

**WESTMINSTER CHURCH
THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA
Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario P6A 3B5**

**“Trusting God, nurturing disciples for Christ,
being empowered by the Holy Spirit”**

June 26th, 2022

Forth Sunday After Pentecost

...We Gather to Worship God...

Responsive Call to Worship

It is good to give thanks to the Lord;
Let us sing praises to God’s holy name!

We will declare God’s steadfast love in the morning,
And God’s faithfulness night after night.

Let us make a joyful noise to the Lord!
For God is good and we know God’s blessings.

Let us worship God with grateful hearts;
We will give God thanks in our prayers and praise.

Announcements: Birthdays this week:

- Sharon Selkirk - Thursday, June 30th
- Linda Buchan - Friday, July 1st
- Beth St. Onge - Friday, July 1st

Opening Hymn: “Spirit of the Living God” - #400

Prayers of Adoration and Confession

Faithful, fruitful God, you created our minds to grow in wisdom.
You created our hearts to expand with love.
You created our voices to sing your praises forever.
We bring you our worship with joyful praise, turning to Jesus for grace and guidance.

Fill us to overflowing with your Holy Spirit so that the fruit of the Spirit will abound in our lives. May we worship you in spirit and in truth, and serve you in the example of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Faithful, fruitful God, you call us to follow you, whatever the circumstance, yet we confess we prefer to remain where we are.

You offer us new beginnings, yet we continue to make the same choices, guided by our own desires.

We make excuses for avoiding your challenge to change.

Forgive us, O God.

Cleanse us with your mercy, and energize us to serve you even when the challenge seems great.

In Christ, we are made a new creation; the old life is gone and the new life has come!

Know that God loves you and forgives you. Do not be afraid to make a new start!

...We Listen to God's Word...

Word of God:

Old Testament: 1 Kings 19:15-21

New Testament: Luke 9:51-62

Special Music: By Peter Scoffield

Message: By Louisa MacGlashan (Executive Director of Pregnancy Centre)

...We Respond in Service...

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

God of mystery and mercy, God of our past and our future, we come before you today carrying all the hopes and dreams, and the burdens and blessings of our lives.

We bring all that is on our hearts and minds to you today, grateful for the goodness, seeking your comfort and strength, listening for your guidance.

God of purpose and promise, receive our prayers.

God of life and love, You engage us in the midst of our lives when we need you.

We pray today for all those who feel fearful about their future, and for all who wrestle with challenges at work or at home.

We remember before you those weighed down by illness or worry, and all who provide care for those in need of support.

(Keep silence for 15 seconds.)

Help each one of us face our fears and our challenges supported by your love.
God of purpose and promise, receive our prayers.

God of courage and comfort, whenever we wrestle with any burden, your Spirit prays within us with sighs too deep for words.

Today we pray for all those whose burdens seem too heavy to bear:

For the victims of violence or disaster, and for their friends and families... (pause)

For refugees at risk in so many places in the world,
remembering especially those who have fled Ukraine and Afghanistan... (pause)

We pray those caught in despair and poverty in our own community and in the forgotten corners of your world... (pause)

Renew the strength of all those challenged by realities beyond their control and equip our leaders to support those in the deepest need.

God of purpose and promise, receive our prayers.

God of the world and all its peoples, we pray for our country and our leaders as we prepare to mark Canada Day.

Equip Canada to be a force for justice and well-being in your world.

Give our leaders wisdom and integrity to make decisions that provide for a good future for all who call this nation home.

Open our eyes and our hearts to the opportunities we have to serve you in serving one another.

Make us alert to cries for justice in our midst and guide us in repairing relationships strained by differences between us.

God of purpose and promise, receive our prayers.

Receive all our prayers, spoken and unspoken, as together we pray the words Jesus taught us:

The Lord's Prayer

Closing Hymn: "Will You Come and Follow Me" - #634

Benediction

Louisa MacGlashan

Executive Director

The Pregnancy Centre

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Prayers – Wednesday June 22nd, 2022

Mark 11: 24 Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it and it will be yours.

Praise Reports

Melinda arrived home safely after a very long flight but a very wonderful vacation.

We had a wonderful couple of days seeing friends and enjoying their company.

Noella, whom we have been praying for, has been released from the hospital.

Grayson celebrated his first communion this past week. He is doing so well.

Sharon and Ken are both recuperating quickly from Covid which is great.

Birthdays: There were two birthdays this week. Deacon's Birthday was on Monday and Denzil Rathbone's birthday was on Tuesday. May they have been blessed on their special day.

Prayers:

Lord we are mindful of the ongoing tragedy and horror of the war in the Ukraine that just seems to continue on each day. Lord we pray for the people who have left the Ukraine and watch from a distance and wait to hear news of loved ones. We pray for those who have stayed and hear shelling every day. Lord be with them and protect those who simply want to live in peace and safety. Give these people hope and comfort, we pray. And please Lord, bring this war to an end.

We continue to pray for Josie who is still in the hospital from a series of issues. We are thankful that she is improving. Be with her, Lord, and may she heal and recuperate quickly. Be with her family who have been giving her support all through this time. Strengthen them, Lord, and give them and Josie's care team wisdom in what are the 'next steps'.

We lift up a person who is struggling with depression and feelings of negative self worth. We pray that he is able to hear the words of encouragement, of hope and of worthiness that come from others and from You. We also pray for others that we know who are struggling with mental health issues. We bring these names to you and pray that they would seek out help.

Lord, we pray for those who are dealing with cancer.

We pray for Melinda's Uncle Ronny who is in Arch. We thank you that he is still with his family and Melinda was able to contact him after her vacation, share pictures with him and have a visit with him. We pray that each of these last days are special for Ron and for the family.

We pray for Charlotte who as diagnosed with multiple cancers last year and is now on a maintenance program. We pray for the family who are finding the trip to London each month to be somewhat difficult. Give them strength and courage. We pray for Your on going watchcare and encouragement for Charlotte and her family.

We pray for Grayson who will be finishing his cancer treatment this fall. We pray that he is able to keep on track with treatment this summer so that he is able to meet this goal in the fall.

We pray for Sharon's friend, Patsy, who is recovering from cancer surgery. Lord, we pray for excellent recuperation and ask for your complete healing for Patsy.

We continue to pray for Sharon's friend's husband who has cancer. His chemo begins tomorrow and there is reasonable belief that this treatment should be successful in giving him a number of more years to live. We pray that the treatment will be a positive experience for this man and that their fear and anxiety will be relieved as this treatment begins.

We continue to pray for Peter's sister-in-law who is still battling cancer. Be with her and be with Peter and his family as they try to support her.

Lord, we pray for those who are facing a variety of medical issues.

We pray for Beth's friend's son who was in a very bad accident. Lord, we thank you that he is alive and able to sit up in a wheelchair already. We pray for your continued healing of his multiple injuries and that he will be able to go fishing at some point this summer.

We pray for Carol Jean as she continues to recover from her broken arm. Bless her and give her a speedy recovery.

We pray for Jody Arthurs who broke her leg in a bike accident. Be with her as she waits for the break to heal and recovers from this injury.

We pray for Michael Ferlaino who broke his wrist. He has many things that he wants to do, Lord so we pray that you would grant him a speedy recovery as well. Also grant him patience so that the wrist will have time to heal.

We pray for Charity that you will heal the wound that she has from her back surgery. Lord, please put your healing hand on her and may she know that you are with her during this time of healing and restoration.

We pray for Mary Anne whose husband finally had his heart surgery in Sudbury. May he recuperate fully from this surgery and may they be blessed with a good summer.

We pray for Les Dool and that he would get relief from the shingles that he had in his neck. Do not let him get discouraged, Lord. Assure him that healing will come.

We pray for Jackie and his ongoing health issues. He is doing a little better and really appreciates these prayers for him.

Other prayers:

We pray for Carol and her son, Adam, that their relationship would improve so that they could enjoy each others company again.

We pray for Melinda as she remembers the last hours that she spent with her brother on this day. Be with her and care for her as she spends time remembering all that he was to her.

We pray for Emily's friend who is looking for an apartment. We thank you that she has a safe place to stay at this time but we pray for something more permanent for her.

We pray for Gene and Leona as they look for an apartment. Help them to find something that will meet their needs and also delight them. Be with them in their search.

We pray for Nicole and her 9 year old daughter Hope who face the funeral of Bryan who was their husband and father. Be with them, Lord, and all who are mourning the passing of Bryan. May they all know your comfort and peace even at this time.

We pray for my friend, Jonathan, who lost a close family member this week. His family is in mourning and miss her greatly. Lord, may they know your comfort at this time.

Lastly, Lord, we pray for the churches of St. Paul's and Victoria as they face changes again. May they put their trust in you and experience your presence with them at this time.

Amen