L’Église presbytérienne

au Canada

The Presbyterian Church

in Canada

**Worship Planner**

**6th Sunday of Easter**

**May 5th, 2024**

**Year B**

**Colour** *White or Gold*

**Scripture Readings**

Acts 10:44-48

Psalm 98

1 John 5:1-6

John 15:9-17

**Hymns**

377 – Come, children, join to sing

434 – For the beauty of the earth

62 – New songs of celebration render (Psalm 98)

63 – O sing a new song to the Lord (Psalm 98)

476 – Amigos de Cristo/Friends of the Lord

764 – There’s a spirit in the air

314 – God is love: come heaven, adoring

**Call to Worship**

Let us sing to the Lord a new song,

**for God has done marvellous things.**

Let us make known the Lord’s victory,

**for God’s steadfast love covers the whole earth.**

Let us sing joyful praises,

**and join all creation to worship God’s holy name.**

**Prayers of Adoration** **and Confession**

Holy God,

the power of your love is beyond comprehension,

the breadth of your compassion without measure,

the depths of your wisdom knows no bounds.

In Jesus Christ, you meet us in the midst of life’s joys and challenges

to show us what it means to love and be loved.

And so we offer you our love and loyalty, and

our prayers and praise;

through the power of your Spirit,

draw us closer to you and closer to each other

as friends and followers of Christ, our Risen Lord.

**Merciful God,**

**We often find it difficult to love others as you command.**

**We seek our own security before the wellbeing of others.**

**We fulfill our own desires rather than act for the common good.**

**Forgive us.**

**Redirect our priorities,**

**and renew our commitment to live out your love,**

**even when that demands more of us than we expect.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn us? Only Christ –

and Christ died for us; Christ rose for us; Christ reigns in power for us; Christ prays for us. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made new by God’s generous grace.

**Prayer for Understanding**

Lord, we long for your wisdom and truth. Send your Holy Spirit to guide us as we listen to the Scriptures. Prepare our ears to hear your Word and our hearts to receive it. Amen.

**Invitation to the Offering**

On Thursday, May 9th, the Church worldwide marks Jesus’ Ascension which assures us that he will be present with his followers throughout every generation, in every culture and context. As we offer our gifts in gratitude, remember that they continue to honour Christ Jesus as Lord of all times and places.

**Prayer of Dedication**

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**Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession**

God of Wisdom and Mercy,

we turn to you in these quiet moments,

and offer you our thanks for the love you have shown us,

seeking your blessing on our hopes for our lives.

This morning we give you thanks for all those people

who have shown us your face and taught us to follow you

by the faithful example of their lives.

We thank you for our life together in your church, as your forgiven people.

May the light of Christ shine through our lives

so that we become light for the world,

shining examples of your love at work.

Christ of Compassion and Action,

In you, we receive our call to live with purpose.

From you, we learn how to love those around us.

With you, we find strength to face each new day.

So today we offer our prayers for those facing challenges these days

and seek your guidance to respond to their cries.

We pray for those brought to mind by news headlines this week:

for situations of violence and deprivation, danger and devastation……

 *Here, you may want to lift up situations of local, national or global significance.*

*Then hold the silence:*

 *Keep silence for 10 seconds*

We pray for families going through difficult times,

for all who are sick or in sorrow,

for any who are lonely or despairing:

 *Keep silence for 10 seconds*

We pray for those agonizing over important decisions and responsibilities,

for those in leadership roles,

and for those who care for the most vulnerable in our community:

 *Keep silence for 10 seconds*

We pray for ourselves and for each other,

for the situations that challenge us,

and the new possibilities that encourage us:

 *Keep silence for 10 seconds*

Spirit of Christ, move with us into the week ahead.

Remind us each day to live according to God’s will and purpose,

for we want to offer your loving presence

in the lives we touch in Jesus’ name,

for he taught all his friends these words to pray together:

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Commissioning and Benediction**

Go in love, with the peace of Christ within you,

to witness to his love in truth and in action.

And may God’s resurrecting love open the future for you,

empowered by the Spirit,

and embraced by the presence of Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord.

**PRAYER PARTNERSHIP**

**Mission Moment: Sunday, May 5**

Sydney Nkhata, a 27-year-old from Northern Malawi, is the chair of a youth network made up of 12 clubs. His management journey was significantly influenced by the “Every Youth Empowered” project, which provided valuable leadership training and is funded by PWS&D. Equipped with new skills, Sydney has become a mentor—guiding and nurturing club members. His efforts ensure that youth actively embrace and take ownership of the project, where they learn about sexual and reproductive health rights—turning it into an integral part of the community. As a result, girls and boys are more aware of the risks related to early pregnancies and transmission of diseases and are changing behaviours. Sydney’s story highlights the transformative power of leadership training and showcases his commitment to mentorship and community development.

**DAILY PRAYERS**

**Sunday, May 5** We pray for the people attending Guidance Conference this week, that the student candidates will experience a Spirit-filled opportunity to reflect deeply on their sense of call to ministry in the church.

**Monday, May 6** We pray for all who support PCC congregations and ministries with gifts of hospitality, helping strangers and seekers find a welcoming place in the church.

**Tuesday, May 7** We pray for renewed relationships with church partners in Cuba as the church there seeks to continue Christ’s ministry under the difficult circumstances of the embargo.

**Wednesday, May 8** We pray for the Holy Spirit’s leading as Atlantic Mission Society Presbyterials hold annual meetings this month.

**Thursday, May 9 (Ascension Day)** We give thanks for creative faith formation programs that congregations have developed to nurture people’s faith

**Friday, May 10** We pray for the Committee on Church Doctrine as it grapples with how Presbyterians respond to Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD).

**Saturday, May 11** We give thanks for the beauty of creation and pray that the people and nations of the world are inspired to protect and care for the earth, as God intended.