

# St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church

*(Congregation established 1913)*

**April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

**Fourth Sunday after Easter**

O ALMIGHTY God, who alone canst order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men: Grant unto thy people, that they may love the things which thou commandest, and desire that which thou dost promise; that so, among the sundry and manifold changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed, where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **TODAY AT ST. MARY'S**

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed. Alleluia!

**We wish a warm welcome** especially to those who are praying with us for the first time; your presence is a blessing! If you would like to identify yourself, or would like know more about our ministry and mission, please speak to one of the greeters and ask for a welcome card which you may complete and place in the offering plate.

**Holy Communion.** All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion. When the time comes, please come forward to the communion rail, and kneel or stand as you are able. The bread is received with the open palm. Please guide the chalice to your lips for a sip of wine. If you prefer not to receive, please feel free to remain in your place, alternatively you may come forward for a blessing and indicate this by keeping your arms by your side.

**Flowers on the Altar** To the Glory of God and in loving memory of George and Goldie Pickett, and members of their families

**Nursery** for infants & toddlers is available in the Good Shepherd Nursery. Leader: Alanna S

**Godly Play** in the Children's Worship Centre for children 3 - 6 years. Today's story is "The Good Shepherd and the Lord's Supper' John 10:11-16; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26. Leaders: Ginny L, Sandra D.

**Faith Quest** (ages 7 – 13) finish their Jesus Heals the Paralytic rotation. Clara D will lead and Sally and Ernie will shepherd today's Let There Be Art workshop. (Making prayer blankets) Memory verse: "Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action." 1 John 3:18

**Coffee and Tea** Following the service, please join us for a cup of tea or coffee in the upper hall. Hosts: Yvonne and Christian S

## MORNING PRAYER AT NINE- FORTY

Prayer Book, pp.6-5, Psalm 24,29; Leviticus 8.1-13, 30-36; Hebrew 12.1-14

## HOLY COMMUNION AT HALF-PAST TEN

Opening Hymn: # 237 Now the Green Blade Rises

The Lord's Prayer

Collect for Purity

Summary of the Law, Lord. Have Mercy

Collect for the Day

Prayer with the Children

Lesson: Acts 8:26-40 R/ **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 22:24-30 p. 356

Epistle: 1 John 4:7-21 R/ **Thanks be to God**

Gradual: And Can It Be?

*(Prayer Book p. 67)*

*(Prayer Book p. 69, 70)*

**And can it be that I should gain  
an interest in the Saviour's blood?  
Died he for me, who caused his pain?  
For me, who him to death pursued?  
Amazing love! How can it be  
that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?**

**'Tis mystery all: the Immortal dies!  
Who can explore his strange design?  
In vain the first-born seraph tries  
to sound the depths of love divine.  
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore,  
let angel minds enquire no more.**

**He left his Father's throne above —  
so free, so infinite his grace —  
emptied himself of all but love,  
and bled for Adam's helpless race.  
'Tis mercy all, immense and free;  
for, O my God, it found out me!**

**Long my imprisoned spirit lay  
fast bound in sin and nature's night;  
thine eye diffused a quickening ray;  
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;  
my chains fell off, my heart was free,  
I rose, went forth, and followed thee.**

**No condemnation now I dread;  
Jesus, and all in him, is mine!  
Alive in him, my living Head,  
and clothed in righteousness divine,  
bold I approach the eternal throne,  
and claim the crown, through Christ, my own**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (Chap 15, verses 1-8)

**R: Glory be to thee, O Lord**

**R: Praise be to Thee, O Christ**

Sermon

Nicene Creed

*(Prayer Book p. 71)*

Intercessions

Offertory Hymn: # 214The Lamb's High Banquet Called to Share

*The people of St. Mary's have the privilege of being part of and supporting the ministry of Jesus Christ and His Church through weekly financial offerings. If you are visiting here today, you are welcome to make a contribution, but please do not feel under any obligation to do so.*

Invitation, Confession and Absolution

*(Prayer Book p. 76, 77)*

Great Thanksgiving, Peace, Prayer of Humble Access

The Communion

+ *All baptized Christians who have prepared themselves are invited to come forward with faith and love to receive Holy Communion.*

+ *If you prefer to receive a blessing, please indicate this by crossing your arms over your chest.*

+ *For health reasons, dipping the bread in the wine is not permitted. If you require gluten-free wafer, please indicate this at the time of receiving.*

Communion Anthem:

Cantor:

Alleluia! Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; therefore let us keep the feast, Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Congregation: **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him.

The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So also consider yourselves dead to sin, \* and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

The Communion

Hymn after Communion: # 72 Bread of Heaven, on Thee We Feed

Lord's Prayer

Thanksgiving after Communion

*(Prayer Book p. 85, 86)*

Gloria

Announcements

Dismissal      **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Hymn: # 598 Go to the World

*\* Please observe a moment for silent prayer\**

## **THE WORD OF THE LORD: TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS**

### **FIRST READING: Acts 8:26-40**

But an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert road. And he rose and went. And behold, an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a minister of the Can'dace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of all her treasure, had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go up and join this chariot." So Philip ran to him, and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet, and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" And he said, "How can I, unless some one guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. Now the passage of the scripture which he was reading was this: "As a sheep led to the slaughter or a lamb before its shearer is dumb, so he opens not his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken up from the earth." And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, pray, does the prophet say this, about himself or about some one else?" Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this scripture he told him the good news of Jesus. And as they went along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What is to prevent my being baptized?" And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught up Philip; and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip was found at Azo'tus, and passing on he preached the gospel to all the towns till he came to Caesare'a.

### **SECOND READING: 1 John 4:7-21**

Beloved, let us love one another; for love is of God, and he who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God; for God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the expiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No man has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his own Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. So we know and believe the love God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. In this is love perfected with us, that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and he who fears is not perfected in love.

We love, because he first loved us. If any one says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen. And this commandment we have from him, that he who loves God should love his brother also.

**GOSPEL:** John 15:1-8

Response before the Gospel: **Glory be to thee, O Lord**

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

Response following the Gospel: **Praise be to thee, O Christ**

## This week at St Mary's

Tuesday	10:30 am Forever in Motion Senior Exercise
Wednesday	8:30 am Morning Prayer; Men's Breakfast
	10:30 am Mom and Tots Group
Thursday	9:30 am Women's Time Out Bible Study
Next Sunday	9:40 am Morning Prayer
	10:30 am Holy Communion

## PARISH LIFE NOTES

**Mom and Tots group** please dress your kids for the weather we plan to walk to the playground.

**The auxiliary to the Canadian Bible Society** will hold their spring tea Tuesday May 1st from 1:30pm - 4:00pm @ Trinity Lutheran Church. Tickets - \$ 2.00. All are welcome. Please see Norma T or Lois M for more information and tickets.

**Worship Service at Wascana Rehabilitation Centre** - will take place next Sunday, May 6, at 1:30 pm. in the chapel. A team from St. Mary's leads the service and porters residents to the chapel. We invite you to share in this outreach. Please call Rem W @ 352-6442 for more information.

**Many hands make light work.** Please join us for fellowship and a deep cleaning of the Parish Hall kitchen on Wednesday, May 9th, from 10:00 to about 4:00 p.m., or for as long as you can stay. Please bring rubber gloves, your favorite cleaning supplies (if you wish -- some will be available), and a bag lunch. Coffee, tea, and juice will be supplied. We'll take a lunch break and have a chance to chat. Please confirm attendance with Paula M at 306-543-7617 or Sandra D at 306-584-2042. Thank you all!

**AN EVENING OF SONG** Friday, May 11th If you have been around St. Mary's during the day, you may have heard Valerie rehearsing for her upcoming Associate exam with the Royal Conservatory of Music. Valerie will sing her full recital program with the assistance of her wonderful pianist, Clark Schaufele, here at St Mary's on Friday, May 11th at 7:30 pm. All of her friends from St. Mary's are invited to attend!

**“Please join us for a bridal shower honoring Christan Friesen, Saturday, June 9th from 2-4 PM, at First Baptist Church. If you are planning to join us, kindly RSVP to Rebecca Haugen, at (306) 525-1535 or haugen\_r@hotmail.com. Christan and Neil are registered at Bed, Bath and Beyond.”**