

South Buxton and Talbot Street Pastoral Charges

Ninth after Pentecost – September 4th, 2022

Prelude: “Woke Up This Morning” – Friends of Buxton Male Choir (pictures)

Woke up this mornin' with my mind, stayed on Jesus.
Woke up this mornin' with my mind, stayed on Jesus.
Woke up this mornin' with my mind, stayed on Jesus.
Hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah.

No condemnation with my mind, stayed on Jesus.
No condemnation with my mind, stayed on Jesus.
No condemnation with my mind, stayed on Jesus.
Hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah.

Walkin' and talkin' with my mind, stayed on Jesus.
Walkin' and talkin' with my mind, stayed on Jesus.
Walkin' and talkin' with my mind, stayed on Jesus.
Hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah.

Welcome & Announcements:

Good morning! Welcome to our Annual “Service in the Park” at the North Buxton Park, on this Labour Day weekend. On the festive weekend in North Buxton be sure to join in the fun.

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

Thank you to Friends of Buxton Male Choir, Cleata Morris and Debi Guy for our music this morning. Thank you to Tracey Major for putting together the Power Point slides. Thank you to Annette for helping with this recorded service.

Lighting of the Christ Candle:

Video Greetings: from Cleata Morris – Friends of Buxton Male Choir

Call to Worship:

Eric: We come here this morning, from the world which tells us that we do not have enough – we do not buy enough – we are not enough.

People: Yet it is here that we re-learn God’s wisdom – that we have enough if we share; that security cannot be found in the marketplace; that we are always enough.

Eric: We have enough as we gather at the North Buxton Park to share with each other in worship.

People: We have enough in this place blessed with good land that offers goods in abundance.

Eric: Here we are centered with the love of God. Ground us with your love, O God. Grow us toward your sense of abundance: abundant listening, active love and fullness of life.

People: On this day, we remember the annual picnic and service, with songs by the Friends of Buxton Male Choir. We remember the great food and the sharing in community. God is so generous.

Eric: Today, we gather to worship God, who is generous. Let us worship together.

Opening Song: “Ev’ry Time I Feel the Spirit” – Friends of Buxton Male Choir

Refrain:

Ev’ry time I feel the Spirit, moving in my heart, I will pray.

Ev’ry time I feel the Spirit, moving in my heart, I will pray.

Upon the mountain when my Lord spoke, out of his mouth came fire and smoke.

All around me, it looked so fine, I asked my Lord if all was mine.

Ev’ry time I feel the Spirit, moving in my heart, I will pray.

Ev’ry time I feel the Spirit, moving in my heart, I will pray.

Jordan River, chilly and cold, it chills the body, but not the soul.

There ain’t but one train that’s on this track, it runs to heaven and runs right back.

Ev’ry time I feel the Spirit, moving in my heart, I will pray.

Ev’ry time I feel the Spirit, moving in my heart, I will pray.

Opening Prayer:

Living God, open our hearts to the real treasures in life: may we seek the love that lasts, the song that echoes, and the life everlasting. Open our hearts to the Christ, the Spirit of life, and you, the Creator of all – the Eternal One. Amen.

Scripture: Luke 12: 13 - 21 “Wanting Too Much” – by

It was a hot day, and the crowd was huge. There must have been thousands, and they were pushing and shoving, trying to get close to Jesus.

Suddenly a man pushed his way to the front. “Jesus, tell my brother to give me my share of the family inheritance.” Jesus gently shook his head, “I’m no judge. I can’t decide that for you. But maybe...”

Jesus looked out over the crowd. “You know, friends,” Jesus said, “this fellow raised a good point. But sometimes, we can get so hung up on wanting things, we kind of get stuck there. Sometimes we can let our greed take over, and we lose sight of everything else. “Let me tell you a story.” Everyone loved to hear Jesus’ stories, and so they pushed in even closer.

“A rich farmer had a great harvest. ‘What am I going to do with all this?’ the farmer wondered. ‘I know! I’ll tear down my barns and build some even bigger ones.’

“But that night, God spoke to the farmer. ‘You silly fool,’ God said. ‘What if you were to die tonight? What good would your big barns be then?’” All the people started to talk amongst themselves.

“You see,” Jesus continued, “sometimes we think all that matters is having more stuff. But what happens is that when we want a little more, it’s never enough. We get more, and then we just want even more. Life is worth more than all the stuff in the world!

“Birds don’t worry about it. They fly about, and they get enough food for today without worrying about tomorrow. Flowers grow and put all their energy into looking beautiful today.

They don't think about what to wear – they just grow.” People laughed. It seemed funny to think about a flower wondering what to wear!
“This may sound strange,” Jesus said, “but if you share, you'll find you'll get just what you need. Be like God: God cares about each and every one of you. If you do the same, things will probably just work out fine. And God will smile on you!”

Scripture Song: “Nobody Knows the Trouble I See” – Friends of Buxton Male Choir

Nobody knows the trouble I see
Nobody knows my sorrow
Nobody knows the trouble I see
Glory hallelujah!

Sometimes I'm up, sometimes I'm down
Oh, yes, Lord
Sometimes I'm almost to the ground
Oh, yes, Lord
Nobody knows the trouble I see
Nobody knows my sorrow
Nobody knows the trouble I see
Glory hallelujah!

Although you see me going 'long so
Oh, yes, Lord
I have my trials here below
Oh, yes, Lord
Nobody knows the trouble I see
Nobody knows my sorrow
Nobody knows the trouble I see
Glory hallelujah!

Message: “Abundance”

As many of you know, Annette and I have been away for July and August. We say thank you to St. Andrew's, St. Luke's and Talbot Street churches, as they care for us in this ministry. COVID has added many tasks to each weekly service, and this break was definitely needed. Thank you for your love and compassion.

Normally we share the Service in the Park on the last Sunday of July. That did not happen this year, so we moved it to Labour Day Sunday. St. Luke's and Talbot Street will meet at St. Luke's on Sunday September 4th at 9:30 am. St. Andrew's will meet at St. Andrew's on Sunday September 4th at 11 am. North Buxton Community Church will gather in North Buxton at 11 am for worship with Reverend Steven Talbot and later at 3 pm for a Musical Celebration of Praise.

Everyone is welcome to join us at any service. Remember Monday at 12:30 pm is the North Buxton Homecoming Parade. Bring your lawn chair and your family and gather before 12:30 on the main Street of North Buxton to see the parade.

As we share this service virtually we gather together many of the treasures the North Buxton Community. Greetings from Cleata Morris. Singing by the Friends of Buxton Male Choir which has not been able to meet since March of 2020. Unfortunately, several members of the male choir have gone home to be with their Lord. Several of our congregants have also gone home and are with us today in Spirit. Yet as we gather, we remember. We remember the abundance of food; hot dogs, hamburgers, all kinds of salads and of course desserts to please any sweet tooth. We shared an abundance of community with representation from more than 10 local churches. What a day of fun and shared community. As we gather virtually, may we remember those great “Services in the Park”.

Our very faith is built on memories of the faithful sharing together, as well as the times where we feel God’s presence among us. May we feel God’s presence with us today and may we seek for love that lasts, for the songs that echo in our brains that we continue to sing well after the singing is done. May we treasure our lives of abundance and God’s promise of everlasting life. Thanks be to God.

In Luke today, Jesus challenges us to look at our lives and to consider our attitude towards our possessions. Jesus is asked to settle a question about a family inheritance, Jesus refuses to be drawn into the role of a rabbi settling disputes. He reframes the discussion and addresses greed. Becoming obsessed with having more is the real problem.

As with most good parables, there is a shocking, often humorous aspect that the hearers of Jesus’ day would catch and understand. Today, with many of us who live in the developed world, many times we miss the point that the hearers take for granted. If you as a farmer had a large harvest in Jesus’ day – the expectation is that you would share the excess grain and food with the poor.

So when the man harvests a bumper crop, the logical conclusion for the hearers is to think, “I’ll store this for those who will need it.” Instead Jesus says, the man blatantly says, “I will store all this grain for myself”.

How did you hear this story? Did you think the man should share it with the poor? Or is it okay to build more barns to save it all for himself? I will admit that I thought, “What is his, is his to do, what he wants”. When we think about that

interpretation we are reminded that we are thinking like 21st century humans. We as Christians 2000 years after Christ are not aware of the Jewish cultural norms. Yet if we think about it, “What did Jesus ask us Christians to do”? “Feed the poor, cloth the naked, heal the sick, visit the lonely”. We do know what to do with our bumper crop after all.

The point of Jesus’ story is not so much about not saving for the future – the farmer was expected to save grain for himself. But his greed got the best of him. It was his – so he was going to keep it all.

We live with an attitude of scarcity because we remember times when money was tight. We remember those times when we had only two bits left at the first of the week. Payday was not until Friday. Today’s story is not about our financial planning for our retirement – no one wishes to be lacking in our senior years. It is all about greed. Jesus reminds us that our greed can overtake us and become our obsession. It is about wanting more and more and who cares about the needs of others – not me. Jesus is also telling us that a rich-filled life does not consist of an abundance of possessions.

Jesus reminds us that God is the source of our security. We are challenged to live rich toward God. Easier said than done, maybe. Yet Jesus tells us that it can be as simple as remembering to share from our surplus. We do not have the right to hoard; when we share with others, everyone benefits.

How do you perceive your wealth and possessions? Are they blessings? To what extent do we earn them? How would you define, “How much is enough”? We may also remember, “There are many kinds of greed, not simply money”. What other greed holds us back?

Jesus offers a glimmer of another lifestyle. Jesus also offers those words “I am here” and reassures the people, and us, that God is active in our lives. We are not alone. God is always with us. Thanks be to God.

Reflection Hymn: VU 236 “Now Thank We All Our God”

1 Now thank we all our God, with heart,
and hands, and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
in whom this world rejoices;
who from our mother's arms has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

2 O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us,
and keep us strong in grace, and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ill in this world and the next.

3 All praise and thanks to God
for all that has been given,
the Son, and Spirit blest
who dwell in highest heaven,
the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore;
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

Invitation to Share Our Gifts:

Eric: It seems that someone is always asking us for money. And we wonder: Do we have enough money? Is our money safe? Are we safe?

As we wonder what we might offer this day, may we ponder the love of our God; a treasure without price, ours without asking, buoying us up every day. With these great gifts, does it seem that we should hold tightly to this world's treasure? 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: As we are able, we have offered gifts in this place and on these plates. May they flow through this community and into the world and help to build your realm of enough for all. Amen.

Invitation to Prayer: "Standing in the Need of Prayer" - Friends of Buxton Male Choir

Not my brother, nor my sister, but it's me, O Lord,
Standin' in the need of prayer;
Not my brother, nor my sister, but it's me, O Lord,
Standin' in the need of prayer.

It's me, it's me, O Lord,
Standin' in the need of prayer;
It's me, it's me, O Lord,
Standin' in the need of prayer.

Not the preacher, nor the deacon, but it's me, O Lord,
Standin' in the need of prayer;

Not the preacher, nor the deacon, but it's me, O Lord,
Standin' in the need of prayer.

It's me, it's me, O Lord,
Standin' in the need of prayer;
It's me, it's me, O Lord,
Standin' in the need of prayer.

Not my father, nor my mother, but it's me, O Lord,
Standin' in the need of prayer;

Not my father, nor my mother, but it's me, O Lord,
Standin' in the need of prayer.

It's me, it's me, O Lord,
Standin' in the need of prayer;
It's me, it's me, O Lord,
Standin' in the need of prayer.

Not the stranger, nor my neighbor, but it's me, O Lord,
Standin' in the need of prayer;

Not the stranger, nor my neighbor, but it's me, O Lord,
Standin' in the need of prayer.

It's me, it's me, O Lord,
Standin' in the need of prayer;
It's me, it's me, O Lord,
Standin' in the need of prayer.

Pastoral Prayer:

Eric: Let us share our inheritance: the gifts we have received and the challenges we carry.

People: **Let us share our gifts and our joy that they may brighten those around us.**

Eric: God, you know our hearts' joys and sorrows even before we can form the words in our minds. You are wholly present with us through the hard things; you weep with us in our grief; you dance with us in our delights.

People: **We lift our prayers to you, that we might hear the concerns, griefs, and delights of our community. Help us to understand one another and reach out to each other in tenderness and respect; and to understand ourselves more clearly.**

Eric: Teach us, we pray.

People: **Open our hearts to you as we pray.**

Eric: We pray for our children and our families *(pause)*.

People: **We pray for the scary places in our lives, which cause us to worry *(pause)*.**

Eric: We pray for the leaders of our world and of our communities *(pause)*.

People: **We pray for the mysteries we cannot answer, the puzzles we cannot decipher: the relationship that failed, the plans that fell through, the dreams that faded.**

Eric: We pray for all the unknowns that spur us to ask whether we will have enough, or are enough *(pause)*.

People: **We rest ourselves in you. We trust you, God, that you will never leave us.**

Eric: We thank you and we praise you for your love and blessings as we sing together the Lord's Prayer...

Lord's Prayer: "The Lord's Prayer" – 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.*

Blessing:

Eric: Go out into the world in courage and peace, holding lightly to the things of this world, and tightly to God's love, now and forever more.

Hymn of Going Forth: "Angels Watching Over Me" – Friends of Buxton Male Choir

All night, all day
Now the Angels keep watching over me, My Lord
All night all day
O the Angels keep watching over me.

In the midnight when I am in trouble, And I lay me down to sleep
Well now the Angels, they are watching over me, my Lord
I don't wonder, I don't worry for the Lord my soul will keep
For the Angels keep watching over me.

You may accuse me, you may abuse me, You may drive me from the fold
O but the Angels, they are watching over me, my Lord
You can crucify my body, But you can't harm my soul
For the Angels keep watchin' over me.

I haven't been to heaven but I'm surely on my way
O church the Angels, they are watching over me, yes, my Lord
For I'm walking with my saviour every night and every day
And the Angels keep watching over me.

All night, all day
Now the Angels keep watching over me, My Lord
All night all day
O the Angels keep watching over me.

Postlude: "Traveling On" - Friends of Buxton Male Choir (Pictures)

*Travelling on, travelling on
I'm travelling up the King's highway
Travelling on, travelling on
I will reach my home someday.*

I'm always contented as I journey on
I have learnt to love the sunshine and the rain
The wind may beat and play, and the storm may blind the way,
But I'll keep on travelling just the same.

The trails offset me along the way
Jesus Christ has been my faith, my hope and cheer
If I had ten thousand tongues, I would sing with every one
I would spread the message far and near.

Now some who have started have faith by the way,
And others have made it safe to yonders shore
Behind the clouds today, tomorrow's sun will light the way
And I'll keep on singing as I go.

*Travelling on, travelling on
I'm travelling up the King's highway
Travelling on, travelling on
I will reach my home someday.*

Prayers: - Please include these people in your prayers this week.
We offer prayer for these people each Sunday morning. "In the Spirit - We Are One".

Cancer: