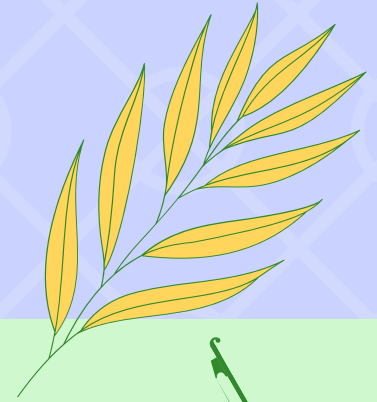


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This Week at St. Andrew's

June 3, 2020



Learning a New Instrument



We are always curious about what everyone has been doing. One of our young members, Juliet has been practising the violin. She has only been learning for a few months and has worked hard! She would like to share with you. Here is a link to Juliet playing the largo from [From the New World](#). Here is a link to her playing the nostalgic folk piece [Old Folks at Home](#). Keep up the good work, Juliet!

The Spirit came
and Your Church was born,
in wind and fire and words of power.
The Spirit came blowing fear aside,
and in its place weak hearts were stronger.
The Spirit came as your word foretold,
with dreams and signs, visions and wonders.
The Spirit came and is here today,
to feed the hearts of a world that hungers.
-Pentecost Prayer by J. Birch



Christine has recorded the song [You Raise Me Up](#) for you to listen to.



Five Year Anniversary of TRC Calls to Action

In June of 2015, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission issued its 94 Calls to Action after receiving testimonies from Indian Residential School survivors for six years.

I invite you to spend time on this fifth anniversary by reading the Calls to Action. Whether it is your first time reading them or your 10th, it is an act of solidarity to choose to remember that there is still work to be done and to find ways that you can get involved. You do not need to read all 94 Calls in one sitting; take your time. Pray while you read. Pray for those who are tirelessly seeking justice and reconciliation. Ask how you can be an instrument of God's peace in righting the wrongs that Indigenous Peoples still live with every day. -Carragh Erhardt, Presbyterian Church in Canada's Justice Ministries To read Carragh's entire reflection and for a link to the Calls to Action, [click here](#)

Read From Your Bible This Week

- Genesis 1:1-2:4a
- Psalms 8
- 2 Corinthians 13:11-13
- Matthew 28:16-20



Pastor's Parable

If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honoured, every part rejoices with it.
(1 Corinthians 12:26)

The world suffers in agony. Over these last two weeks, we have witnessed murder, brutality, anger, violence and heartache. We watch our TV and computer screens in horror feeling helpless. The world's leaders seem powerless to stem the fear, abate the anger, respond to the violence and comfort the grief.

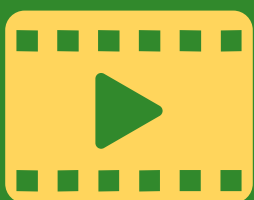
The world's agony is compounded by the grief we have suffered over these last 2+ months with the loss of control due to the heavy toll the virus has caused. Nothing has shuttered the world for as long since the Spanish Flu over a century ago. Still we live with questions of what is ahead.

Scott Sullender, a retired Presbyterian minister, professor and psychologist writes in "Trauma and Grief: Resources and Strategies for Ministry." "The literature now distinguishes between trauma and grief, between "ordinary" grief and traumatic grief. Indeed, grief and trauma are distinct but overlapping concepts. Trauma is a blow, whereas a loss is a wound. Trauma is about a threat and the resulting anxiety, whereas grief is about a loss and the resulting tears and sorrow.

Our world is not only grieving but traumatized. How we make our way through the maze of life in the coming days may define who the church is to a world in desperate need of hope. What is the church to do...or say...to speak peace to the storms swelling around us? How do we pray? What do we say to "comfort, comfort, my people, says the Lord?" The Book of Lamentations offers words for our lament...

"People...cry out from your heart to the Lord. Let your tears flow like a river day and night. Don't stop at all. Don't give your eyes any rest. Get up. Cry out as the night begins. Tell the Lord all your troubles."
Lamentations 2:18-19. Pray. Pray for our broken world. Pray that God will hear the cries of angry, hurting and persons afraid. Pray for calm. Pray for hope.

What shall we pray? Let us pray for peace: for the peace that passes understanding, for that peace which is the absence of violence, for the peace which is the presence of hope, for that peace which seems to always be just out of our reach, and for the peace which we can hand to another. We pray for peace, in our hearts and in our communities, for justice, in all places and for all people, for grace, in our souls and on our lips. Amen. (Prayer by Rev Thom Schuman, Columbus, OH)



[A Video Message from Rev. Mitch](#)