all previous generations put together. High School graduates today have been exposed to more information about the world than Plato, Aristotle... or Benjamin Franklin. In terms of facts alone, neither Moses nor Paul could pass a college entrance exam today.”* But, as he goes on to say, *“Knowledge is not enough to meet life’s problems. We need wisdom, the ability to handle life with skill.”*

The following tragic case bears this out: In July of 2006, William French Anderson, a world-famous geneticist was convicted of child molestation charges. In a press conference, his attorney said, *“Nothing about having a 176 I.Q. means you have good judgment.”*

Handling life with skill – How can we acquire this critical trait? The inspired Scriptures of the Bible give us the answer: (Jer 6:16) *Thus says the LORD, “Stand*

by the ways and see and ask for the ancient paths, Where the good way is, and walk in it; And you will find rest for your souls. So if we're going to acquire the ability to handle life with skill, it will be wise/smart on our part, to "Ask for the ancient paths, where the good way is."

And so we come to the book of Proverbs, the inspired sayings given by our Lord to provide us with the good way to walk in that we might find rest for our souls. Dr Chuck Swindoll calls the Book of Proverbs, "*The divinely deposited mother lode of practical insights*. "He states that, "*Proverbs enriches our ability to cope with daily life & other people.*"

The name of the Book, conveys the nature of its content. The word *Proverbs* is derived from a Hebrew word that means, "*To represent, to be like.*" Thus, a proverb conveys a specific truth in a pointed way, generally by way of comparison. You will find that the Book of Proverbs is filled with many brief sayings, to guide the godly in living their lives in a godly way. Someone has described these pointed sayings as, "*Short sentences drawn from long experience.*"

In terms of the Book's Content, you will often notice, that Proverbs generally presents its pointed truths, in three kinds of couplets. Some are spelled out in terms of **contrast** as denoted by the word '**But.**'

(Pr 11:17) *The merciful man does himself good, But the cruel man does himself harm.* Other Proverbs are what we call **completive**, using the words *and* or *so*. (Pr 14:17) *A quick-tempered man acts foolishly, and a man of evil devices is hated.* Still other Proverbs are **comparative**. They use the words *better/than* or *like/so* to convey their truth. (Pr 15:17) *Better is a dish of vegetables where love is than a fattened ox served with hatred.* Or, (Pr 17:1) *Better is a dry morsel and quietness with it than a house full of feasting with strife.*

As well – Proverbial points of truth are portrayed in a variety of picturesque characters. Sometimes using the world of insects & animals: (Pr 6:6) *Go to the ant, O sluggard, Observe her ways and be wise.*

(Pr 11:22) *As a ring of gold in a swine's snout, So is a beautiful woman who lacks discretion.*

Referrals are often made to a variety of human beings & their characteristics such as the man of violence; The adulterous woman; A wise son; A foolish son; A young man lacking sense; The woman of folly; The wicked man; The godless man; The generous man. Whatever the case/description employed to convey pointed truths, Proverbs is filled with direct, practical counsel that can equip and enable us to deal

with problems not just by avoiding or giving up in the face of them, but to work through issues to bring useful resolution.

The Book of Proverbs doesn't present us with wishful thinking or abstract theories; it presents us with inspired, clear-cut help. And so let us explore the first nine verses of Proverbs chapter one where we're presented with some specific purposes of the Book.

The first purpose of this book is to teach us to revere and obey God from the heart. (Pr 1:2) tells us these Proverbs are written to enable the reader first, *"To know wisdom and instruction,"* and second, *"to understand words of insight."* Let's think about what it means *"To know wisdom and instruction."* The story is told of a recent graduate who approached his father late one night when he went back home, "Look, I'm getting ready to go out into life. Tell me what you know. Go ahead; tell me if you know something." For this touchingly child-like request, he received an hour of ramblings, a confession about his father's marital infidelity and how he hated his job, and he'd love to chuck it all and move out into a cabin in the woods, and he really despised his marriage, and he couldn't trust any of his friends. "Man, you are messed up," said the son. "And I'm supposed to be asking you for advice?" The young man had looked to his father for wisdom and got none. And so he was reduced to thinking for himself.

What is wisdom? In Proverbs the primary Hebrew word translated as wisdom in English refers to the skill of craftsmen, singers, administrators etc. These workers & others, who were knowledgeable, experienced and efficient in their areas of expertise, were considered skillful & were therefore **'wise.'**

In the spiritual realm, a person who has wisdom in reference to God, is one who is both knowledgeable and experienced in following God's ways. And so in Proverbs, the Bible's Wisdom literature, being wise means being skilled in godly living, having the ability to cope with life in a God-honouring way.

In this verse "Wisdom" is closely with "Instruction." Again, the Hebrew word translated as our English word 'instruction,' isn't just about the communication of facts. It has to do with the idea of discipline, chastening or correction. It involves time and effort. Many will attest to the fact that wisdom is accumulated through basic correctives over time. The story is told of players, full of anticipation, gathering for the first day of basketball practice at UCLA. They wondered how their coach, John Wooden, would set the tone for the long season to come. They didn't have to wait long. Veterans knew what was coming. But first year players were no doubt perplexed by the initial lesson imparted by their Hall of Fame coach: He taught them how to put on a pair of socks. He did not teach this lesson only once, but before

every game and practice. Why? Wooden had discovered many players didn't properly smooth out wrinkles in the socks around their heels and little toes. If left uncorrected, these wrinkles could cause blisters that could hamper their performance at crucial times during games. Many players thought the practice odd and laughed about it then. But the coach would not compromise on this basic fundamental principle: "I stuck to it. I believed in that, & I insisted on it."

As Christians, we can easily forget about the fundamentals of our faith and run the risk of developing painful spiritual blisters that can hurt us as we run our race. Wisdom derived from & combined with instructive godly discipline generates godly character & living.

A Second purpose of the book of Proverbs is to provide us with insight. Again verse 2 wants us, *"To understand words of insight."* The term "Insight" means to understand, consider or perceive. It has to do with the ability to read between the lines or to distinguish truth from falsehood, right from wrong, good from evil.

King Solomon placed great value on insight & discernment. Listen to his prayer upon being made king over Israel. (I Kg 3:7, 9) *"Now, O LORD my God, You have made Your servant king in place of my father David, yet I am but a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in ... So give Your servant an understanding heart to judge Your people to discern between good and evil. For who is able to judge this great people of yours?"* Verse 10 goes on to tell us that *"It was pleasing in the sight of the Lord that Solomon had asked this thing."* In his book "The Discipline of Spiritual Discernment," Tim Challies writes that, *"God honoured Solomon's request because he was pleased with what Solomon had asked. This teaches us that God values discernment and honours those who seek after it."*

God delights to impart wisdom to any who seek it. Indeed, (James 1:5) states that, *"If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."* Again the writer of Proverbs emphasizes the pursuit of wisdom in (Pr 2: 2-6) where it speaks of, *"making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding; yes, if you call out for insight and raise your voice for understanding, if you seek it like silver and search for it as for hidden treasures, then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God. For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding."*

For years, the opening of ABC's *The Wide World of Sports* demonstrated "the agony of defeat" through the painful ending of an attempted ski jump. The skier appeared in

good form as he headed down the slope, but then, for no apparent reason, he tumbled head-over-heels off the side of the jump and bounced off the supporting structure. What viewers didn't know was that he chose to fall. Why? As he explained later, the jump surface had become too fast, and midway down the ramp he realized that if he completed the jump, he would land on the level ground, beyond the safe landing zone, which could have been fatal. As it was, the skier suffered no more than a headache from the tumble.

Contrary to appearances, that skier exercised discernment based on his knowledge & understanding of the conditions. It was a knowledge and understanding based on reverent fear; the fear of the slope, the fear of flying too high, and the fear of the fall led him to change course. His fear led to life. (Pr 1:7) says *“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge.”* And (Pr 2:3, 5, & ff) says that *“If you cry for discernment ... then you will discern the fear of the LORD and discover the knowledge of God, wisdom will enter your heart and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul; Discretion will guard you and understanding will watch over you to deliver you from the way of evil.”* And so we can rightly say that the Book of Proverbs will provide us with insight and discernment.

A further purpose for Proverbs is given to us in (Pr 1:3) where we read these words; “to receive instruction in wise dealing, in righteousness, justice, and equity.” In other words, Proverbs is written to develop in us, an alertness in our walk/conduct.

This word ‘receive’ is an action word. Its root meaning is to take, take in the hand, to take and carry along. Apparently it is an ancient term associated with, *‘Plucking grapes and taking them with you.’* In this case the implication is that instruction in Proverbs, is to be plucked and taken with you, just as you would in picking an apple from a tree & taking it with you. Maybe Jeremiah the Prophet had this concept in mind when he wrote (Jer 15:16) *“Your words were found and I ate them, and Your words became for me a joy and the delight of my heart ...”* These inspired Proverbs will, if received & ingested, develop alertness in our walk/conduct

Then too, Proverbs is written, to establish discretion & purpose in life. We read in (Pr 1:4) that Solomon is writing, *“To give prudence to the simple, knowledge and discretion to the youth.”* This purpose is a bit narrower in its focus. There are certain persons who can derive the most benefit from these Proverbs. Who are they? They are the young! In Solomon’s time this would refer to small children, early adolescent teens and young adults of marriageable age. In other words, those who are susceptible to being on the *naïve* side.

The Hebrew term for '*simple*' means, "To be open, spacious or wide" In other words Solomon is addressing those who are wide open, easily influenced or gullible; those who are an easy target for unscrupulous swindlers.

What will these inspired Proverbs do for the naïve and the young? They will give them prudence and shrewdness in the management of practical affairs. They will impart common sense and discretion in the living and formulating their lives. Of course all of us can benefit from taking the truths of Proverbs to heart. But the young however, can benefit most of all as their whole life is ahead of them. The truths contained in the Book of Proverbs can give purpose & direction to youth. They are truths that can thwart the problems that plague so many young people and can establish discretion & purpose in their lives.

There are 31 chapters in the Book of Proverbs and someone has said that reading a chapter a day keeps the devil away. As I think of how much time many of us, (including adults) spend on social media, we would do much better and be better counselled if we substituted a portion of that time to read a chapter of Proverbs each day.

Another purpose of Proverbs is to help us cultivate a keen mind. Solomon's intention is help us (Pr 1:6) *To understand a proverb and a figure, The words of the wise and their riddles.* When the text refers to '*riddle*,' it comes from a Hebrew word that refers to an indirect, perplexing, oblique or mysterious statement. In other words a riddle is a figure of speech that is often used & requires explaining. Often times Proverbs employs, wit, paradox, common sense, teasing and hyperbole etc. to convey its truth. (Pr 26:4-5) is an example of this when it says; *"Answer not a fool according to his folly, lest you be like him yourself. Answer a fool according to his folly, lest he be wise in his own eyes."*

In considering these things, the book of Proverbs presents us with a thought provoking style of teaching that provokes our thought process. Seeking to understand the proverbial truths in this inspired book will sharpen our minds & ability to think more deeply as well as enabling us to be wise & discerning etc. And so in reverse order, the purposes of Proverbs are to enable us, to cultivate keen minds in us, to establish discretion & purpose in our lives, to develop alertness in our walk and conduct, to provide us with insight and discernment and to revere and obey God from the heart.

To revere and obey God from the heart is perhaps synonymous with the main purpose of Proverbs. We find this overarching purpose for and source of wisdom in (Pr 1:7-9) where we read that, *"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge;*

fools despise wisdom and instruction. Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and forsake not your mother's teaching, for they are a graceful garland for your head and pendants for your neck." Wisdom may be found in your mother's teaching and your father's instruction. But we need to remember that **the fear of the Lord** is the beginning of knowledge. If you and I are to get a handle on true knowledge & wisdom, the pursuit of it must begin with and in, the fear of the Lord because that is where it begins.

The purpose and goal of the Book of Proverbs and indeed the whole Bible is to instill in us, the fear of the Lord. What does biblical *"Fear of the Lord mean?"* In his book *Wisdom from Above*, LeRoy Eims outlines it this way as he writes, *Some say it means reverential trust, or affectionate reverence... Let us not forget, however, that when God gave His law to His people, he did so to the accompaniment of thunder and thick smoke. The people at the foot of Mount Sinai trembled. When we think of the fear of the Lord, let us not eliminate altogether the plain old, "being afraid of God." Remember the words of the New Testament, "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God."* (Heb 10:31)

That being the case, the first result of godly fear is that God must be revered for Who He is. And so we sing, *"Our God is an awesome God. He reigns in heaven above, with wisdom power and love. Our God is an awesome God!"*

Not only is God to be feared, He is also to be served. If He is truly Almighty God (And He is), and if we are His people through Faith in Him as revealed in His Son, and if we read our Bibles and have some sense of who He is and who we are in relation to Him, then surely it obligates us to find a place of service to Him. And in addition, joyfully give our lives to the duty He has place before us.

The fear of the Lord also means that God is to be worshipped. Jesus taught this in (Jn 4:23-24) when he said, *"But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers. "God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."*

A further aspect of fearing the Lord with a godly fear is that God is to be obeyed. The writer of Ecclesiastes tells us (Eccl 12:13) *"The conclusion, when all has been heard, is: fear God and keep His commandments, because this applies to every person."* Note that this is an all-inclusive issue. Obedience is not an option. No one is left out. *"This applies to every person."* Thankfully although we fail in our obedience and indeed all the other requirements for fearing the Lord aright, we have

a Saviour in the Lord Jesus Christ *who* (by placing our faith in him) *became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption* (I Cor 1:30).

Finally, the fear of the Lord means that God is to be loved. The words of (Deut 6:5) lays it out for us with great clarity when it says, *Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength*. When you consider who God is and who we are, and all that God in His grace and mercy has poured out on us in Jesus Christ, we are to love Him with all our hearts, souls, strength & mind.

When you add it all up believers are called to revere, serve, worship, obey and love the Lord our God. And that amounts to a healthy *“Fear of The Lord.”* And Proverbs tells us that this wholesome fear of God is the beginning a wisdom that only fools despise (Pr 1:7). And so if you and I, or anyone would truly attain knowledge and wisdom, it begins with godly fear of the Lord God of the universe.

(Job 28:20, 23, 28) is helpful to us as we close when we read; *“Where then does wisdom come from? And where is the place of understanding? God understands its way, And He knows its place. And to man He said, ‘Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; And to depart from evil is understanding.’*

As we ponder these truths from the Book of Proverbs may God enable us to discover His wisdom for winsome living – Before Him & others.

Hymn: “Christ Is Mine Forevermore”– CityAlight

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

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

1. Mine are days that God has numbered
I was made to walk with Him
Yet I look for worldly treasure
And forsake the King of kings
Chorus
But mine is hope in my Redeemer
Though I fall His love is sure
For Christ has paid for every failing
I am His forevermore

2. Mine are tears in times of sorrow
Darkness not yet understood
Through the valley I must travel
Where I see no earthly good

Chorus 2

But mine is peace that flows from heaven
 And the strength in times of need
 I know my pain will not be wasted
 Christ completes His work in me

3. Mine are days here as a stranger
 Pilgrim on a narrow way
 One with Christ I will encounter
 Harm and hatred for His name

Chorus 3

But mine is armour for this battle
 Strong enough to last the war
 And He has said He will deliver
 Safely to the golden shore

Chorus 4

And mine are keys to Zion city
 Where beside the King I walk
 For there my heart has found its treasure
 Christ is mine forevermore

Bridge (X3)

Come rejoice now O my soul
 For His love is my reward
 Fear is gone and hope is sure
 Christ is mine forevermore

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. standrewspert offering@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.

Invitation to Offering

The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly;
 the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.
 Responding to God's bountiful gifts to us in Christ,
 we have opportunity to share out of our abundance.

Offertory Prayer

Generous God, we marvel at your lavish gifts to us:
 life and breath, food and shelter,
 opportunities for work and play,
 and, most especially, hope and peace in Christ.
 We now pledge ourselves to mirror and reflect
 the glory of your self-giving love,
 to continue in the pattern of generosity
 we see perfectly revealed in Christ,
 through whom we pray. **Amen.**

Prayers for the People by the People

In response to the COVID-19 Pandemic:

- Pray for our **Government Leaders**, municipal, provincial, and federal.
- For the **Frontline Workers**
- For **St. Andrew's Church and its leadership.**
- For the **Shut-Ins and those in Nursing homes and in hospital:** Elva Fair, Audrey Ferrier, Germaine Vanderklok, June O'Hara, Gwen Travis, Bing Jeun, Jo Mott, Ruth McTavish, Nellie Larabie, Jackie & Brian Stapleton – Karen McKim's parents.
- **For marriages that are struggling, as a result of the pandemic.**
- For the **Education system**, that safeguards will be put in place to protect the students, teachers, and staff.

Please, continued prayer for:

- **Stuart McKim**
- **Louise Burke** – Sold her house and will be moving into Perth with her son Harold.
- **Ann Savage** - Not a lot of changes in my health. I am still undergoing treatments 3 weeks out of 4. All of my appointments with my oncologist have been over the phone during COVID times. I do have another scan scheduled for September 1st. Praying that results are favourable.
- **Rick & Colleen Richardson and their daughter Deborah Richardson** – Colleen is feeling better. Not much change in her vision and memory loss, but her attitude about the whole matter is what has changed. She knows and trusts the Lord with her life. Love Rick
- **Joanna Savage** - Joanna is doing very well at present. She is mostly back to herself and she is regaining some of the weight she lost through the ordeal. We are waiting to hear from the surgeon sometime before the summer ends to discuss next steps regarding an operation to remove the primary tumour in her intestine now that the one in her liver has been reduced in size. There is still a fair journey ahead, but

right now, we are giving thanks for this precious time when she is feeling better and able to enjoy life again. Many thanks to our dear St. Andrew's family for all your prayers and caring concern. I do hope and pray everyone is doing well. Marilyn.

- **Deb Watring-Ellis** – I'm doing well. My second treatment, as reported last week, was successful and the doctor is pleased. I'm confident that all the prayers and support and God's love and intentions are the reason for such good reports. I will continue to have monthly treatments with the goal of spreading them out eventually.
- **Paul Thompson** - Dear friends in Christ, your prayers for me must be working. My eyesight is holding and pressures My surgeon is happy with my progress. Next appointment is September. Blessings.
- **Lyn Harrington (Shelagh Steven's Mom)** Mom is improving and can move about by herself with a walker and some care. A great recovery from yet another daunting injury! Shelagh.
- **Dave** (Parkinson's disease) & **Anne Crawley** (foot infection). I am very thankful for everyone's prayers. I had a MRI and a Bone Scan neither of which were definitive on the cause of the infections. My doctor has ordered another Bone Scan to focus on Leukocytes (white blood cells) and a Blood Flow Doppler. Both these tests are next week. I have an appointment booked for mid August with the Infectious Disease specialist. I am still waiting for an Orthopedic appt. Please pray that the root cause will be discovered. The current infection is healing nicely but is still open so I cannot swim which is very difficult for me. I thank God for all the appointments and tests that are coming together. Blessings on you all. Anne.
- **University/ College students** - to have a summer job and return to school in the fall.
- **Angus Funston** – Angus is doing very well. Enjoying the summer. He is waiting to hear from Sick Kid's. He will be going to Toronto in August to meet a Doctor who is doing a research on his condition. I think this will help Angus to plan which university he will go to. Until he goes to Toronto everything is to remain the same. I want to thank all the people who are praying for him. Carole.
- **Eric & Lorrie Cosens and Eric's mother June** as they deal with the loss of Eric's Father. His mother June, deals with treatment for her bowel cancer, which has spread to her liver.

Closing Hymn:

“I Want To Walk As A Child Of The Light”

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

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QISk0oYYpuk>

1. I want to walk as a child of the light
I want to follow Jesus
God set the stars to give light to the world
The star of my life is Jesus

Chorus

In Him there is no darkness at all
 The night and the day are both alike
 The Lamb is the light of the city of God
 Shine in my heart Lord Jesus

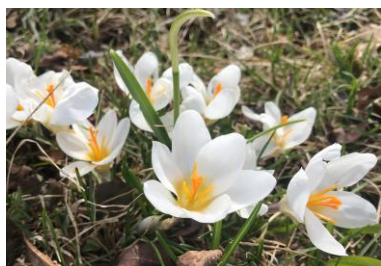
2. I want to see the brightness of God
 I want to look at Jesus
 Clear Sun of righteousness shine on my path
 And show me the way to the Father
3. I'm looking for the coming of Christ
 I want to be with Jesus
 When we have run with patience the race
 We shall know the joy of Jesus

Benediction

Go now and live in the righteousness that comes from faith.
 Delight in seeking the Lord.
 Recount what God has done
 and proclaim the good news of Christ
 so that all may hear and believe and be saved.

And may the power of the presence of God be with you.
 May Christ's word be near you,
 on your lips and in your heart.
 And may the Holy Spirit give you courage
 and calm all your fears.

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 is continuing the Sunday 12-12:10 pm ringing of the bells as a reminder to pray for all aspects of the current crisis and everyone affected. This will continue until the church reopens for worship.