

South Buxton and Talbot Street Pastoral Charges

Pentecost Sunday – June 7th, 2020

Service Starter: Statler Brothers “Remember When”

Ring of the Bell:

Prelude: “The Homecoming”– Christie Coatsworth

Greetings: Sharon Campbell Rayment

Welcome & Announcements:

Welcome to St. Andrew’s 162nd Anniversary Service. Today we have greetings offered to us from past ministers and folks who have been a part of St. Andrew’s.

Continue to keep in touch with others and to share our websites; at southbuxton.ca, and talbotstreet.ca

We are blessed once again to have Christie Coatsworth offer the music for today’s service. Thank you Christie. Thank YOU to Joy and Pat for sharing our scripture story this morning. Thank you to everyone who has offered reflections.

Eric and Phyllis Barr who served the South Buxton Pastoral Charge, from 1978-1982 as their first ministry after Ordination have sent video greetings.

We trust you were able to donate to our local Food Banks yesterday as we collected for the first Sunday of the month. Anne Tasker has sent written greeting on behalf of her late husband Henry Annen who served from 1990 – 1993, as Henry’s first ministry after ordination.

Lighting of the Christ Candle:

If you wish – grab a candle to use while we share our services. The flame of the Candle reminds us of the light of Christ that collects us as the faith community, “We are One in the Spirit”. Thanks be to God.

Hymn: VU 315 “Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty” – Christie Coatsworth

- 1 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Call To Worship :

Eric: Greetings to our brothers and sisters in the faith.

People: We come to celebrate God's presence, and God's love expressed through Jesus Christ.

Eric: We come remembering Christ's life and ministry, and the life we are called to live.

People: We come remembering the faithful throughout the years.

Hymn: VU 315 "Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty" – Christie Coatsworth

2 Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Eric: We come as a pilgrim people searching for ways to live out our faith.

People: We come, living out our faith with programs that have raised Godly children.

Eric: We come remembering those Godly leaders that made us who we are today.

People: We come seeking the strength to carry on our journey.

Eric: Let us rejoice in God's gift to us!

Hymn: VU 315 "Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty" – Christie Coatsworth

3 Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye made blind by sin thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
perfect in power, in love, and purity.

We also received video greetings from Carolyn and David Duffus, who served from 1994 – 1996, as Carolyn's first ministry after Ordination.

Opening Prayer:

Gracious God, we pray for your blessing on St. Andrew's United Church and its sister churches, as we are the church in this place.

Here may the faithful find salvation, and the careless be awakened.

Here may the doubting find courage, and the anxious be calmed.

Here may the tempted find help, and the sorrowful be comforted.

Here may the weary find rest, and the strong be renewed.

Here may the aged find consolation, and the young be inspired, in Jesus, the Christ.

Amen.

Hymn: VU 315 "Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty" – Christie Coatsworth

4 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea;
holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

A video greeting from Gail Baldwin, who served as the Organist at St. Andrew's, from 1998 to 2001.

Scripture: Deuteronomy 26: 1 - 11

Moses said to Israel:

The Lord is giving you the land, and soon you will conquer it, settle down, and plant crops. And when you begin harvesting each of your crops, the very first things you pick must be put in a basket. Take them to the place where the Lord your God chooses to be worshiped, and tell the priest, “Long ago the Lord our God promised our ancestors that he would give us this land. And today, I thank him for keeping his promise and giving me a share of the land.”

The priest will take the basket and set it in front of the Lord’s altar. Then, standing there in front of the place of worship, you must pray:

My ancestor was homeless, an Aramean who went to live in Egypt.

There were only a few in his family then, but they became great and powerful, a nation of many people.

The Egyptians were cruel and had no pity on us. They mistreated our people and forced us into slavery. We called out for help to you, the Lord God of our ancestors. You heard our cries; you knew we were in trouble and abused.

Then you terrified the Egyptians with your mighty miracles and rescued us from Egypt. You brought us here and gave us this land rich with milk and honey. Now, Lord, I bring to you the best of the crops that you have given me. After you say these things, place the basket in front of the Lord’s altar and bow down to worship him. Then you and your family must celebrate by eating a meal at the place of worship to thank the Lord your God for giving you such a good harvest. And remember to invite the Levites and the foreigners who live in your town.

Song: The Hymnary # 588 “God Sees the Little Sparrow Fall” (First verse)

God sees the little sparrow fall, it meets his tender view;
if God so loves the little birds, I know he loves me too.

Refrain: He loves me too, he loves me too, I know loves me too;
because he loves the little things, I know loves me too.

Reflection: “Remembering”

Today’s scripture shares the story of the Israelites journey up until the time of recording this story in Deuteronomy, which is the book that shares the law all in

one place. This is why you worship; God has given you this land, this space, this church. As you benefit from these gifts from God, share it with God and others. Why do we share our gifts? Because of who we are. Half way through today's reading in Deuteronomy, we hear the journey of the Hebrew People to this place in time. Life has not always been good to the Israelites. And ends with, "You Lord, brought us and gave us this land rich with milk and honey. St. Andrew's United Church – South Buxton is rich with milk and honey of our day and past generations.

Honey most often symbolizes abundance and prosperity. Honey is a luxury and a delicacy, and the sweetness of honey is a metaphor for delight. Milk is a powerful symbol within most cultural traditions. It is the fluid of eternal life, fertility, abundance; it is the food of the gods - the first human diet. Milk is deeply connected with life itself.

Recorded message from Cleata Morris – North Buxton Community Church, and the North Buxton Community.

As Cleata has reminded us this morning, St. Andrew's was built 162 years ago, as a church for escaped and now freed from slavery, coloured families, along with a few white earlier settlers to the Buxton area. Life had not been good for those earlier settlers, coloured or white. Reverend King's vision of a vibrant community, and the purchase of industrial equipment, such as the sawmill, potash factory, the wooden rail railroad to Lake Erie, and the list goes on, including this beautiful new church – gave enormous worth to life in Buxton. Buxton became the land rich with milk and honey for it's settlers in the mid 1850's. As emancipation became a reality in the United States, many coloured folks returned home to their families in the Southern States, which created settled farm land for European settlers. In the late 1800's, most of the Buxton area farms where purchased by European Immigrant Settlers, who gave new life to the Buxton Community and to St. Andrew's United Church. Again it was not always an easy journey for either the coloured families returning home to their families in the South, or for recent settlers who have left their families at home in Europe and forged a new life in Canada, specifically in Buxton.

Several of our Buxton families had sons and daughters involved in both World Wars, some paying the supreme sacrifice. Other families suffered early deaths of the spouse, maybe from childbirth, or from a farming or animal accidents. St. Andrew's United Church in South Buxton gathered around and supported those

hurting families and grieved with them. They showed, “We are not alone”. The Buxton community continued to grow and become richer with milk and honey. St. Andrew’s ministry created a foundation for many of modern day parishioners, and now its time to hear their stories.

Joy & Pat
Glenn Stephens
Helen Stephens
Alice Dale
Kristine Gagan

Gail Pratt and I talked the other day about the 100th Anniversary at St. Andrew’s in 1958. I wasn’t there – I was not quite two years old. Gail was newly married to Keith Pratt. Gail reminded me that Evelyn and Blake’s son Jim Broadbent was born on the 100th Anniversary of St. Andrew’s. There was a big cake made, designed and decorated by Shirley Roe – Buxton’s cake maker. Laura Connor was in charge of the kitchen and the 100th Anniversary lunch – there was lots of lunch. Best I can make out the Pastoral Charge had hired a student minister for the summer, Keith Snell. Keith was around for the 150th Anniversary in 2008, but has passed on since. St. Andrew’s purchased new pews for the 100th Anniversary – the same pews in the sanctuary today. A special project for the 150th Anniversary was the creation of our tie quilt – which hangs up on the east church wall. Men were invited to donate a tie – there are a few interesting ties and we know whose tie that one was.

Song: The Hymnary 587 “Birds are Singing” (First verse)

Birds are singing, woods are ringing, With thy praises, blessed King;
Lake and mountain, field and fountain, to thy throne their tributes bring.
Refrain: We, thy children, join the chorus, Merrily, cheerily, gladly praise thee;
Glad hosannas, glad hosannas, Joyfully we lift to thee.

I’d like to share a few more slides of people and events that caught my attention while checking out past pictures. Some are from the 100th Anniversary, some from the 125th, and many from the 150th Anniversary of St. Andrew’s. The last picture is of the calendar in our kitchen, that we shared the image for the month of March that seemed really fitting to us as we started to isolate. June’s image shares what many of us are thinking, “How does my HARE look?”.

Today we have shared many stories and many memories. We like the Israelites in Deuteronomy have shared part of where we have come from and who we are. We have shared how our church has influenced our lives and help to make us who we are today. We never do it alone. God is always with us, through the love of Jesus Christ and through the power of the Holy Spirit. Thanks be to God. Happy 162nd Anniversary to St. Andrew's United Church!

Offering:

Eric: We have shared many stories of our faith and our faith community. Why do we share our gifts – because that is who we are.

Offering Music: VU 541 “Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow”

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.

Offering Prayer:

God of all peoples and God of all places, and spaces, we present these offerings, that they may be used to extend your ministry in our world today. With our offerings, we offer our varied ministries, that each of us may be part of your answer to the cries of the world. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Hymn: VU 333 “Listen To Your Children Praying” – Christie Coatsworth

Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us power, send us grace!

Pastoral Prayer:

Eric: Ever-gracious God, you call people from near and far into the fellowship of our church, building upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, upon Jesus Christ, our companion and Lord, and upon all the saints who have gone before us.

People: **We give you thanks for 162 years of church life, and especially for the ministries of St. Andrew's United Church – South Buxton, including Sunday School, Choirs, and shared Pastoral Charge ministries such as CGIT, Tyros, Mission Band . . .**

Eric: We give you thanks for all in our midst today, by print, by listening and by viewing our service.

People: **Continue to watch over our congregation, we pray; disturb our complacency; fill it again and again with your Spirit; deepen our faith and our relationship with you, so that we might continue to be faithful co-workers with you - “that all the world might see” and praise you.**

Eric: In the name of Jesus Christ who is our Head and our Cornerstone, we pray Jesus' special prayer in song with the Friends of Buxton Male Choir:

*“Our Father, which 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 debts,
As we forgive our debtors,
And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever, Amen.”*

Song: The Hymnary 376 “Blest Be the Ties That Bind” (First and Fifth Verses)

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

Our glorious hope revives our courage by the way;
while each in expectation lives and longs to see the day.

Benediction:

Eric: Go forth, for the love of God is yours to share, the peace of Christ is yours to extend, the power of the Holy Spirit is yours to offer, now and forever more.

Postlude: “Will the Circle be Unbroken” – Christie Coatsworth