

South Buxton and Talbot Street Pastoral Charges

Father's Day Service – June 20th, 2021

Prelude: “Kum Ba Ya” – Christie Coatsworth

Upcoming June Services:

June 20th – Shank's Cemetery Service – Service is on YouTube – Check on website at talbotstreet.ca

June 23rd – SBPC Board Meeting at 7 pm – by Zoom and Telephone

June 24th – Talbot Street Board Meeting by Zoom and Telephone

June 25th – St. Luke's Fish Fry Take Out

June 27th – Canada Day Service with South Raleigh Firefighters

Welcome & Announcements:

Good morning! Welcome to Talbot Street today, as we celebrate Father's Day.

St. Andrew's wishes to thank all the folks who participated in their Strawberry Social with Broasted Chicken this past Friday. It was a very successful event.

St. Luke's Fish Fry Take Out is this Friday June 25th from 5 to 6 pm. Tickets are \$20 and available from Marjorie at 519-676-5641 or Susan 519-676-4042. Advance tickets only.

Thank you for your support of all our services, which are posted on our websites - Southbuxton.ca and Talbotstreet.ca .

Thank you to Christie Coatsworth for our music this morning. Thank you to Tracey Major for putting together the Power Point slides.

Lighting of the Christ Candle:

Call to Worship:

Eric: God of love, welcome us in.

People: God of peace, calm our hearts.

Eric: Your son Jesus, referred to you as Father.

People: We in the Church, have thought of you as our Father.

Eric: May we feel your love as we feel the love of our Fathers.

People: May we know you are here as close as a call away, as with our Fathers.

Eric: God of strength, lift us up, as our fathers picked us up as young children.

People: God of truth, focus our minds, as our fathers helped us to focus on being the best we can be.

Eric: God, you are here, we are thankful. Let us worship.

Opening Hymn: “He Didn’t Have to Be” Brad Paisley – Video

When a single mom goes out on a date with somebody new
And it always winds up being more like a job interview
My momma used to wonder if she'd ever meet someone
Who wouldn't find out about me and then turn around and run

I met the man I call my Dad when I was five years old
He took my Mom out to a movie and for once I got to go
A few months later I remember lying there in bed
I overheard him pop the question and I prayed that she'd say yes

*And then all of a sudden oh it seemed so strange to me
How we went from somethings missing to a family
Lookin' back all I can say about all the things he did for me
Is I hope I'm at least half the Dad that he didn't have to be*

I met the girl that's now my wife about three years ago
We had the perfect marriage but we wanted somethin' more
Now here I stand surrounded by our family and friends
Crowded 'round the nursery window as they bring the baby in

And now all of a sudden oh it seemed so strange to me
How we've gone from somethings missing to a family
Lookin' through the glass I think about the man that's standin' next to me
And I hope I'm at least half the Dad that he didn't have to be

*And lookin' back all I can say about all the things he did for me
Is I hope I'm at least half the Dad that he didn't have to be
Yeah, I hope I'm at least half the Dad that he didn't have to be
Because he didn't have to be, you know he didn't have to be*

Opening Prayer:

Almighty God, we come to you today with open hearts, open minds, and open spirits. We bring our worship, our praise, and adoration together today to you. Teach us your ways, your thoughts, and your love. May we be reminded today of those many lessons we learnt from our own Fathers; how they taught us to work and to think, and how they shared their love in the only way they knew. Thank you God, for our earthly Fathers. Amen.

Scripture: 1 Samuel 17: 1 - 49 “A Different Way” - by Mike Authier

Have your parents, caregivers, or teachers told you not to fight? Rather handle problems by talking and not hitting? Many parents, caregivers, and teachers have this conversation Today’s story provides us with a bit of a challenge. The Israelites and the Philistines are in a battle, a long and violent fight. The Philistines decide to send their biggest warrior to the front of the battle – he was over 3 metres/9 feet tall! The Israelites are afraid of Goliath and did not want to fight him.

Meanwhile, a young boy named David is sent to take food to the army. When he arrives, he overhears King Saul and the army talking about how no one wanted to fight Goliath. David, who is very brave, speaks up and says “I am not afraid!” But King Saul says he is too small. David does not like being told he is too small or too young. “I can do it, I promise! Plus, I know God will be with me,” he argues. Finally, King Saul agrees and gives his armour to David.

King Saul’s armour is way too big! David knows there is no way he could fight in clothes that don’t fit. David looks around and picks up five stones and a slingshot. Moving towards Goliath, he puts the stone in the slingshot and slings it at Goliath. The stone hits Goliath in the head, and Goliath falls to the ground and dies. The battle is won.

But do you see the problem with the story? David killed Goliath. Violence is not the best way to handle a problem, and we try hard not to use it now. When we only use force to solve problems, the problems do not go away. After this battle, the Israelites and David still have fights, and many more people died. Killing Goliath did not end the battles at all.

This is an amazing story about a young person overcoming a big threat. But the story is not about the battle. It tells how David did not come with a sword and a spear. David’s strength and courage to stand up to a threat came from God. David used his skills – skills he had learnt and practiced as a shepherd.

We never know what God is preparing us for!

Scripture Hymn: “A Father’s Love” George Strait – Video

I got sent home from school one day with a shiner on my eye
Fighting was against the rules and it didn’t matter why
When Dad got home I told that story just like I’d rehearsed
Then stood there on those trembling knees and waited for the worst

*And he said, “Let me tell you a secret, about a father’s love
A secret that my daddy said was just between us
He said daddies don’t just love their children every now and then
It’s a love without end, amen, it’s a love without end, amen”*

When I became a father in the spring of ‘81
There was no doubt that stubborn boy was just like my father’s son
And when I thought my patience had been tested to the end
I took my daddy’s secret and I passed it on to him

*And I said, “Let me tell you a secret, about a father’s love
A secret that my daddy said was just between us
I said daddies don’t just love their children every now and then
It’s a love without end, amen, it’s a love without end, amen”*

Last night I dreamed I’d died and stood outside those pearly gates
When suddenly I realized there must be some mistake
If they know half the stuff I done they’ll never let me in
Then somewhere from the other side I heard these words again

*And they said, “Let me tell you a secret, about a father’s love
A secret that my daddy said was just between us*

*You see daddies don't just love their children every now and then
It's a love without end, amen, it's a love without end, amen".*

Message: "Fathers as Leaders"

In the last few weeks we have focused on the biblical characteristics of a leader. Today we look at a text that many of us remember from our Sunday School lessons: the story of David and Goliath. Throughout history we have heard phrases such as, "Who is your Goliath?" or "It's like David slaying Goliath" when we are talking about the little guy taking over the giant.

David is willing to go and take on this giant when everyone else cowers in their tents. Either David is crazy, or his braveness comes from his faith that God will provide. David's entry on to the battle field amuses his enemy Goliath – so much he laughs out loud, throws insults at David, but does nothing to protect himself or take David seriously. It cost Goliath his life, and ultimately the battle – as the battle was based on whomever wins this one and only duel.

Last week we heard that Samuel listens to God and anointed David to replace Saul as king. David does not challenge King Saul. Instead, David continues to serve both Saul and his family. David becomes best friends with Saul's son Jonathan, and they spend many afternoons together, practicing their skills and sharing stories and life ideals with each other.

The battle between Israel and the Philistines, has been ongoing for years. Each nation battles to retain control and power in the land. David slaying Goliath, allows David to be elevated as the budding leader for the people of Israel. David, as an emerging leader, shows his confidence in God that the others lacked. David did not use the established power structures of war to fight the battle. No David relied on his strength and faith in God.

There is a lot of violence in today's story. As men we seem to be drawn to this story as David kills the Philistine giant, and then cuts off his head and carries it around. Many of the characteristics of our father's are based on the strength and fighting abilities of those men we look up to; the football, soccer, or hockey players who show signs of victory when they score a goal or touchdown. Every father wants the best for his son and encourages them to use their strength to win – whether it be scoring goals or in life itself. Many of the jobs that men do are dependant on their strength and power. So it seems only natural to promote these

qualities to your sons. Yet in today's world, we see women taking on what was traditionally men roles, and they are doing a good job.

Who have you seen as an authentic leader? Someone who leads like they were made for the job? What is it that gives them their abilities to lead? Is it their faith?

In last week's and this week's scriptures, God chooses the unexpected person to lead. We hear that David relies on his strengths, gifts, and his trust in God, for his success. What brought David to this level of trust in God, especially at such a young age? How might we trust like David? How does our faith in God help us when we face challenges?

Today we are encouraged to remember that God remains close by God's people. We are each created uniquely in God's image. As leaders, we are called to stay true to who God created us to be and to lead authentically. God is not for or against one group or people. God is for justice and peace - for all the world.

As Pastors and church leaders, we are leading in politically and socially uncertain times. Leading God's people is controversial and complicated. As parents especially fathers, leading your children to be confident and strong is a great parental asset. Helping them to be helpful and kind is another great parental asset. It is not easy. Usually our children figure it out for themselves. We need to encourage them to be authentic leaders. Thanks be to God.

We are not alone. God is always with us. Thanks be to God.

Reflection Hymn: VU 574 "Come Let Us Sing of a Wonderful Love"

- 1 Come, let us sing of a wonderful love,
tender and true, tender and true,
out of the heart of the Father above,
streaming to me and to you:
wonderful love, wonderful love
dwells in the heart of the Father above.
- 2 Jesus the Saviour this gospel to tell
joyfully came, joyfully came,
came with the helpless and hopeless to dwell,
sharing their sorrow and shame,
seeking the lost, seeking the lost,
saving, redeeming at measureless cost.
- 3 Jesus is seeking the wanderers yet;
why do they roam? why do they roam?

Love only waits to forgive and forget;
home, weary wanderers, home!
Wonderful love, wonderful love
dwells in the heart of the Father above.

- 4 Come to my heart, O thou wonderful love!
Come and abide, come and abide,
lifting my life till it rises above
envy and falsehood and pride:
seeking to be, seeking to be
lowly and humble, a learner of thee.

The Prayer of Great Thanksgiving:

Eric: Today as we celebrate Communion, we celebrate Father's Day.

People: In Communion we are gathered together in the presence of God, by the Holy Spirit, and by the gifts offered by the Son of God.

Eric: In Communion we are gathered with those around us, those sharing communion from our faith community, and those around the world. The Holy Spirit allows us to share with those saints gone before us – many we have met today, in pictures and stories.

People. It is great to gather together with our fathers on his special day.

Eric: Gathered in this place of rainbows, reflected in the light of heaven is the bread and wine of promise; the body and blood of covenant; the symbol and action of love.

People: Our Father in Heaven, we are here to be strengthened and shared for this world; itself broken in warring, in prejudice, in hatred, in loneliness, in arrogance, in power. Yet this world is continuously healed by the love of Christ and our Father's love.

Invitation to Share Our Gifts:

Eric: When we give to the work of God, we join with God in making our world a better place. Let us give in love!

Offertory: VU 541 "Praise God From Whom..."

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Offertory Prayer:

People: God, we bring forward our best; use it to help our church, community, and world. As our Fathers taught us to give, and to be part of our community, we join our gifts for your glory. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer:

Eric: God of new life – as our Fathers gave us life, you as our Holy Father, are most holy and wonderful, and gracious in all your ways.

People: We thank you for these qualities shared by our Fathers. Like you, may they keep us close. We are so thankful, God.

Eric: Forgive us when we forget to follow the ways of our Father's great life lessons, like that we need to keep you near, that we don't run ahead and forget that you are leading and teaching us – much like our Fathers have.

People: Forgive us when we become oppressors instead of joining you in liberation.

Eric: Forgive us when we turn towards violence and away from peace.

People: Many of our Fathers struggle with being a father for many reasons; it may be how they have been raised, or how they have bought into worldly ideas. For whatever reason, draw us closer to each of our Fathers, and may we be filled with your peace and kindness.

Eric: We seek to be known as people of love and justice, and advocates for those who are oppressed. We remember those times that our Fathers stood up for what was right, even if that didn't make them popular. We remember their integrity.

People: Thank you, God, for Fathers. Thank you especially for this day to share with our dads. Thank you for who you are and how you love us.

Eric: We lift up our Fathers, and our prayers to you as we pray the prayer Jesus taught us.

*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, forever and ever. Amen.*

Remembering Jesus at the Table:

Eric: We speak to these special spaces as we remember that night when Jesus took bread and broke it (*hold up the bread*), took wine and shared it (*Hold up the cup*), took promise and opened it; and we speak to these special spaces as we journey with all the angels singing:

**Holy, holy, holy
God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God.
Hosanna in the highest!**

Eric: We speak to these special spaces as we break and share the food of heaven.

As we partake the bread together:

Eric: The body of Christ,
People: the bread of life.

As we partake the drink together:

Eric: The lifeblood of Christ,
People: the cup of blessing.

Prayer After Communion:

Thank you, O Christ, for this feast of life. We are fed by your love; we are strengthened by your life. We are sent forth into this world to live your way and share your joy. The love of our Fathers feed us and strengthen us to go forth out into the world to live and share the love we have received. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Blessing:

Eric: May we all go from this place seeking to be in God’s presence more every day - in the Name of the Father, The Son and The Holy Spirit, now and forever more.

Postlude: “Great is Thy Faithfulness” – Christie Coatsworth

Prayers: - Please include these people in your prayers this week.

We have offered prayer for these people each Sunday morning just before the Zoom Service. It was suggested to share these names with the total group – as “In the Spirit We Are One”.

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| Cancer: | Karen | Betty | Paul |
| | Jasmine | Scott | London Muslim |
| | Tom | Special: Susan | Community |
| | George | Zoe | Dorothy |
| | Cindy & Connie | Becky | |
| | Lynn | Earl | |
| | Jan | Barry/ Marsha | |
| | Allan | Glen | |
| | Len | Billy | |
| | Brenda | Leone | |
| | Adam | Francine | |
| | Ingrid | Melissa | |