

**St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Perth**  
**Sunday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021**  
**Worship Leader: Rev. Stephen Dunkin**

**“In person” worship has resumed!**  
**Please join us for worship Sunday morning at 10:30 AM!!”**

**Introit**

**“Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine”**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jJk5a-fXJBQ>

**Announcements**

**1. Preaching Schedule**

August 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Rev. Stephen Dunkin
August 29 <sup>th</sup>	Rev. Stephen Dunkin – my last Sunday.
September 5 <sup>th</sup>	Pastor Gerry Gallant – begins his ministry.
September 16 <sup>th</sup> , 7 PM	Ordination and Induction Service by the Presbytery of Lanark – Renfrew.

**Call to Worship** (based on Job 19:23-27)

God looks from heaven upon the children of earth  
to see whether there are any wise enough  
to seek the fellowship of God.

**By faith, may Christ live within our hearts,  
that we may be rooted and grounded in love  
and filled with all the fullness of God.**

When the Lord restores the fortunes of his people,  
the people of faith shall rejoice, and the whole church be glad.

**We bow down before the Father of Christ Jesus,  
from whom every family on earth is named.**

To God be all the glory,  
in the church and in Christ Jesus  
**throughout all generations,  
forever and ever. Amen!**

**Prayer of Invocation**

O gracious and holy God,  
give us diligence to seek you,  
wisdom to perceive you,  
and patience to wait for you.  
Grant us, O God,  
a mind to meditate on you,

eyes to behold you,  
 ears to listen for your Word,  
 a heart to love you,  
 and a life to proclaim you,  
 through the power of the Spirit  
 of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

**Hymn:** “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”, Austin Stone Worship Live  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2eQ1oal44wU>

1. Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father  
 There is no shadow of turning with Thee  
 Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not  
 As Thou hast been, Thou forever will be

**Chorus**

Great is Thy faithfulness  
 Great is Thy faithfulness  
 Morning by morning new mercies I see  
 All I have needed Thy hand hath provided  
 Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me

2. I could not love Thee, so blind and unfeeling,  
 Covenant promises fell not to me  
 Then without warning, desire, or deserving,  
 I found my Treasure, my pleasure in Thee
3. I have no merit to woo or delight Thee  
 I have no wisdom or power to employ  
 Yet in Thy mercy, how pleasing Thou find'st me  
 This is my pleasure that Thou art my joy
4. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth  
 Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide  
 Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow  
 Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside

**Call to Confession** (based on Isaiah 1:18)

“Come now, let us reason together,”  
 says the LORD.

“Though your sins are like scarlet,  
 they shall be as white as snow;  
 though they are red as crimson,  
 they shall be like wool.”

**Responsive Prayer of Confession**

Most gracious and most merciful God,  
 we confess to you and to one another that time after time  
 we have entered your presence with countless prayers

but with hearts that have been closed to your grace.  
 We have lifted our hands to you in praise,  
 but our feet have still walked in the ways of evil.  
 We have rehearsed your commandments  
 but have refused to see your face in the needs of our neighbor.  
 We pray, Lord, that you forgive our lack of faith  
 and pardon our acts of injustice.

**Grant us the healing that comes from your presence  
 and the cleansing of your all-powerful Word,  
 through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**Responsive Assurance of Pardon** (based on Romans 8:34; 2 Corinthians 5:17)

Hear the good news!  
 Who is in a position to condemn?  
 Only Christ,  
 and Christ died for us,  
 Christ rose for us,  
 Christ reigns in power for us,  
 Christ prays for us.  
 Anyone who is in Christ  
 is a new creation.  
 The old life has gone;  
 a new life has begun.  
 Know that you are forgiven, and be at peace.

**Thanks be to God.**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father, Who art in heaven  
 Hallow'ed is 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 our debts as we forgive our  
 debtors.  
 Lead us not into temptation and deliver us from the evil one.  
 For Thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory  
 Forever and ever. Amen.**

**Responsive Reading**

**Psalm 84**

How lovely is your dwelling place,  
 LORD Almighty!

**My soul yearns, even faints,  
 for the courts of the LORD;  
 my heart and my flesh cry out  
 for the living God.**

Even the sparrow has found a home,  
and the swallow a nest for herself,  
where she may have her young—  
a place near your altar,  
LORD Almighty, my King and my God.

**Blessed are those who dwell in your house;  
they are ever praising you.**

Blessed are those whose strength is in you,  
whose hearts are set on pilgrimage.

**As they pass through the Valley of Baka,  
they make it a place of springs;  
the autumn rains also cover it with pools.**

They go from strength to strength,  
till each appears before God in Zion.

**Hear my prayer, LORD God Almighty;  
listen to me, God of Jacob.**

Look on our shield, O God;  
look with favor on your anointed one.

**Better is one day in your courts  
than a thousand elsewhere;  
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God  
than dwell in the tents of the wicked.**

For the LORD God is a sun and shield;  
the LORD bestows favor and honor;  
no good thing does he withhold  
from those whose walk is blameless.

**LORD Almighty,  
blessed is the one who trusts in you.**

Ministry of Music: "Agnes Dei", Michael W. Smith

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

Scripture Reading: Mark 5:24b-34

**24** ... A large crowd followed and pressed around him. **25** And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years. **26** She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse. **27** When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, **28** because she thought, "If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed." **29** Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering. **30** At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who touched my clothes?" **31** "You see the people crowding against you," his disciples answered, "and yet you can ask, 'Who touched me?'" **32** But

Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it. **33** Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth. **34** He said to her, “Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering.”

This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God**

**Hymn:** “Thy Word is a Lamp Unto my Feet”, Amy Grant  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a6LC8cu03lg>

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path  
 Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path

When I feel afraid  
 Think I've lost my way  
 Still you're there right beside me  
 And nothing will I fear  
 As long as you are near  
 Please be near me to the end

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path  
 Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path

I will not forget  
 Your love for me and yet  
 My heart forever is wandering  
 Jesus be my guide  
 And hold me to your side  
 I will love you to the end

Nothing will I fear  
 As long as you are near  
 Please be near me to the end

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path  
 Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path

### **Prayer of Illumination**

God of mercy,  
 you promised never to break your covenant with us.  
 Amid all the changing words of our generation,  
 speak your eternal Word that does not change.  
 Enable us to respond to your gracious promises  
 with faithful and obedient lives.  
 Through our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## **“Suffering Under The Care Of Many Healers”**

**Mark 5:24b-34**

A number of years ago, I was listening to a Christian radio station as I drove to a meeting. It was: "Focus On The Family" and Dr. James Dobson was still the host at that time. I missed the start of the program, but as I listened I was moved to tears at times as a Korean woman, who I expect was in her 40's, shared her story. She had been born just after the Korean war. Her mother was Korean but she didn't know what nationality her father was because the Korean War involved a multi-national United Nations force.

Stephanie said that she knew her mother loved her because she kept her for as long as she could before she was forced to abandon her on the street. There was a second reason Stephanie knew her mother loved her and that was because her mother didn't kill her. Infanticide was rampant in the chaos of that time. So from before the



age of 2, this little girl had to survive on the streets – sleeping under bridges and gathering food wherever she could. She ate grass, insects and even field mice.

As I listened to her story, I was struck by a number of things. One was the suffering this child endured. She lived on the streets for seven years. She watched other children die, but she herself was unmoved. You see, her spirit was dead.

There was a bombed out building that was full of rats. One day a group of men took her and a four year old child and locked the two of them in the basement of that building. The rats ate the four year old. Somehow Stephanie survived. As a result of that experience, there arose in her a hatred of men. She also made an inner vow that no matter what anyone did to her, she would survive. She carried that hatred inside of her, burning like a blast furnace, for years.

The other thing that struck me was that this girl was an outcast. She was a mixed blood. She looked different than the other children. She said, "When I am with Americans, they say I look Korean. But when I am with Koreans, they say I look like an American. I don't fit anywhere." Mixed bloods were despised in Korea at that time. When she finally ended up in an orphanage run by World Vision, the Korean workers ignored her. They had a name for her. They called her "alien devil" and that name became imprinted in her mind. She spent all her time looking after the babies – holding them and caring for them. When she was finally adopted by an American family, she

didn't know how to react to their love, so she spit on them. She was an outcast, a mixed blood and an alien devil who believed that she deserved all the mistreatment she received. Eventually God drew her to himself and at the age of 15 she received Jesus as her Saviour. However, it was many years before she found healing from the shame of her past.



In Mark 5 we find a woman who was also an outcast. She was not an outcast because she was a mixed blood or an alien devil. No, she was **a daughter of Israel**. She was an outcast because she was a bleeder. She had had a bleeding disorder for 12 years. For that whole period of time she had a bloody discharge. You are probably thinking, “Well, that may not be pleasant, but that shouldn't make her an outcast.” To understand why she was an outcast, we need to turn to the Old Testament

Law. For the Jews there were many things that could make them “unclean” in the eyes of the Law, and once you were unclean you were basically an outcast. You were shunned. Eating certain foods could make a person unclean. When a woman had her monthly period, she was unclean for 2 weeks afterwards. In Leviticus 12 it says:

**2 ... ‘A woman who becomes pregnant and gives birth to a son will be ceremonially unclean for seven days, just as she is unclean during her monthly period. 3 On the eighth day the boy is to be circumcised. 4 Then the woman must wait thirty-three days to be purified from her bleeding. She must not touch anything sacred or go to the sanctuary until the days of her purification are over. 5 If she gives birth to a daughter, for two weeks the woman will be unclean, as during her period. Then she must wait sixty-six days to be purified from her bleeding.**

During that time, no one could touch her and anything she touched became unclean.

People with skin diseases were unclean. Articles of clothing that mildewed were unclean. Any bodily discharge rendered a person unclean. In Leviticus 15 we read,

**25 “When a woman has a discharge of blood for many days at a time other than her monthly period or has a discharge that continues beyond her period, she will be unclean as long as she has the discharge...”**

So this woman, besides suffering the discomfort of a hemorrhage or discharge, also suffered the disgrace of being unclean. She would be shunned, because no one else would want to become unclean by touching anything that she had touched or having contact with her. So she was a social outcast who lived in isolation.

This woman had not meekly accepted her illness. She sought medical help wherever she could find it. There is a statement in this story that strikes me funny every time I

read it. **26 She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors.** We all know how wonderful the medical profession is and how thankful we are for all they do. Yet at the same time, we are also aware of how a friend or loved one suffered under medical care. I can remember a few times when I **suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors.**

The next thing that we are told is that she **had spent all she had** in her quest for a cure. I am sure those that she saw did the best that they could but they had no idea how to heal her. Some of the proposed remedies at the time for this kind of condition are rather interesting. One was to have a person drink a goblet of wine into which had been ground a compound made up from a rubber plant. Another was to eat a Persian onion cooked in wine as the doctor chanted, “Arise out of your flow of blood.” Still other doctors prescribed sudden shock. My imagination runs wild with thoughts of how this was accomplished. Still another was to walk around carrying the ashes of an ostrich egg in a cloth. We can be quite certain that cures were rare. This woman certainly didn’t experience one. **26 ... yet instead of getting better she grew worse.** She had explored every avenue of healing and came up empty handed.

In desperation she tried one last thing. **27 When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, 28 because she thought, “If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed.”** Does this seem ridiculous to you? Does it seem magical? Does it strike you as some kind of hocus pocus, similar to a TV evangelist who says: “Just lay your hand on the TV while I pray and you will be healed!” “Send me a monetary gift and I will send you a piece of cloth that has been prayed over!” I don’t trust this kind of stuff, but I am well aware that the Book of Acts talks about how the apostles healed many. In Acts 5 it says:

**15 As a result, people brought the sick into the streets and laid them on beds and mats so that at least Peter’s shadow might fall on some of them as he passed by. 16 Crowds gathered also from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing their sick and those tormented by impure spirits, and all of them were healed.**

There was no money involved in these healings. In fact the Apostle Peter said to one man who was looking for money, **6 ... “Silver or gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk.”** (Acts 3) One man named Simon was so impressed with what the disciples could do through prayer and the laying on of hands that he offered them money so that he could do the same.

**20 Peter answered: “May your money perish with you, because you thought you could buy the gift of God with money! 21 You have no part or share in this ministry, because your heart is not right before God.** (Acts 8)

We are not dealing with something magical. We are not dealing with religious hocus pokus. We are not faced with a money making scheme. What we are seeing is that



God works outside our categories and that God's power can be displayed in any way that he chooses and through any means that he chooses.

There is one other thing that I notice here which is tremendously important. It is that this woman was desperate. When people would come to Barnabas House with a problem – they might be searching for healing for inner pain or an answer to a difficult situation in their lives – I was often tempted to ask them, “How desperate are you?” A person who is not desperate will often put conditions on what they prepared to do before God. A person who is not desperate will not repent of their sin. They will not forgive someone who has wronged them. They will give you a very lopsided picture of the situation – one that paints them in a favourable light. They are not willing to hear any hard words. However, a person who is desperate will do whatever is necessary to find healing. They will do whatever God asks them to do.

This woman was unclean but she was desperate. She set aside all of her reservations and stepped out into the middle of a crowd that, had they known her situation, would have shunned her and backed away from her. It didn't matter to this woman. She didn't care about what anyone said, did or thought. In her mind she thought, [28](#) ... **“If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed.”**

I have a question for you. “As soon as this woman touched Jesus, what would he have become according to the law?” **Unclean!** Knowing that, she took the chance anyway. [27](#) ... **she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak.** Now we come

to something that I find very interesting. When I was a boy, it was not unusual for my father to talk about perpetual motion machines. He would sit at the kitchen table and draw various examples of these machines and how over the years many people had been defrauded by “inventors” who had claimed to have made such machines. You see, a perpetual motion machine, once started, was supposed to continue to run perpetually without any fuel or anything else to make it run. The point my Dad was trying to teach us was that you can't get something for nothing. He wasn't talking about money. He was talking about energy. To make something move, energy must be expended. “For every action there must be an equal and opposite reaction.” This is a physical law of the universe. It is also a spiritual law. When this woman reached out and touched the hem of the garment Jesus was wearing, she



was healed. **29 Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering.** – and just as immediately, Jesus was aware of it. Why? **30 At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him.** Healing requires power. For every action there is an equal and opposite reaction. This woman's faith unleashed the power of God. The power that went out from Jesus healed her.

Jesus did not just let this incident pass. He insisted on knowing who had touched him. **30 ... He turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who touched my clothes?" ... 33 Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth.**



She was afraid – and rightly so. Her action rendered Jesus unclean. She had known immediately that she had been healed. Notice how Jesus responded to this woman who had fallen at his feet trembling with fear. Does he chastise her? Does he bawl her out? Does he say, “Now, look at what you’ve done! You made me unclean!! You’ve ruined my day!!!” No, he says to her: **34 He said to her, “Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering.”**

I say to you this morning that no one who needs healing, whether physical, emotional, mental or spiritual ever needs to be afraid to come to Jesus. He receives everyone who comes honestly seeking his way in life and his touch of healing upon body, soul and spirit. I believe we must come in desperation. Only the desperate know how much they need him. Only when you come in desperation are you willing to do what he calls you to do.

And you must come in faith. In Hebrews 11 we read, **6 And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.** To everyone who comes to him in faith, desperate to be healed and to deal with the root causes of the issues they face, Jesus says, **“My child, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering.”**

**Hymn #193: “Out Of My Bondage”, Metropolitan Tabernacle, London**  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a\\_gcNGCmU48](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a_gcNGCmU48)

1. Out of my bondage, sorrow and night,  
 Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come;

into thy freedom, gladness and light,  
 Jesus, I come to thee;  
 out of my sickness into thy health,  
 out of my want and into thy wealth,  
 out of my sin and into thyself,  
 Jesus, I come to thee.

2. Out of my shameful failure and loss,  
 Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come;  
 into the glorious gain of thy cross,  
 Jesus, I come to thee.  
 out of earth's sorrows into thy balm,  
 out of life's storms and into thy calm,  
 out of distress to jubilant psalm,  
 Jesus, I come to thee.

3. Out of unrest and arrogant pride,  
 Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come;  
 into thy blessed will to abide,  
 Jesus, I come to thee;  
 out of myself to dwell in thy love,  
 out of de spair into raptures above,  
 upward for aye on wings like a dove,  
 Jesus, I come to thee.

4. Out of unrest and arrogant pride  
 Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come;  
 Into thy perfect will to abide  
 Jesus, I come to thee;  
 Out of myself to dwell in thy love  
 Out of despair into raptures above  
 Upward on aye for wings like a dove  
 Jesus, I come to thee.

5. Out of the fear and dread of the tomb,  
 Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come;  
 into the joy and light of thy home,  
 Jesus, I come to thee;  
 out of the depths of ruin untold,  
 into the peace of thy sheltering fold,  
 ever thy glorious face to behold,  
 Jesus, I come to thee.

### **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](mailto: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.**

### **Invitation to Offering**

“As God’s dear children, then, take him as your pattern,  
and follow Christ by loving as he loved you,  
giving himself up for us as an offering  
and a sweet-smelling sacrifice to God.”  
With gladness, let us present the offerings  
of our life and labor to the Lord.

### **Offertory Prayer**

O Mighty One,  
you have done great things for us,  
and holy is your name.  
Bless all we offer you—  
our selves, our time, and our possessions—  
that through us your grace and favor  
may be made known to all the world,  
for the sake of Jesus Christ,  
our Redeemer. **Amen.**

### **Pastoral Prayer**

Almighty God, gracious Father,  
in the presence of your bounty keep us humble,  
in the presence of all people’s needs make us compassionate and caring.  
Give us faith in our praying and love in our serving,  
knowing that by your power  
all may find a new balance in living and a new victory in adversity.  
We pray for all unhappy lives,  
those who are bitter and resentful, feeling life has given them a raw deal,  
those who are sensitive to criticism and quick to take offense,  
those who desire their own way, whatever the inconvenience  
or cost to others.  
May your judgment and mercy be for their healing.  
We pray for those who are lonely,  
who are shy and self-conscious,  
who find it hard to make friends;  
those who are nervous and timid,

who ever feel themselves strangers in a world they can scarcely understand.  
 May your presence inspire confidence and ensure companionship.  
 We pray for those who live with bitter regrets,  
 for loving relationships brought to ruin,  
 for opportunities freely given and woefully abused,  
 for the bitterness of defeat or betrayal at another's hand,  
 or for failure in personal integrity.  
 May your grace give new hope to find victory in the very scene of failure.  
 We pray for all in illness and pain,  
 weary of the day and fearful of the night.  
 Grant healing, if it be your will,  
 and at all times through faith the gift of your indwelling peace.  
 Bless the company of Christ's folk, the church in every land.  
 Make her eager in worship,  
 fearless in proclamation of the gospel, and passionate for caring.  
 Bless our country. Bless our leaders.  
 Bless our children and grant us peace within our borders.  
 Grant us as a nation to be found effective in establishing peace  
 throughout the world.  
 Bless us, each one, in the communion of the saints,  
 and keep us ever mindful of the great cloud of witnesses that,  
 following in their steps, as they did in the steps of the Master,  
 we may with them at the last receive the fulfillment  
 promised to your people.  
 Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

**Hymn: "I Will Trust My Saviour Jesus", CityAlight**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=14wnm8KVbb4>

1. I will trust my Saviour Jesus  
 When my darkest doubts befall  
 Trust Him when to simply trust Him  
 Seems the hardest thing of all
2. I will trust my Saviour Jesus  
 Trust Him when my strength is small  
 For I know the shield of Jesus  
 Is the safest place of all

**Chorus**

Jesus, only Jesus  
 Help me trust You more and more  
 Jesus, only Jesus  
 May my heart be ever Yours

3. I will trust my saviour Jesus  
 He has said His way is best  
 And I know the path He's chosen  
 Leads to everlasting rest

### Chorus

Jesus, only Jesus  
 Help me trust You more and more  
 Jesus, only Jesus  
 May my heart be ever Yours  
 Jesus, only Jesus  
 Help me trust You more and more  
 Jesus, only Jesus  
 May my heart be ever Yours

Oh on that cross, how it was seen ) Sing 3 times  
 I can go now ever trusting in the One who died for me )  
 What could I bring, for Your gift is complete )  
 So I trust you, simply trust you, Lord, with every part of me )

### Chorus

Jesus, only Jesus  
 Help me trust You more and more  
 Jesus, only Jesus  
 May my heart be ever Yours  
 Jesus, only Jesus  
 Help me trust You more and more  
 Jesus, only Jesus  
 May my heart be ever Yours

### Benediction

Go out, trusting in God, even in the midst of the storms.  
 Arm yourselves only with the weapons of righteousness  
 and stand firm before the enemies of life.  
 Put no obstacle in anyone's way,  
 but in every way commend yourselves as servants of God.

And may God deliver you from all that would destroy you;  
 May Christ Jesus calm all that would terrorize you;  
 and may the Holy Spirit sustain you in patience, kindness, truthfulness and  
 genuine love.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

### Postlude:

“Grace Greater Than Our Sin”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ROPXRaB49GY>