

South Buxton and Talbot Street Pastoral Charges

Canada Day Service – June 27th, 2021

Prelude: “Maple Leaf Forever” – Christie Coatsworth

O Canada: VU 524

O Canada! Our home and native land,
True patriot love, in all thy sons command.
With glowing heart, we see thee rise,
The True North strong and free! From far and wide,
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.
God keep our land, glorious and free!
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.

Welcome from South Raleigh Fire Station 16: Station 16 Fire Chief Scott Russell

Moment of Silence:

We will observe a moment of silence to remember those who have served in the past and are now serving in the presence of God. Three rings of the bell will mark the end of our moment (traditional call to "return to the station"). Today, the bell is rang by Firefighter Steve Walker. Today please remember those firefighters who have died since we last gathered. Eric will close with prayer.

Remembrance Prayer:

Eric: Loving God, we thank you for the service of our firefighters. Although someone from the South Raleigh Fire Hall may not have passed away this year - many of these firefighters know of, and remember those fellow firefighters from across Chatham-Kent who have passed on. Thank you for their service. We honour them today in your presence. In Jesus' Name, we do pray. Amen.

Welcome & Announcements:

Good morning! Welcome to our Canada Day Service at the South Raleigh Fire Hall – Station 16. Thank you to Station Chief Scott Russell and the team for their participation in today's service.

Thank you for supporting St. Luke's Fish Fry Take Out last Friday.

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.

Call to Worship:

Eric: On this Canada Day, we come with all our hopes and longings.

People: As we gather with our Community Leaders at our community Fire Hall, we gather to worship God.

Eric: We come to find rest for our souls, by worshipping God.

People: We come with all our disappointments and dreams, yet we come to worship God.

Eric: We come to gain strength for our lives.

People: We gather here to worship God.

Eric: Come, let us worship.

Update on COVID Protocols: - Video - Captain Paul Walker

Opening Prayer:

God of all our longings, you are the fire that kindles our hearts with hope and possibility. You give us the gifts to lead and protect our community. You fill us with desire for life. You hear our voices whether we are shouting for joy or crying with sorrow. We trust in you and give thanks for your presence in all the stages of our lives. May your Holy Spirit guide us to make wise decisions as firefighters, when we are under pressure in the midst of an emergency. Keep us safe in all we do. We ask in Jesus' Name. Amen.

Accountability Board: - Video – Captain Ken Wood

Song: “First Responders” by K8 Music - Video

Scripture: 1 Samuel 22: 1 & 2 “People Join David”

When David left from the town of Gath, he went to Adullam Cave. His brothers and the rest of his family found out where he was, and they followed him there. A lot of other people joined him too. Some were in trouble, others were angry or in debt, and David was soon the leader of four hundred men.

Message: “Community Leaders”

What encouraged you into leadership? In today's story, David has gone to the Philistine countryside to escape from King Saul. But he does not go alone. David's family finds him in Gath. Also many other people join David. These men may have been people who have been in trouble and/or folks who no longer fit in their community. David brings together these ordinary men with ordinary life circumstances and works and trains them to be a strong team of protectors.

For our volunteer Firefighters, training is a bit and likely the most important part of their leadership. Train, train, train until you can do it in your sleep. When you are at a fire or medical emergency that is not the time to consult your training manual. No, you have been trained for hours to respond in the way that the rest of your team

can rely upon and in your work they know exactly what you are responsible for. There is no doubt what each person is to do. You have trained together to get it right. Then you train some more so you know exactly how to do it right. Not only yourself but also each one of the team.

As a volunteer firefighter you need an attitude of working together as a team. There is no place in the Station Fire Department for super heros. Everyone working together becomes the Super Power. If you cannot work as part of a well oil and professional team – you are released from your volunteer firefighter responsibilities. People’s lives are at stake. People’s homes are at stake. If you job is to connect the hose to the hydrant and you don’t do it – they rest of the team cannot do their job and the building burns down. We had all the equipment needed, except the necessary people, who will work as a team.

Every volunteer firefighter is trained in every procedure as fulltime firefighters. A fire is a fire whether in the city or on a farm. In fact many rural fires are much more complicated as animals and other unexpected issues are involved. Every trained volunteer firefighter is a professional firefighter. The equipment they use is top of the line. Here in Chatham Kent, all fire trucks are built to specific requirements needed for the area they cover. Having a ladder truck here in South Raleigh is not a good use of resources. But not having a tank truck to carry water would be disastrous.

Also in Chatham Kent as I am sure with other communities, one station will respond to help another station if needed. If at a remote fire you need an extra tank truck to carry water a distance, the next closest available tanker is dispatched to the fire with the needed truck and firefighters to operate their truck. They immediately become a part of the South Raleigh Team. The importance of consistent training across departments will be lifesavers when needed.

There is a saying from Smith Wigglesworth that offers: “God does not call those who are equipped, God equips those who are called”. Do you consider your Firefighter service as a call from God? God can call anyone of us to service – whether we know it or not. People are called to be doctors, nurses, teachers, farmers and the list goes on. They may feel they are called by their passion for their profession. If we have the passion to serve in one way or another, then we can be professionally trained to do the work under any circumstances.

David as their leader trains these 400 men to be professional soldiers. They came from all walks of life, with all kinds of emotionally baggage. Yet with training,

support and great leadership – their team is the best around. Today we honour and support the best team of firefighters in South Raleigh. We give thanks to God for their dedication, their training and their leadership. God is on our team! We are not alone. God is always with us. Thanks be to God.

Training: - Video – Station Deputy Chief Chris Pepper

Reflection Hymn: VU 675 “Will Your Anchor Hold”

- 1 Will your anchor hold in the storms of life?
When the clouds unfold their wings of strife,
when the strong tides lift and the cables strain,
will your anchor drift or firm remain?
*We have an anchor that keeps the soul
steadfast and sure while the billows roll,
fastened to the rock which cannot move,
grounded firm and deep in the Saviour's love!*
- 2 It will surely hold in the straits of fear,
when the breakers tell that the reef is near;
though the tempest rave and the wild winds blow,
not an angry wave shall our bark o'erflow.
*We have an anchor that keeps the soul
steadfast and sure while the billows roll,
fastened to the rock which cannot move,
grounded firm and deep in the Saviour's love!*
- 3 It will surely hold in the floods of death,
when the waters cold chill our latest breath;
on the rising tide it can never fail
while our hopes abide within the veil.
*We have an anchor that keeps the soul
steadfast and sure while the billows roll,
fastened to the rock which cannot move,
grounded firm and deep in the Saviour's love!*
- 4 When our eyes behold, through the gathering night,
the city of gold, our harbour bright,
we shall anchor fast by the heavenly shore,
with the storms all past for evermore.
*We have an anchor that keeps the soul
steadfast and sure while the billows roll,
fastened to the rock which cannot move,
grounded firm and deep in the Saviour's love!*

Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms: - Video – Station Chief Scott Russell

Invitation to Share Our Gifts:

Eric: David led a group of ordinary men, and made them extraordinary as they served and protected the Community of Israel. With our gifts of time, talent and money, God uses our ordinary gifts to do extraordinary work in our community and in the world. 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: For the gift of those in leadership in our community, may we offer our support and care. For those gifts of talents you have provided to each of us, may we be thankful. Help us commit to exercising our gifts to do your work. Take our ordinary offering and make it extraordinary for our community and for those in need. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.

Firefighter's Prayer: *Station 16 – Kelly Russell-Guy*

When I am called to duty God,
Wherever flames may rage,
Give me the strength to save some life
Whatever be its age.

Help me embrace a little child,
Before it is too late,
Or save an older person from
The horror of that fate.

Enable me to be alert,
To hear the weakest shout,
Then quickly and efficiently
To put the fire out.

I want to fill my calling Lord,
To give the best in me;
Halting all the fear and pain;
Protecting Life and property.

And when that moment comes, dear Lord,
When end of life draws near,
I trust to your eternal love
All those whom I hold dear.

Peer Support by Becky Pepper:

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer:

Eric: Loving God, we give you thanks for this day as we celebrate Canada Day gathered as the wider community.

People: **We give you thanks for every goodness in our lives, for your presence within and around us, for the freedoms we share, and for the opportunities that lie before us.**

Eric: We offer to you the prayers for our Community firefighters and leaders.

People: **Keep them safe - as they keep us safe. O God, hear our prayer.**

Eric: We pray for an end to violence in our communities, and between the nations of our beloved Earth.

People: **We pray for an end to racism in Canada, where people kill one another because of skin colour or because of their religion. We offer prayers for the Muslim Community in London. O God, hear our prayer.**

Eric: We pray for those suffering in mind, body, or spirit; for those who mourn, and those who are facing death. O God, hear our prayer.

People: **We thank you and pray for our Community First Responders who have struggled to stay safe during COVID, while still serving in the community. O God, hear our prayer.**

Eric: We offer to you all the prayers of our hearts, as we pray Jesus' 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 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.*






Blessing:

Eric: Let us go from this space into this great country of Canada. May we go and serve this community with blessings to our professional firefighters and First Responders. May the blessing of God surround each one, now and forever more.

Go Now in Peace:

**Go now in peace, never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know He will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe.
Reach out to others, so all the world can see.
God will be there, watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.
Amen, Amen, Amen.**

Thank You:

-  On behalf of the South Raleigh Community, thank you to the firefighters; for your dedication and your protection of the South Raleigh Community!
-  To Station 16 Chief, Scott Russell for his help and organizing to bring this service to reality.
-  To the Firefighter's spouses and families: for all the work they do behind the scenes, including the yearly BBQ.
-  To those who had the vision of a “neighbourhood” Fire Hall and made their vision a reality. Many of those served in the first Fire Hall on the Gardiner's farm (across the road). Many serve today in the presence of God. Every year, we gather here at Station 16 on the Canada Day Sunday to honour our firefighters. Those who are gone are honoured with the “Ringing of the Bell”.
-  To everyone who helped in our service today.

Postlude: “Canada, A Centennial Song” by Bobby Gimby – Played by 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”.

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