



TRINITY  
SUNDAY



CHRIST CHURCH  
GABRIOLA  
May 27, 2018



**Karen will be away from May 17 to June 4.**

**Guest Presiders**

We welcome the guests who will be leading the service in her absence

**Sunday May 27- Rev. Jim Holland**

Sunday June 3rd - Rev. Linda St Clair

**Rev. Karen's Regular Office Hours**



Karen's drop-in office hours are Tuesday and Wednesday  
1:00 - 3:00.

If these times don't work for you, please phone the church 250-247- 8633, or email her [RevKarenHollis@gmail.com](mailto:RevKarenHollis@gmail.com) to make an appointment.

**Christ Church Gabriola website- [www.christchurchgabriola.ca](http://www.christchurchgabriola.ca)**



**Communion Services** are held on **the First and Third Sunday** of the month.



**The Christ Church Gabriola Outreach Team** asks you to consider donating new toothbrushes, toothpastes, dental floss, shampoos and soap as we make up personal hygiene kits for school children at Gabriola Elementary and for PHC.

Providing personal care items help to keep individuals and families healthy, well groomed, and comfortable. These can be put in the small basket beside the big basket for PHC at the entrance to the Sanctuary.

Thanks a bunch! Your Outreach Team: Jenny, Gail, and Betty.



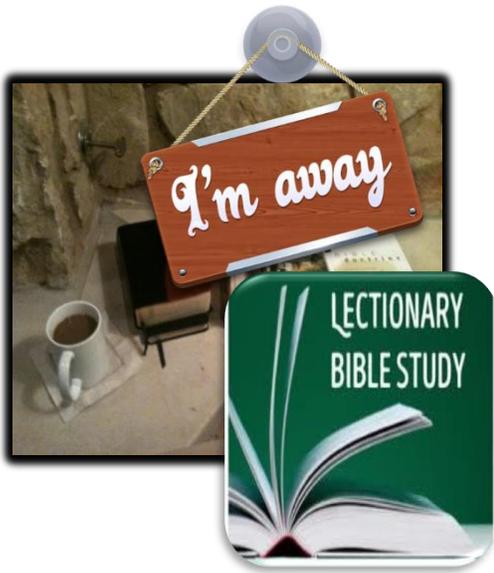
## Safe Church Training Session

A 3-hour facilitated Safe Church training session will be held at Christ Church Gabriola on of misconduct that can occur in situations when there is an imbalance of power. The training is provided free-of-charge by the Diocese of BC and is heartily endorsed by BC Conference. The training session is open to all members of the congregation. However, church volunteers in positions of trust and authority and those in contact with vulnerable adults are especially urged to attend.

Pre-registration is necessary, so please sign-up on the sheet in the church hall. **Contact Rob Brockley for more information.**



- Saturday, June 16, 2018
- 10:00AM - 1:00PM



## Lectionary Bible Study Tuesday Mornings!

Please join us on Tuesdays at 10am for a conversation on the lectionary texts for the coming Sunday. All are welcome! Those are lectors and leading prayers that week may find attending particularly helpful for their preparation. So, come and gather for study, prayer and a time of sharing.

### Fresh Start Evaluation Form



Would those of you who attended the Fresh Start Workshop on May 5<sup>th</sup>, please fill out the online form at this link.

Thanks,  
Karen



[https://unitedchurch.formstack.com/forms/ufs\\_congregation](https://unitedchurch.formstack.com/forms/ufs_congregation)

### Readings for Sunday June 3<sup>rd</sup> Service

1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20)

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

2 Corinthians 4:5-12

Mark 2:23-3:6



## Foster Child Dues

It's that time of year again! Our Foster Child's care donation is due. The costs are \$42 for one month and we need twelve people to donate to cover the year.

There are already two families who have donated  
SO

we are on our way! Cheques or cash can be given to Jean Rhodes or Alex McConnell (acting Treasurer while Corinne is away). Your donation amount will be

added to your tax receipts next year.

Thank you for your support!

<https://plancanada.ca/>



Wonder water: Children catch water from a Plan-supported pump in Sierra Leone. 



If you, or someone you know, requires emergency pastoral care please **phone the church office** ph # 250-247-8633 for further contact information. The Pastoral Care Team will continue to provide regular pastoral care for members of the congregation. Email: [christchurchgabriola@gmail.com](mailto:christchurchgabriola@gmail.com)



### PRAYER WHEEL

PRAYER WHEEL To request prayers for someone OR to become a member of the prayer wheel and pray for others as requested, please contact Susan Brockley: or phone **the church office** ph # 250-247-8633 Email: [christchurchgabriola@gmail.com](mailto:christchurchgabriola@gmail.com)

Published on the **Archbishop of Canterbury's website**

Archbishop Marcus Welby

For those of you who missed Rev. Michael Curry's sermon, here it is.

If you would like to hear him deliver his sermon, follow the link below.

**“THE POWER OF LOVE”— BISHOP MICHAEL CURRY'S SERMON AT THE WEDDING OF PRINCE HARRY AND MEGHAN MARKLE**



<https://www.archbishopofcanterbury.org/speaking-and-writing/sermons/power-love-bishop-michael-currys-sermon-wedding-prince-harry-and>

**“Read the sermon by the Most Rev. Michael B. Curry for the marriage of HRH Prince Henry of Wales and Ms. Meghan Markle at St George's Chapel in Windsor today - as delivered.”**

*Song of Songs 8:6-7*

i

And now in the name of our loving, liberating and life-giving God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

From the Song of Solomon, in the Bible:

Set me as a seal upon your heart,  
as a seal upon your arm;  
for love is strong as death,  
passion fierce as the grave.  
Its flashes are flashes of fire,  
a raging flame.  
Many waters cannot quench love,  
neither can floods drown it.

## Song of Songs 8:6-7

The late Dr Martin Luther King, Jr. once said and I quote: "We must discover the power of love, the redemptive power of love. And when we discover that, we will be able to make of this old world a new world, for love is the only way."

There's power in love. Don't underestimate it. Don't even over-sentimentalize it. There's power – power in love. If you don't believe me, think about a time when you first fell in love. The whole world seemed to center around you and your beloved.

Oh there's power – power in love. Not just in its romantic forms, but any form, any shape of love. There's a certain sense in which when you are loved, and you know it, when someone cares for you, and you know it, when you love and you show it – it actually feels right. There's something right about it.

There is something right about it. And there's a reason for it. The reason has to do with the source. We were made by a power of love, and our lives were meant – and are meant – to be lived in that love. That's why we are here.

Ultimately the source of love is God himself: the source of all of our lives.

There's an old medieval poem that says, "Where true love is found, God himself is there."

The New Testament says it this way: "Beloved, let us love one another, because love is of God, and those who love are born of God and know God. Those who do not love do not know God." Why? "For God is love." (1 John 4:4-8)

There's power in love. There's power in love to help and heal when nothing else can.

There's power in love to lift up and liberate when nothing else will. There's power in love to show us the way to live.

Set me as a seal on your heart... a seal on your arm, for love is as strong as death.

## ii

But love is not only about a young couple. Now the power of love is demonstrated by the fact that we're all here. Two young people fell in love, and we all showed up! But it's not just for and about a young couple, who we rejoice with. It's more than that.

Jesus of Nazareth on one occasion was asked by a lawyer to sum up the essence of the teachings of Moses, and he went back and he reached back into the Hebrew scriptures, to Deuteronomy and Leviticus, and Jesus said: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind and all your strength. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbour as yourself."

And then in Matthew's version, he added, he said: "On these two, love of God and love of neighbour, hang all the law, all the prophets, everything that Moses wrote, everything in the

holy prophets, everything in the scriptures, everything that God has been trying to tell the world... love God, love your neighbours, and while you're at it, love yourself."

Someone once said that Jesus began the most revolutionary movement in human history: a movement grounded in the unconditional love of God for the world – and a movement mandating people to live that love, and in so doing to change not only their lives but the very life of the world itself!

I'm talking about power. Real power. Power to change the world.

If you don't believe me, well, there were some old slaves in America's Antebellum South who explained the dynamic power of love and why it has the power to transform. They explained it this way. They sang a spiritual, even in the midst of their captivity. It's one that says "There's a balm in Gilead..." a healing balm, something that can make things right.

"There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole," and one of the stanzas actually explains why. They said:

"If you cannot preach like Peter,

And you cannot pray like Paul,

You just tell the love of Jesus,

How he died to save us all."

Oh, that's the balm in Gilead!

This way of love, it is the way of life. They got it! He died to save us all. He didn't die for anything he could get out of it. Jesus did not get an honorary doctorate for dying. He didn't... he wasn't getting anything out of it. He gave up his life, he sacrificed his life, for the good of others, for the good of the other, for the wellbeing of the world... for us.

That's what love is. Love is not selfish and self-centred. Love can be sacrificial, and in so doing, becomes redemptive. And that way of unselfish, sacrificial, redemptive love changes lives, and it can change this world.

If you don't believe me, just stop and imagine. Think and imagine a world where love is the way.

Imagine our homes and families where love is the way.

Imagine our neighborhoods and communities where love is the way.

Imagine our governments and nations where love is the way.

Imagine business and commerce where this love is the way.

Imagine this tired old world where love is the way.

When love is the way – unselfish, sacrificial, redemptive.

When love is the way, then no child will go to bed hungry in this world ever again.

When love is the way, we will let justice roll down like a mighty stream and righteousness like an ever-flowing brook.

When love is the way, poverty will become history.

When love is the way, the earth will be a sanctuary.

When love is the way, we will lay down our swords and shields, down by the riverside, to study war no more.

When love is the way, there's plenty good room - plenty good room - for all of God's children. 'Cos when love is the way, we actually treat each other, well... like we are actually family.

When love is the way, we know that God is the source of us all, and we are brothers and sisters, children of God.

My brothers and sisters, that's a new heaven, a new earth, a new world, a new human family.

And let me tell you something, old Solomon was right in the Old Testament: that's fire.

iii

Pierre Teilhard de Chardin – and with this I will sit down, we gotta get you all married [laughter] – French Jesuit Pierre Teilhard de Chardin was arguably one of the great minds, great spirits of the 20th century. Jesuit, Roman Catholic priest, scientist, a scholar, a mystic.

In some of his writings, he said, from his scientific background as well as his theological one, in some of his writings he said - as others have - that the discovery, or invention, or harnessing of fire was one of the great scientific and technological discoveries in all of human history.

Fire to a great extent made human civilization possible. Fire made it possible to cook food and to provide sanitary ways of eating, which reduced the spread of disease in its time.

Fire made it possible to heat warm environments and thereby made human migration around the world a possibility, even into colder climates.

Fire made it possible... there was no Bronze Age without fire, no Iron Age without fire, no Industrial Revolution without fire. The advances of fire and technology are greatly dependent on the human ability and capacity to take fire and use it for human good.

Anybody get here in a car today? An automobile? Nod your heads if you did – I know there were some carriages. [Laughter] But those of us who came in cars, fire – controlled, harnessed fire – made that possible.

I know that the Bible says, and I believe it, that Jesus walked on the water. But I have to tell you, I did not walk across the Atlantic Ocean to get here. Controlled fire in that plane makes it possible.

Fire makes it possible for us to text and tweet and email and Instagram and Facebook and socially be dysfunctional with each other. [Laughter]

Fire makes all of that possible, and de Chardin said fire was one of the greatest discoveries in all of human history. And he then went on to say that if humanity ever harnesses the energy of fire again, if humanity ever captures the energy of love – it will be the second time in history that we have discovered fire.

Dr King was right: we must discover love – the redemptive power of love. And when we do that, we will make of this old world, a new world.

My brother, my sister, God love you, God bless you, and may God hold us all in those almighty hands of love.

## Humour



I PUT THE  
THINGAMABOB INSIDE  
THE WHATCHAMACALLIT,  
TURNED THE  
DOOHICKEY AND THE  
WUTEVERITIS STILL  
DOESN'T WORK.  
ANY IDEAS?



***All Are Welcome to Worship Together***

We welcome you, whoever and wherever you are, to join us on a journey. We strive to accept each other as we are and welcome the ministry and participation of all persons regardless of age, gender identity, health, race, sexual orientation, differing abilities, religious or ethnic background or economic circumstance.

We hope that in all that we do, in our worship and community life, that the Creator's unconditional love is experienced.

We do this trusting The Creator is with us on the journey.

*We gather on the ancestral lands the Snuneymuxw people.*

***Minister: Rev. Karen Hollis***

***Musician: Marilyn Smith***

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***Communications: [hplowright@shaw.ca](mailto:hplowright@shaw.ca)***

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