

SINCE 1842



Sunday, Sept 24, 2023

Worship & Communion Service 6:30pm

WELCOME

WORSHIP IN SONG

OPENING PRAYER

READINGS:

Genesis 18

¹ And the Lord appeared to [Abraham] by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the door of his tent in the heat of the day. ² He lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, three men were standing in front of him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them and bowed himself to the earth ³ and said, "O Lord, if I have found favour in your sight, do not pass by your servant. ⁴ Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree, ⁵ while I bring a morsel of bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said."

⁶ And Abraham went quickly into the tent to Sarah and said, "Quick! Three seahs of fine flour! Knead it, and make cakes." ⁷ And Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to a young man, who prepared it quickly. ⁸ Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them. And he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

⁹ They said to him, "Where is Sarah your wife?" And he said, "She is in the tent." ¹⁰ The Lord said, "I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent door behind him. ¹¹ Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in years. The way of women had ceased to be with Sarah. ¹² So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I am worn out, and my lord is old, shall I have pleasure?" ¹³ The Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?' ¹⁴ Is anything too hard for the Lord? At the appointed time I will return to you, about this time next year, and Sarah shall have a son." ¹⁵ But Sarah denied it, saying, "I did not laugh," for she was afraid. He said, "No, but you did laugh." ¹⁶ Then the men set out from there, and they looked down toward Sodom. And Abraham went with them to set them on their way. ¹⁷ The

Lord said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do, ¹⁸ seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? ¹⁹ For I have chosen him, that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing righteousness and justice, so that the Lord may bring to Abraham what he has promised him." ²⁰ Then the Lord said, "Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great and their sin is very grave, ²¹ I will go down to see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me. And if not, I will know."

²² So the men turned from there and went toward Sodom, but the Lord still stood before Abraham.²³ Then Abraham drew near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked?²⁴ Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city. Will you then sweep away the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous who are in it? ²⁵ Far be it from you to do such a thing, to put the righteous to death with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just²⁶ And the Lord said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will spare the whole place for their sake." ²⁷ Abraham answered and said, "Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. ²⁸ Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking. Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty -five there." ²⁹ Again he spoke to him and said, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." ³⁰ Then he said, "Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." ³¹ He said, "Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." ³² Then he said, "Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak again but this once. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it." ³³ And the Lord went his way, when he had finished speaking to Abraham, and Abraham returned to his place.

Matthew 25:31-46

³¹ [Jesus said:] "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. ³² Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³ And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. ³⁴ Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. ³⁵ For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a

stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶ I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' ³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? ³⁸ And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? ³⁹ And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' ⁴⁰ And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you did it to me.'

⁴¹ "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴² For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, ⁴³ I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' ⁴⁴ Then they also will answer, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?' ⁴⁵ Then he will answer them, saying, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' ⁴⁶ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

SERMON "Hospitality to God" Tim Haughton Sermon Series: "Belonging: Lessons in Kingdom Hospitality"

REFLECTION

CREED

Do you believe in God the Father? I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in God 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.

OFFERTORY

In our offertory, we offer our praise and thanksgiving and the gifts of bread and wine to the glory of God.

If you wish to financially support the ongoing gospel ministry of Little Trinity, you can scan the QR code attached to a pew for options or visit our website at littletrinity.org/give. If you wish to give in person, please deposit your offering in the offering boxes in the church sanctuary.

OFFERTORY WORSHIP

PRAYERS

WEEKLY CYCLE OF PRAYER

MINISTRIES OF THE WIDER CHURCH

WORLDWIDE: The Church in Ireland DIOCESE: St. Peter and St. Simon the Apostle, St. Peter, Cobourg & & St. Peter, Erindale CLERICUS: Church of the Redeemer

NEIGHBOURHOOD

Those living and working on King Street East & Abbey Lane

LITTLE TRINITY COMMUNITY AND LEADERS

Cluster Leaders - Centre -East: Caleb & Sarah Edwards, Rylan & Emily Kinnon; West: Murray Thomson & Esme Fuller-Thomson

PARISH

Lilia Reynoso; James Rhee; Lily & Brendan Ritchie, Olivia & Peter; Sandra Ricketts; Clifford and Maureen Roach; Natalie & Michael Hickey, Juliana

MISSION PARTNERS

Dr. Steve & Peggy Foster (SIM) Lubango, Angola

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, you made all things, and you call everyone to account. In sorrow, we confess the sins we have committed against you, in thought, word and deed. We turn from our sins and are truly sorry for them; they are a burden we cannot bear. Have mercy on us, most merciful Father. For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us all that is past. Enable us to serve and please you in newness of life, to your honour and glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God our heavenly Father; who has promised to forgive the sins of all who turn to him with repentance and faith, have mercy on us; pardon and deliver us from all our sins, strengthen us to do his will, and keep us in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

COMMUNION PRAYER

The Lord is here. Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, to give you, our Father, thanks and praise through Jesus.

For he is your living Word; through him you have created all things from the beginning, and formed us in your own image.

To you be glory and praise for ever.

Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin, giving him to die upon the cross; raised from the dead, exalted to your right hand.

To you be glory and praise for ever.

Through him you have sent upon us your holy and life-giving Spirit, and made us a people for your own possession.

To you be glory and praise for ever.

In the same night that he was betrayed, Jesus took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

To you be glory and praise for ever.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them saying: Drink this all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

To you be glory and praise for ever.

Accept our praises and grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood. As we eat and drink these holy gifts, inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

To you be glory and praise for ever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour Christ has taught, we are bold to pray.

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever.

Amen.

COMMUNION

All those who have placed their trust in Jesus as Saviour and Lord, being baptized in any Christian denomination, are welcome to the Lord's table. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request from the communion administrant.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands that have taken holy things; May the ears which have heard your word be deaf to clamour and dispute; May the tongues which have sung your praise be free from deceit; May the eyes which have seen the tokens of your love shine with the light of hope; And may the bodies which have been fed with your body be refreshed with the fullness of your life; Glory to you for ever. Amen.

BLESSING

The peace of God which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING WORSHIP

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Thanks be to God.



SERMON NOTES				
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The flowers in the church today are given in celebration of the marriage of Brian Johnson and Anne MacKay whose wedding occurred at Little Trinity yesterday.

NEXT SUNDAY, OCT 1, 2023

6:30pm Worship & Communion Service Readings: Isaiah 62:1-12; Matthew 23:37-39

GET IN TOUCH

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