



CANON DAVIS MEMORIAL CHURCH

380 Russell St. North, Sarnia, Ontario, N7T 6S6

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July 26th, 2020 — Eighth Sunday after Pentecost —

Genesis 29:15-28; Psalm 105:1-11, 45C

or Psalm 128; Romans 8:26-39; Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Dear Friends,

Our children and grandchildren and their family members have been urging Sally and I to record various happenings in our lives to give a sense of what we experienced and how we responded to those experiences. Our lives were in many ways rather typical for our era.

If such an exercise tells us anything, it drives home how different things are today than several decades ago. Yet, if one in our age bracket looks around, things look generally not different than when we were growing up or perhaps, moving to get our first job. Home designs are modernized a bit; but still recognizable. Cars are still our favoured way of getting around. The sun still rises. Rain still falls. Some nations hold grudges against other nations, while other countries form alliances.

Human nature has not changed much. Some people tend to be problem makers; others tend to be problem solvers. Most simply want to live stable, peaceful lives.

But there are factors which are new and which demand new energies to be expended by our coping skills (e.g., COVID-19). We have witnessed the digital revolution with all of its amazing benefits; as well as troubling weaknesses. Like all tools, computers can be used for good or for evil. Who of us has not received a phone call or more designed to scam us of our funds? Who has not found themselves trapped in voicemail jail, sitting for hours listening to horrible music, waiting for someone to serve us because “your call is important to us”? How many of us have had someone hack our credit card accounts? Or how many have had to update their password at a most inconvenient time?

Happily, we do have the problem solvers still with us — people who try to make life safer, more healthy and more interesting. We are thankful for these folk. We are thankful for those of us who love one another. We are thankful for those who love even those who seem to be unlovable.

These are the people that have come to understand the value of what Jesus has to say about discovering what is really precious in life and making it a part of who they are.

But one may want to know how to find such treasures. They may be sought or accidentally discovered. What is key is having a discerning heart which recognizes the real treasure when found. For real treasure usually exists mixed in with what is common — often seemingly similar, but always uniquely special. The leaven; the treasure hidden in a field; the great pearl; the good fish among the bad — these metaphors from today's Gospel represent qualities that enrich a person's life. Each in their own way add to the quality of human experience.

Are we to look for special things to help transform our lives? We can. But what could be more important than finding, recognizing and understanding the wisdom of God as brought to us in the Word, Jesus Christ. God sees what the world is reluctant to see. God's wisdom is most special — a treasure like no other. Truly fulfilled is the one who upon recognizing the ways of God, internalizes these into her or his heart and lives accordingly. May our lives be such and our rewards profound. May God inspire our hearts. May we have life more abundant, life everlasting.

We pray for the repose of the soul of Irma Bannister.

God's blessing be upon you and all those you love.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ray" with a small cross-like mark above the end of the word.

Morning Prayer services officiated by Lay Reader, Ginny Schleihauf are offered monthly for the people of CDMC. Ginny does a wonderful job of officiating.

Here's the link: <https://youtu.be/QCpCTGJxkKc>

Our sincere thanks go to Ginny for officiating; The Rev'd Raymond Hodgson and Nicole Grieve for technical support; The Rev'd Greg Jenkins and the people of St. Alban's for the Wednesday evening and Sunday services. We would appreciate your feedback on the online worship services offered through Canon Davis Memorial Church.

You are invited to go each Sunday and/or Wednesday to:

tinyurl.com/StAlbans-CDMC

That is the link to St. Alban's Anglican Church in Burnaby B.C. Follow the instructions. You will find links to the Rev'd Greg Jenkins officiating at an Anglican church service with a children's focus, church music, readings, prayers and a sermon. If you are also interested in joining their weekly Bible Study, contact Rev. Greg at revgregjenkins@gmail.com He will be more than happy to be in touch about joining in with their group by ZOOM. I hope you will find these services help to deepen your faith.

NEW THIS WEEK. We are joining with many parishes in our deanery in providing telephone support to our members and friends. This support is designed to keep us up to date, while not requiring a computer. Lay Reader Ginny Schleichauf is providing a Morning Prayer Service this week. To hear Ginny's Morning Prayer with sermon call the phone number below and follow the instructions.

A free phone line for prayer,
reflections, worship and a
reminder you're not alone.

1-888-229-5422

With love, from the Anglican
Churches of Lambton-Kent



Allow for a slight pause after you press each requested number on your phone dial.