

**St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Perth
Sunday, July 3rd, 2022
Rev. Gerry Gallant**

**Sent out
Second Sunday in Lent
Luke 10:1-20**

Welcome

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all

Announcements

Call to Worship

In Christ, the God of heaven has made his home on earth.
Christ dwells among us and is one with us.

Highest of all creation, he lives among the least.
He journeys with the rejected and welcomes the weary.

Come now, all who thirst,
and drink the water of life.

Come now, all who hunger,
and be filled with good things.

Come now, all who seek,
and be warmed by the fire of love

Prayer of Adoration

O LORD, God of Israel,
there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath,
keeping covenant and steadfast love for your servants
who walk before you with all their heart.
Blessed be the LORD,
who has given rest to his people Israel
according to all that he promised;
not one word has failed of all his good promise,
which he spoke through his servant Moses.
The LORD our God be with us,

as he was with our ancestors;
 may he not leave us or abandon us,
 but incline our hearts to him,
 to walk in all his ways,
 and to keep his commandments,
 his statutes, and his ordinances,
 which he commanded our ancestors

Opening Hymn # 185: “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

When I survey the wondrous cross
 On which the Prince of glory died,
 My richest gain I count but loss,
 And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
 Save in the death of Christ, my God;
 All the vain things that charm me most -
 I sacrifice them to His blood.

See, from His head, His hands, His feet,
 Sorrow and love flow mingled down;
 Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
 Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
 That were a present far too small:
 Love so amazing, so divine,
 Demands my soul, my life, my all.

Call to Confession

Let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Prayer of Confession

**Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD,
 and of your steadfast love,
 for they have been from of old.
 Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
 according to your steadfast love remember me,
 for your goodness' sake, O LORD!
 Good and upright is the LORD;
 therefore he instructs sinners in the way.**

For your name's sake, O LORD,
 pardon my guilt, for it is great.
 Turn to me and be gracious to me,
 for I am lonely and afflicted.
 Relieve the troubles of my heart,
 and bring me out of my distress.
 Consider my affliction and my trouble,
 and forgive all my sins.
 In Jesus Name we pray. Amen

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news!
 Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven,
 whose sin is covered.
 Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity,
 and in whose spirit there is no deceit
 Know that in Jesus,
 God embraces you, forgives you,
 and strengthens you to live a renewed life.
Thanks be to God.

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

Question 49. Why is Jesus' resurrection so important?

It means that death is not final and that we too will have life after death. In a way beyond our imagining, God will raise us up and care for us eternally.
 Cor 6:14. Tim 1:10, 1 Cor 2:9

What does it mean to confess, "he ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of God"?

Jesus' ascension means his exaltation to glory with God the Father in heaven. To say he sits at God's right hand signifies that Jesus "has been given all authority in heaven and on earth" (Matthew 28:20). In his ascended glory, Jesus fulfills his promise to be with us always. He prays for us, and with the Father, sends his Spirit to empower the church for mission and is preparing a place for us. The Lamb who was slain is ascended, glorified and is worthy of worship.

Heb 4:14, Jn 14:16, Jn 14:2, Rev 5:12

Question 51. What does it mean to confess that “he will judge the living and the dead”?

Confident that our Judge is none other than our Saviour, we confess that Christ will come again in God’s good time and judge us. We do not know when, nor do we know how Jesus will come. We must keep alert, watch, and pray, “Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!” (Revelations 22:20)

Mk 13:32-33, Thess 5:2, Acts 10:42, Tim 4:1-2

Music Ministry: “Lamb of Glory” by Brenda Richmond

Prayer for illumination

O gracious God and most merciful Father,
 you have given us the rich and precious jewel of your holy Word.
 Assist us with your Spirit, that it may be written in our hearts
 to our everlasting comfort,
 to reform us, to renew us according to your own image,
 to build us up into the perfect building of Christ,
 and to increase us in all heavenly virtues.
 Grant this, O heavenly Father, for the same Jesus Christ’s sake. Amen

Scripture

Luke 10:1-20

10 After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to go. ² And he said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. ³ Go your way; behold, I am sending you out as lambs in the midst of wolves. ⁴ Carry no moneybag, no knapsack, no sandals, and greet no one on the road. ⁵ Whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace be to this house!’ ⁶ And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest upon him. But if not, it will return to you. ⁷ And remain in the same house, eating and drinking what they provide, for the laborer deserves his wages. Do not go from house to house. ⁸ Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you. ⁹ Heal the sick in it and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’ ¹⁰ But whenever you enter a town and they do not receive you, go into its streets and say, ¹¹ ‘Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet we wipe off against you. Nevertheless know this, that the kingdom of God has come near.’ ¹² I tell you, it will be more bearable on that day for Sodom than for that town.

Woe to Unrepentant Cities

¹³ “Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. ¹⁴ But it will be more bearable in the judgment for Tyre and Sidon than for you. ¹⁵ And you, Capernaum, will you be exalted to heaven? You shall be brought down to Hades.

¹⁶ “The one who hears you hears me, and the one who rejects you rejects me, and the one who rejects me rejects him who sent me.”

The Return of the Seventy-Two

¹⁷ The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!” ¹⁸ And he said to them, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. ¹⁹ Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you. ²⁰ Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”

Children’s Hymn # 357: “Jesus Loves Even Me”

I am so glad that our Father in heaven
Tells of His love in the Book He has given;
Wonderful things in the Bible I see,
This is the dearest, that Jesus loves me.

Refrain:

I am so glad that Jesus loves me,
Jesus loves me, Jesus loves me;
I am so glad that Jesus loves me,
Jesus loves even me.

Though I forget Him and wander away,
Still He follows wherever I stray;
Back to His dear loving arms would I flee,
When I remember that Jesus loves me. [Refrain]

O, if there's only one song I can sing,
When in His beauty I see the great King,
This shall my song in eternity be:
O, what a wonder that Jesus loves me! [Refrain]

Sermon

Last week we spoke of how we all have to choose the path in life we want to walk upon, the path of this world or the path of discipleship. Jesus explained to those people who all claimed that they wanted to be his followers the actual cost of being a disciple. The reality of the Christian faith is that there are many people who come to churches all around the world regularly, but they are more like a religious churchgoer than a Christian, they never really begin to walk along the path to discipleship because they believe the cost of the loss of possessions, power, fame, friends, and all their other worldly possessions is too much to pay.

This is perhaps why when Jesus appoints the seventy-two to send ahead, he tells them that **'The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few.'** True Christians are always in the minority in the world. In Jesus's day, even while he walked among the people performing miracles and preaching his Father's word many refused to recognize him as the Messiah. Jesus is sending them his people out into a world that he knows they are heavily outnumbered in and for that reason he sends them out two by two so that they may find support, encouragement and hope with one another in a world that is highly likely going to reject them and the message that they are sharing.

This is the reason for the church and for fellowship between brothers and sisters in Christ throughout all of Christian history, as we spoke about last week, those who walk the road to discipleship are going to be persecuted and suffer because the teachings of the scripture often do not align with the ways of this world. So, we need our brothers and sisters in Christ who walk the road with us to offer us the same support that the seventy-two had when they were sent out in pairs, support, encouragement, and hope.

But the fellowship of brothers and sisters was not the only thing that the seventy-two were sent out into the world with, they were also told of the importance of prayer. Jesus told these men he was sending out that they were to pray in their difficulties. They were to pray to the Lord of the harvest; to God, that there would be more workers sent out and that the workers would find their ways through difficulties.

Then Jesus turns to the seventy-two and sends them as the workers into the fields to harvest.

Jesus told them to pray for workers and then immediately turned them into those workers. Then just as he did for the ones who wanted to be disciples, Jesus takes some time to explain the difficulties that they will face as workers for the Lord.

Luke 10:3

³ Go your way; behold, I am sending you out as lambs in the midst of wolves.

Jesus sends his believers out into a world where we are to be humble and meek, not exerting power, but displaying grace, mercy, and compassion. Yet this is not the ways of the world. They display these characteristics, but usually only as a way to further their own agendas, in fact they are more often the wolf in sheep's clothing. The world is filled with wolves, people who are looking for ways to take advantage of others, to get ahead financially, socially or in a position of power. Yet these are the fields in which Christians are sent to seek the harvest of the Lord.

Jesus tells us that even though the mission field is filled with wolves that the harvest there is great, and as Christians we are called to step out into it everyday in our lives as we walk upon the path to discipleship. We know this because he does not wait for the perfect time to send out the seventy-two, he sends them into the fields, among the wolves, and he tells them **'Carry no moneybag, no knapsack, no sandals, and greet no one on the road.'** The task is so vital that he tells them, do not worry about getting ready and bringing the things you need, do not even stop to greet, and talk with people along the road. Go and preach of the coming of Christ to the people I send you too.

Just as it was in Jesus's time the harvest is still great in the world today. The issue of Jesus's day and the issue still today is not the harvest but the workers. Every farm hand knows that when its harvest time you get all the help you can, many hands make light work when it comes time to pull in the crops. Yet, when it comes to bringing people into the kingdom of heaven it seems like there just are not enough hands, like we looked at last week, many people can find a reason to not be involved in the harvest.

Yet, those who have chosen to become disciples of Christ must go out into the fields, they are called to participate in the harvest, to seek those in the darkness by shining the light of Jesus out into this world. The world we live in keeps getting darker and darker, and Christians need to take heart in the fact that the light of the true church will never go out because Jesus Christ sustains it. It will shine brightly until the second coming and while we serve Him here on earth, we are called to be the reflection of that light to the people that are caught in the dark but seek the light of Christ.

All disciples of Christ as they walk upon the path of their own faith are called to be workers in the field, participating in the harvest, sharing the knowledge of the coming of Jesus with the people they are sent to by Jesus.

This is a daunting task for many, but Jesus does not send them out, or us out, unprepared. In fact, he gives some very basic instructions to the seventy-two about how they are to share the word of His coming.

Luke 10:6

⁵ Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace be to this house!' ⁶ And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest upon him. But if not, it will return to you.

Jesus tells them to bring their peace to the houses they enter and if they are not welcomed to not be concerned about it because their peace will return to them. When we share the truth of Christ it is not our job to convince them to become Christian, we just need to share the truth, and if they are not willing to listen, our peace will return to us, and we can carry on. If they are willing to listen then Jesus tells us that we should eat what is set before us, simply put enjoy fellowship. He also tells us to heal the sick, while there are few of us here that may be nurses, active or retired, there are not many of us that would be confident in healing the sick, however, this is not speaking strictly of the physically sick. What about the spiritually sick? I am confident that any disciple of Christ, regardless of how far along their path to discipleship they are capable of sharing the basics of the Gospel with the spiritually sick. Telling people about the grace, love and mercy of Christ and the fact that he did for their sins is something all Christians are capable of doing. Sharing that truth's about Jesus as lord and savior and the truth of the coming of the Kingdom of God is something we can all do with people, and when they do not want to receive our sharing of Gods truth it is ok for us to walk away, and when they want to learn more, we should be inviting them into fellowship.

In fact, Jesus goes a little further in speaking about how we should treat the ones who reject his truths.

Luke 10:10-12

¹⁰ But whenever you enter a town and they do not receive you, go into its streets and say, ¹¹ 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet we wipe off against you. Nevertheless know this, that the kingdom of God has come near.' ¹² I tell you, it will be more bearable on that day for Sodom than for that town.

Jesus tells the seventy-two that when a town or house rejects his peace that they are to wipe the dust of the town from their feet. Notice that he still instructs them to share the truth of the gospel and his coming, but then to also give the warning that when he returns, they will be judged, and that judgement will be worse than the judgement that was cast upon Sodom.

Jesus does not stop there with his judgements. He speaks of the towns of Chorazin, Bethsaida and Capernaum. Three of the cities in which his ministry had been active. Bethsaida was where he had fed the five thousand and Capernaum was called the Lord's own city in the gospel of Matthew, it was the city in which he performed many different miracles including the healing of the paralyzed man. Jesus knew the people of these cities, he knew their hearts and he knew that they rejected him, even though he had shown them over and over that he was God. So, he tells them plainly, if the pagan cities had seen his miracles they would have believed, and for that reason they are judged like the cities of Tyre and Sidon cities who were fiercely rebuked by the Lord in the Old Testament.

Capernaum however is further singled out. Capernaum was a special city, one in which Jesus was often and one in which there was a large and beautiful synagogue to the Lord. This was a city that prided themselves on being a city of God. One that believed that they were the true followers. Yet Jesus tells them that they will not be exalted to heaven but instead brought down into hades, because of their lack of true faith. Jesus is yet again reminding Christians that it is only the true followers of Christ that are adopted into God's family, on judgement day there will be many people who call themselves Christian, but follow their own concept of who Christ is and not the Christ of the bible to whom Jesus will say

Matthew 7:23

²³ And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.'

It is clear in the Bible that there is a difference between the way that the seventy-two interact with those who receive the truth of the coming of Christ and those who reject that truth. After all, it is not the messengers faulty that the message was rejected. Verse 16 tells us that those who listened to the seventy-two have heard the word of God, and those who have rejected his word have rejected both the Son and the Father.

When the seventy-two return they are energized, they are filled with joy because they saw the work of the spirit in people, they were able to heal the spiritually sick, they were able to cast out demons that plagued people, they were able to share the coming of the King of Kings and even though it was rejected by many, it was received also by many. This should encourage us, we know that God's word will be rejected, but we also be heard by those who are seeking salvation. When we are rejected in sharing God's word it is not us they are rejecting, it is God and that should not stop us from sharing the truth of God's salvation with others, and when we share the truth of the Gospel with others and they accept it is not our persuasiveness that they have accepted it is Christ and it is through the work of the Holy Spirit that they have come to acknowledge God as Lord and Saviour and we should rejoice because we have found a new brother or sister in Christ and brought Glory to the name of God.

The last line of today's scripture drives this point home. We do not rejoice in the work that Christ has us doing here on earth, instead we rejoice in the fact that our name is recorded in the Book of Life, we are recorded as being citizens of the eternal Kingdom of heaven.

As disciples of Christ, we should wake up everyday rejoicing in the fact that our names are in his book. That we have been called to be his workers in this realm and given the opportunity to share his coming with others who may not have learned of who he really is yet in their lives. We should rejoice in the fact that we have faith in Christ. God has

given us his salvation by his grace, something we could never earn but have been freely given by him because of his love for us.

This is what should motivate us to share the Word of God with others. God has provided us with all we need to be his messengers, we do not need special, clothing, special books, special training, he has given us everything we need, his grace and faith in him. To share the truth of who Jesus is all we need is His word.

We do not have to search people out who need God in the world around us today. There are many people who are coming out of this pandemic, broken, lost, and suffering in so many ways. We do not have to look very far in our circle of friends, family, and colleagues to find people who are lost, who are filled with sadness and despair, who are slaves to sin as they try to find some way to make themselves feel whole, to find some reason for their existence. These are our fields, and we should be joyful workers in those fields bringing the truth of Christ to them. Bringing them the peace of mind that can only come through a relationship with God, which can only come through accepting him as Lord and Saviour, repenting of our sin and trying to live according to His Word. It is with joy that we should find new brothers and sisters in Christ and with joy that we sow the seeds of faith among even those who reject the word of God.

Let us pray,

By Your Word You Have Brought Us out of Darkness

Lord God, heavenly Father,
 we most heartily thank you
 that by your Word
 you have brought us out of the darkness of error
 into the light of your grace.
 Mercifully help us to walk in that light,
 guard us from all error and false doctrine
 and grant that we may not become ungrateful
 and despise and persecute your Word,
 as your people did long ago,
 but receive it with all our heart,
 govern our lives according to it
 and put all our trust in your grace
 through the merit of your dear Son,
 Jesus Christ our Lord,
 who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
 one true God, now and forever.

Hymn # 364: “My Jesus I Love Thee”

My Jesus, I love thee, I know thou art mine;
 for thee all the follies of sin I resign;
 my gracious Redeemer, my Savior art thou;
 if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I love thee because thou hast first loved me
 and purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree;
 I love thee for wearing the thorns on thy brow;
 if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

In mansions of glory and endless delight,
 I'll ever adore thee in heaven so bright;
 I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow:
 if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

Communion

Declaration of God's Invitation and Promises

*Hear the words of the institution
 of the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ:
 The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread,
 and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said,
 "This is my body, which is for you;
 do this in remembrance of me."
 In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying,
 "This cup is the new covenant in my blood;
 do this in remembrance of me."
 For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup,
 you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Opening

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

Thanksgiving to God

*Generous God, overflowing fountain of good,
you who lived from all eternity in trinitarian abundance
and yet made room for creatures, creating life
through the mediating Son and the hovering Spirit,
pouring out value on all that you made—*

*You honored us human beings with the breath of your life,
making us in your image and likeness,
to care for the earth in stewardship and love,
to live together in hospitality and zest
as a daily reminder of your trinitarian abundance.*

*You crowned us with virtue and honor
and are now renewing us in your image through the work of your Son.
Magnificent you are, strong God, giver of splendors.*

*You bless inside a world of curses.
You heal inside a world of wounds.
You save inside a world bent on being lost.
We thank, praise, and honor you,
generous God, overflowing fountain of good,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen***

Acclimation of Praise

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Thanksgiving to Christ

*Holy God, you are mighty in power yet abounding in mercy.
While our world was marred with sin,
so much so that we had no hope of redemption,
you made a covenant with your people.
You promised to renew your creation.
You promised to give hope amid the sorrow,
healing in place of sickness, wholeness in place of emptiness.*

You stepped into our darkness in the person of Jesus Christ.

*Our Lord and Savior lived among us.
 He, God before the beginning of time,
 willingly came to live at a specific place in a specific time.
 He came quietly to a young unwed mother
 through the power of your Holy Spirit.
 He experienced our human joys and sorrows.
 The Lord of the universe became a helpless boy.
 He ate, he drank, he grew.
 He was like us but without sin.*

*Then the King of kings showed us how to live.
 He healed the sick, cared for the least of society,
 and took time for children.
 He forgave sins and performed miracles.
 He loved, and he served.
 He gave up his very life for his friends.
 He died the excruciating, disgraceful death of a criminal for us.
 Yet you raised him out of the tomb.
 He triumphed over death so that we too may live.*

*On the night before our Lord died, he ate with his disciples.
 As we so often do, Jesus began with prayer.
 He took the bread and the cup,
 and he shared them with his friends,
 saying, "This is my body given for you. This cup is poured out for you.
 My body and my blood are given for the forgiveness of your sins.
 Do this in remembrance of me."*

*So, loving God, we do, in obedience to your command,
 eat the bread and drink from the cup.
 As we do, we remember with awe and gratitude
 the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ,
 King of all, Savior, Anointed One.*

*We rejoice that your great love through our Redeemer's sacrifice
 has set us free and given us hope for a future with you.*

*Until our Lord Jesus returns to establish his kingdom without end,
 we will joyfully proclaim his death and resurrection.*

**We shall do as our Lord commands.
 We proclaim that our Lord Jesus
 was sent by the Father into the world,
 that he took upon himself our flesh and blood,**

and bore the wrath of God against our sin.
 We confess that he was condemned
 to die that we might be pardoned,
 and suffered death that we might live.
 We proclaim that he is risen to make us right with God
 and that he shall come again in the glory of his new creation.
 This we do now and until he comes again.

*Heavenly Father, show forth among us
 the presence of your life-giving Word and Holy Spirit,
 to sanctify us and your whole church through this sacrament.
 Grant that all who share the body and blood of our Savior, Jesus Christ,
 may be one in him and may remain faithful in love and hope.
 And as this grain has been gathered from many fields into one loaf
 and these grapes from many hills into one cup,
 grant, O Lord, that your whole church may soon be gathered
 from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.*

**Through him, with him, in him,
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 all honor and glory are yours,
 Almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.**

Let us now affirm our faith through The Apostles Creed

The Apostles Creed (Affirmation of Faith)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.
 I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the Virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried;
 he descended to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.
 I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. AMEN.**

The Passing of the Peace

*Thanks be to God: Christ makes us one.
The peace of Christ be with you all.
And also with you*

Preparation of the Bread and Cup

We celebrate this feast in obedience to Christ's example and mandate.

(Bread Breaking)

*The Lord Jesus, on the night of his arrest, took bread,
and after giving thanks to God,
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,
"Take, eat. This is my body, given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."*

(Cup Lifting)

*In the same way he took the cup, saying,
"This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood,
shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it,
do this in remembrance of me."*

*Every time you eat this bread and drink this cup,
you proclaim the saving death of the risen Lord
until he comes.*

Invitation

*The gifts of God for the people of God.
Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you
and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.*

Taking of the Elements

*Take, eat, remember, and believe
that the body of our Lord Jesus Christ was given
for the complete forgiveness of all our sins*

*Take, drink, remember, and believe
that the precious blood of our Lord Jesus Christ was shed
for the complete forgiveness of all our sins.*

Response of Praise and Prayer

*Loving, glorious, gracious God,
you have fed us at your table.
In your mercy you have nourished us,
and we are grateful.
This day, in this time and place,
we connect through the centuries
with the church everlasting,
those who before us broke bread and took the cup.
Help us now, as we leave this place,
to continue the work of the holy catholic church,
to practice the communion of the saints,
and, with hearts and souls refreshed, to seek your will.
Help us, now that we have been fed,
to feed those who are hungry,
invite in the stranger,
and visit the imprisoned.
You have met us where we are, O Lord,
and filled our needs yet again.
May we do the same for all of your children;
may we leave this place to love abundantly.
May we love you with all our hearts.
May we love our neighbors as ourselves.
In Christ's name we pray. **Amen***

Invitation to Offering

With joy, we offer our gifts to God as a sign of our deep devotion and covenant faithfulness.

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 If you have an Offering Envelope #, please

include it 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 (e.g., Presbyterian Sharing) please mention this in your message

Offertory Prayer

We are not our own; we belong to you.
 You have created us and given us life anew,
 O God, our Creator, Savior, and Sustainer.
 We extend our arms and open our hands
 to present our offerings to you.
 We make these gestures to display outwardly
 our hearts' overflowing gratitude for all your gifts.
 Receive these gifts from us, O Triune God,
 and through them bring life and hope to many.
 In the name of Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen

Closing Hymn: "O Canada"

Pastoral Prayer

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
 we, your unworthy servants, give you humble thanks
 for all your goodness and loving-kindness
 to us and to all whom you have made.

We bless you for our creation, preservation,
 and all the blessings of this life,
 but above all for your immeasurable love
 in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ,
 for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies
 that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
 not only with our lips, but in our lives,
 by giving up ourselves to your service,
 and by walking before you
 in holiness and righteousness all our days,
 through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
 to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
 be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen

Benediction

May God go before you to lead you.

May God go behind you to guard you.

May God go beneath you to support you.

May God go beside you to befriend you.

Do not be afraid.

Let the blessing of God—the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit—
come upon you today and settle in around you.

Do not be afraid.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Amen