

EPIPHANY

CHRIST OUR LIGHT



St. Matthews Church

WHERE COMMUNITY GATHERS AND GROWS

February 12, 2023

6th Sunday after Epiphany / Black History Month

Sunday, February 12, 2023

(* indicates the assembly stands)

Gathering

Prelude "Poor, Wayfaring Stranger" T. Wilhelmi

Words of Welcome & Service Announcements

*Song (see page 4) "Michael Row Your Boat"

*Hymn 677 "This Little Light of Mine"

*Greeting

*This is the Feast p. 169

*Prayer of the Day

Anthem "Hymn to Freedom" O. Peterson

Word

First Reading Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Psalms 119:1-8 (see page 5) (sung responsively by full verse)

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 3:1-9

*Gospel Acclamation p. 171

*Gospel Reading Matthew 5:21-24

Homily

*Hymn 459 "Wade in the Water"

*Prayers of Intercession **A: hear our prayer.**

*Peace

Meal

*Offering Hymn 860 "I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me"

*Offering Prayer

*Great Thanksgiving p. 172

*Holy, Holy, Holy p. 173

*Thanksgiving at the Table	
*Lord's Prayer ("Our Father, who art in heaven...")	p. 173
Lamb of God	p. 174
Communion Hymns 471, 439	
*Table Blessing	
*Prayer after Communion	
Sending	
General Announcements	
*Blessing	
*Song (see page 4)	"Oh Happy Day"
*Dismissal	A: Thanks be to God.
Postlude	"Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" T. Wilhelmi

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The celebration of February as Black History (or African Heritage) Month is marked today in worship. Officially recognized in Canada since 1996, this is a time to honour the contributions and struggles of peoples of African descent. In today's reading we are called to choose life by loving and obeying God. Jesus' instructions to the crowd reveal a pattern of behaviour that honours both God and the neighbour, resulting in life and health for the whole community. We too are invited to embrace these commandments, not out of fear of retribution, but because God has promised that to do so means life for us.

Michael Row The Boat Ashore

www.franzdorfer.com

Musical score for 'Michael Row The Boat Ashore' in 4/4 time. The score consists of two staves. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody starts on a whole note C4, followed by quarter notes D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, Bb4, and a whole note C5. Chords C and F are indicated above the staff. The second staff starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody continues with quarter notes C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, Bb4, and a whole note C5. Chords C, Em, Dm, C, G7, and C are indicated above the staff. The lyrics are: 'Mi - chael row the boat a - shore, hal - le - lu - jah'.

Sister help to trim the sails, hallelujah

Sister help to trim the sails, hallelujah

Jordan's River is deep and wide, hallelujah

And I've got a home on the other side, hallelujah

The river Jordon is chilly and cold, hallelujah

It chill the body but not the soul, hallelujah

Oh Happy Day

Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)

Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)

When Jesus washed (When Jesus washed)

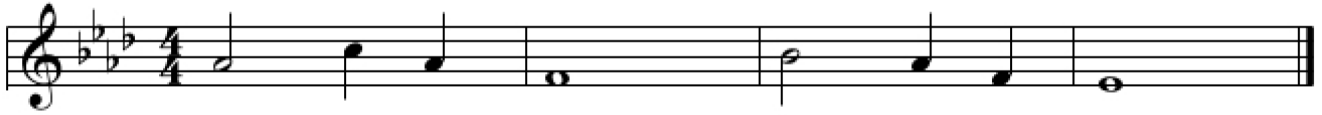
Oh, when He washed (When Jesus washed)

When Jesus washed (When Jesus washed)

He washed my sins away (Oh, happy day)

Oh, it's a happy day (Oh, happy day)

Psalm 119: 1-8



REFRAIN:

*Sing unto the Lord a new song. Sing unto the Lord all the earth.
Declare his glory among the nations.
Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord!*

¹Happy are they whose | way is blameless,
who follow the teaching | of the LORD!

²**Happy are they who observe | your decrees
and seek you with | all their hearts,**

³who never do | any wrong,
but always walk | in your ways.

⁴**You laid down | your commandments,
that we should | fully keep them.**

REFRAIN

⁵Oh, that my ways were made | so direct
that I might | keep your statutes!

⁶**Then I should not be | put to shame,
when I regard all | your commandments.**

⁷I will thank you with | a true heart,
when I have learned your | righteous judgments.

⁸**I will | keep your statutes;
do not utter- | ly for-sake me.**

REFRAIN

Leading Worship Today

Minister: Rev. Carey Meadows-Helmer

Diaconal Minister of Music: Deacon Scott Knarr

Assisting Minister: Scott Kuschnerreit

Vocalist: Verese Vassell-Bowen

Guitar: Sammy Duke

Bass: Rick Kitchen

Percussion: Peter Winkler

Choral Scholars: Nicole Hamilton, Laura Moolenbeek, Dylan Siebert, Jacob Steinmann

Broadcast: Jason Smolak

Building Monitor: Ron Roeder (519-895-6833)

Worship Notes

In our prayers John, Marie, Grace, Maureen, Bernice, John and Nancy.

General Announcements

West Tower Door for Emergency Only. Due to the ongoing construction planning, when going in to the church house or washrooms, use the west stair tower door and stay on that floor. Use the hallway by the office to the stairway to the floor below. The stairs in the west tower are closed to the lower level sanctuary and should only be used in case of an emergency to exit the building.

Important Information for today's worship

- **Self-Screening:** Members are reminded to continue to perform self-assessments if they have COVID symptoms.
- **Masks:** We support people's choice to wear a mask, and we strongly encourage the following of current guidelines.
- **Physical distancing:** Members are encouraged to continue physical distancing where possible indoors.
- **Offering:** Please place your offering in one of the offering plates in the Narthex (entranceway) upon entering. The offering plates will be presented to the High Altar during the service.
- **The Peace:** We support people's choices for passing of the peace.
- **Exiting:** At the end of the service, please remain in place until the end of the postlude.
- **Ministers** will be greeting worshippers after the postlude in the Narthex, without handshakes.
- **Thank you for helping to keep all of us as safe as possible during this pandemic, by following these directions!**

Fire Exits: All Sanctuary fire exits remain operational during lower-level demolition and renovations. This includes the three Narthex (Entrance) doors, the mid-tower door (half-way up the right side), and the staircase at the front left, piano side.

Church Fire Plan For everyone's awareness, a copy of the Church Fire Plan for safe exit from the Sanctuary appears in the back of the worship books. Please take a moment to review for your own safety.



Contact Information

Office: 519-742-0462

stmattskw.com

Rev. Carey Meadows-Helmer

Ext. 3

pastorcarey@stmattskw.com

Rev. Sebastian Meadows-Helmer

Ext. 2

pastorsebastian@stmattskw.com

Deacon Scott Knarr

Ext. 4

deaconscott@stmattskw.com

Leanne Vanderhout

Ext. 6

lvanderhout@stmattskw.com



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