

Genesis Cooperative
of the United Church of Canada

*Consisting of the congregations of:
Cassburn, Kirk Hill, Trinity (Vankleek Hill)*

Sunday May 5, 2024



Sixth Sunday of Easter

Worship Leader Today

Trinity (VKH)
Joint Service

10:30
am

Rev. Brian Gazzard

*“Surely God is in this place... help me notice”
(attributed to St. Lawrence)*

We Gather to Praise God

Welcome to our worship service today.

We pray you will feel God's presence as we worship together.

*You are invited to join in reading the responses and prayers, printed in **bold**.*

🎵Prelude

Greeting and Welcome

The Life and Work of the Church

Minute for Mission

The Lighting of the Christ Candle

🎵Sung Introit: “As We Gather” VU 457

***As we gather here together, as we listen to your word,
Help us know, O God your presence;
let our hearts and minds be stirred.
Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own.
Teach us through your holy message
how to make love's victory known.***

The Call to Worship;

Jesus is the true vine. **We are the branches.** People of the loving vine-grower, **we gather here to seek God's care.** Open your hearts: let God's spirit tend you, let God's word cleanse you, let God's commandment of love abide in you, let us avail to the loving attention of our God and be fruitful.

The Opening Prayer:

Loving God, we come together to reconnect with you, the source of love. No one has ever seen God, but here, connected to one another, God lives in us. Grafted again to the taproot of love in this time together, we strengthen ourselves to reach out like branches bearing good fruit to the world. **Abide with us in this time, O God, so that we will continue to abide in love now and always. AMEN.**

🎵 Hymn: *“Welcome, Happy Morning”* VU 161

The Prayer of Confession:

God, we confess that we can be scared to hear your voice, out of fear of what we may need to let go of to follow you. We stray, following ways that entice us and distract us from knowing you. We substitute pride of possession for participation in your beloved community. We resist gathering at your table because of who else you invite. Forgive us, we pray. Return us to you and your steadfast love. Lead us in your right paths all our days. Help us trust and abide in you always ... (*silent prayer*).

The Words of Affirmation:

Children of God, hear the good news! God, who abounds in compassionate love that we cannot limit or bind, forgives us. **Thanks be to God! AMEN!**

🎵 Hymn: *“O Worship the King”* VU 235

We Listen for God's Word

Scripture Lessons:

Acts 16: 22-35 The power of gratitude

Psalms 98 VU 818 Sing a new song to God

1 John 5: 1-6 God is light

John 15: 9-17 I've loved you the way my Father has loved me

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God!

Message:

🎵 **Hymn: "Sing Your Praise to God Eternal" VU 244**

We Respond to God's Word

Offering Invitation

🎵 **Response: "In Gratitude & Humble Trust" VU 544**

*In gratitude and humble trust we bring our best today;
To serve your cause and share your love with all along life's way.
O God, who gave yourself to us in Jesus Christ, your Son,
Teach us to give ourselves each day until life's work is done*

The Prayer of Dedication:

God longs for all of us to live bountiful lives. We share these gifts from the bounty with which we are blessed, in order that they may be a blessing to others. **AMEN!**

The Prayers of the People / The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven ... (found at VU 960)

🎵 **Hymn: "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" VU 333**

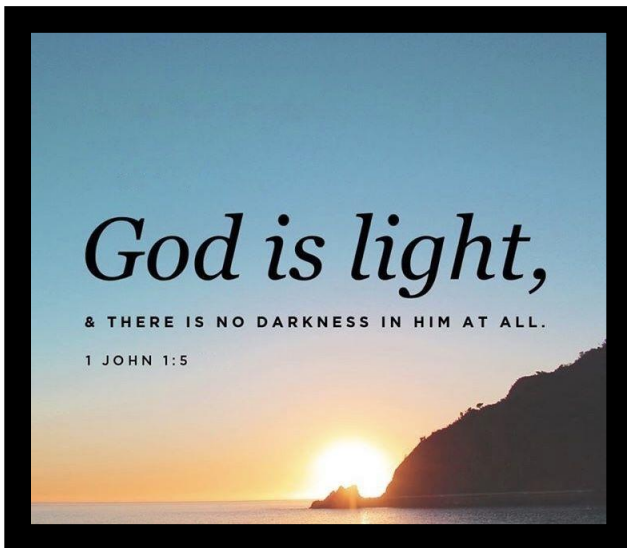
The Closing Words

🎵 **Sung Blessing: "Go Now in Peace"**

Go now in peace, never be afraid,
God will go with you each hour of everyday.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know he will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love and show you believe,
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above,
Go now in peace, in faith and in love.

Postlude

Our Worship Ends – Our Service Begins



Announcements

✝ *As church, we are called to pray for each other
and for our mission in the world* ✝

The People in Canada who rely more and more on
food banks to feed their families;
The People of Israel and Palestine;
The People of Ukraine;
The People of Sudan;
The People of Algeria;
Guthrie United, Trinity United, Lanark, ON



Question of the Day:
Where are your spiritual roots?
How are they nourished?

The **Glengarry Soccer League** is preparing an online video tribute for its **100th anniversary** this year. If you have a photo which is GSL related and you'd like it considered for the tribute, you can contact **Allan at the Glengarry Archives Alexandria at 613-360-9818 before 15 May**. They are looking for **photos** of teams, players, activities, fields, or documents.

May 31 (8:00 am) - June 1 (5:00 pm): The **EOORC Annual General Meeting** will be held at **Trinity United Church, 1099 Maitland Ave, Ottawa**. This is your opportunity to let our voice be heard at the regional council level. Anyone interested in attending, please let the Genesis Office know in order to register and perhaps plan a carpool.

The United Church of Canada gratefully acknowledges that its buildings and ministries, from coast to coast to coast, are on traditional territories of Indigenous Peoples.

Our vital, innovative, and healing ministries are supported by generous Mission and Service donations.

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**Genesis Cooperative Community
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Administrative Assistant: Gabrielle Becker
“NEW” Administrative Office Hours:
Wednesday & Thursday 11:00 am – 2:00 pm
Announcement Deadline: Wednesday @ noon





Minute for Mission

MECC is dedicated to sustainable relief.

Primary Media

A small boy in a dark blue jacket smiles in a room with mattress on the floor.

Credit: Middle East Council of Churches

Published On: April 5, 2024

Body

When we hear of a global emergency, our minds often jump to “How can we help?” Your gifts to Mission and Service enable partners to immediately get to work providing crucial basic needs: food, water, shelter, and medication. But after the initial response, and after headlines fade away, the emergency and urgency remain.

After the immediate shock lessens, people living in the wake of a disaster can have difficulty imagining what life will look like down the road. In these times, hope is essential. By giving us the motivation to keep moving forward, hope is a powerful force that inspires us to keep going.

Mission and Service partner the Middle East Council of Churches (MECC) continues to be hard at work providing hope. People in Syria are still experiencing the devastating aftermath of the February 2023 earthquakes.

From retrofitting buildings and providing medical equipment to education and trauma healing, MECC is dedicated to sustainable relief.

In Aleppo, MECC rehabilitated four schools before the academic year launched in September 2023, providing children with a safe place to learn.

Thank you for supporting the work of our Mission and Service partners. Your generosity is a beacon of hope during challenging times.