



**St. Matthew  
the Apostle, Oriole**  
Anglican Church

*Come. See. Journey.*

***Sixteenth Sunday  
after Pentecost***

September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023



**Let Justice  
and Peace Flow**

Season of Creation 2023

A Mighty River  
Amos 5: 24

**SUNDAY SERVICES**

8:00 a.m. (Said) Holy Eucharist

10:00 a.m. (Sung) Holy Eucharist



**St. Matthew**  
**the Apostle, Oriole**  
Anglican Church

*Come. See. Journey.*

**416-490-7020**

**St.Matthew.ca**  
**office@stmatthew.ca**

***“To Seek and Serve  
Christ in all persons”***

Priest and Pastor: The Rev. Sherri Golisky  
Archdeacon: Venerable Kyn Barker  
Honorary Assistant: The Rev. Canon John Wilton  
Music Director & Organist: Mr. David Braund  
Lay Anointer: Mr. Clifford Wong

**Today at St. Matthew**

Holy Eucharist (8:00 a.m.)

Holy Eucharist (10.00)

We Livestream our 10:00 a.m. service  
on our YouTube channel  
at [St.Matthew.ca/YouTube](https://www.stmatthew.ca/YouTube)

# Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost / Season of Creation

## 10:00 a.m. HOLY EUCHARIST (BAS)

*We welcome you today to St. Matthew the Apostle, Oriole Anglican Church.  
Our current COVID-19 Protocols:*

- *masking is optional.*
  - *we continue to run an air-purifier during services*
  - *distanced seating is available in south side pews*
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### The Gathering of the Community

**Prelude:** "Jesu, meine Zuversicht" .....J. S. Bach

Sentence: A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another  
as I have loved you. *John 13.34*

**Hymn:** 428 "God who gives to life its goodness" .....ABBOT'S LEIGH

### The Greeting

Celebrant: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

**All: And also with you**

Celebrant: Almighty God,

**All: to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### GLORIA

**All: Glory to God in the highest and peace to God's people on earth. Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord. You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**COLLECT OF THE DAY** *(please remain standing)*

Celebrant: Let us pray *(a moment of silence is taken)*

Almighty God, you call your Church to witness that in Christ we are reconciled to you. Help us so to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

**FIRST LESSON**

Reader: A Reading from the Book of Exodus

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt." Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against

the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses. *(Exodus 14:19-31)*

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 114** Chant: George Black.....p. 862

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

Cantor: When Israel came out of Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,  
Judah became the sanctuary of the Lord and Israel the dominion of God.

**Refrain**

**All: The sea beheld it and fled; Jordan turned and went back.  
The mountains skipped like rams, and the little hills like young sheep.**

**Refrain**

Cantor: What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? O Jordan, that you turned back?  
You mountains, that you skipped like rams? You little hills like young  
sheep?

**Refrain**

**All: Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the  
God of Jacob,  
who turned the hard rock into a pool of water and flint-stone into a  
flowing spring.**

**Refrain**

## SECOND LESSON

Reader: A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgement on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgement on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honour of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honour of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not

die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgement on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God. *(Romans 14:1-12)*

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn:** 405 "Alleluia" ..... ALLELUIA NO. 1

### **The Holy Gospel**

Archdeacon: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Archdeacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**All: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Archdeacon: Then Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I

forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart." *(Matthew 18:21-35)*

Archdeacon: The Gospel of Christ.

**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Homily: The Rev. Sherri Golisky

### **The Apostles' Creed**

Celebrant: Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

**All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### **Prayers of the People *(as announced)***

*(Please stand, sit, or kneel as is most prayerful and comfortable for you.)*

### **Confession and Absolution**

Celebrant: Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

*(silence).*

Most merciful God,

**All: we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**The Peace** *(Please stand.)*

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you

**All: And also with you.**

*You are invited to share a word of peace with others in the congregation.*

**THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST**

**The Preparation of the Gifts**

**Hymn:** 419 "Let all creation bless the Lord" ..... MIT FREUDEN ZART

**Prayer Over the Gifts** *(please stand)*

Celebrant: Holy God, accept all we offer you this day. May we who are reconciled at this table bring wholeness to our broken world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

**The Great Thanksgiving**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you

**People: And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: It is indeed right that we should praise you, gracious God, for you created all things. You formed us in your own image: male and female you created us. When we turned away from you in sin, you did not cease to care for us, but opened a path of salvation for all people. You made a covenant with Israel, and through your servants Abraham and Sarah gave the promise of a blessing to all nations. Through Moses you led your people from bondage into freedom; through the prophets you renewed your promise of salvation. Therefore, with them, and with all your saints who have served you in every age, we give thanks and raise our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.



**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Celebrant: Holy God, source of life and goodness, all creation rightly gives you praise. In the fullness of time, you sent your Son Jesus Christ, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He healed the sick and ate and drank with outcasts and sinners; he opened the eyes of the blind and proclaimed the good news of your kingdom to the poor and to those in need. In all things he fulfilled your gracious will. On the night he freely gave himself to death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Gracious God, his perfect sacrifice destroys the power of sin and death; by raising him to life you give us life for evermore. Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Celebrant: Recalling his death, proclaiming his resurrection, and looking for his coming again in glory, we offer you, Father, this bread and this cup. Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts, that all who eat and drink at this table may be one body and one holy people, living sacrifice in Jesus Christ, our Lord. Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer** (*sung*)

Celebrant: As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,

**All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

## Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Creator of all, you gave us golden fields of wheat, whose many grains we have gathered and made into this one bread.

**All: So may your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.**

## THE COMMUNION

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### Agnus Dei *(Sung)*

**All: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.**

*All baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Those not receiving communion may wish to receive a blessing instead. To indicate this to the priest, please cross your hands over your chest.*

**Anointing:** *If you wish to receive anointing for healing, please approach the anointer prior to receiving Holy Communion.*

**Hymn:** 487 "Where charity and love prevail" ..... TWENTY-FOURTH

### Prayer after Communion *(Please stand)*

Celebrant: God of peace, in this eucharist we have been reconciled to you and to our neighbours. May we who have been nourished by holy things always have the courage to forgive. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.  
**Amen.**

### Doxology

Celebrant: Glory to God,

**All: whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## Announcements

### Blessing

**Hymn :** 438 "O Jesus, I have promised" ..... THORNBURY

**DISMISSAL**

Archdeacon: Go in peace loving and serving the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude:** "Wer nur lieben Gott last walten" .....J. S. Bach

► *Join us for our Coffee Hour following the service* ◀

**Next Week's Readings ~ Saint Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist**

<i>Proverbs 3:1-6</i>	<i>Psalms 119:33-40</i>
<i>2 Timothy 3:14-17</i>	<i>Matthew 9:9-13</i>

**CYCLE OF PRAYER**

Anglican Communion: The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean  
 Anglican Church of Canada: The Provincial Synod of the Ecclesiastical Province of British Columbia and Yukon  
 Diocese: Victoria & Haliburton Deanery  
 Deanery: St. Theodore of Canterbury  
 Parish: Families of Vundru, Wai-Cao & Joy Walker

**ASSISTING TODAY**

Sidespersons:	The Val Seales Team
Readers:	Adjoa Winful, Ulrina Gamalial
Intercessors:	Cliff Wong
Altar Guild:	Joy Walker
Livestreaming:	Robbie Roberts

**Liturgical texts:**

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## **Exodus 14:19–31**

Exodus is the second book of the Jewish Torah (Instruction or Law), also sometimes referred to as the Pentateuch from the Greek name, "Five Books." Exodus has three great themes: 1) the story of God's bringing the Israelite people out of slavery in Egypt; 2) God's calling them and forming them into a community and people, giving them a Law that will enable them to live in justice and mercy; and 3) God's enabling them to create a Tabernacle, a travelling Holy Space by which God can continue present with them as they journey. In today's reading we hear one account of the actual escape from Egypt. When all the first born of Egypt are slain in a single night, Pharaoh drives the Israelites out, but like all tyrants, he soon changes his mind. Setting out in pursuit with his chariots and horsemen, Pharaoh traps them at the edge of the Red Sea (more accurately the Sea of Reeds). God brings a pillar of cloud and a pillar of fire to protect and guide the Israelites, but finding they are trapped they cry out against Moses and his God. Moses urges the to stand firm, and the pillar of cloud moves behind them so the Egyptians can no longer see them. Moses raises his staff and God sends a wind that blows the sea back, the Israelites walk through on the seabed. Pharaoh rushes in behind them to capture them, and the wind dies down, the water falls back and the Egyptians are trapped. The most ancient version of this story can be found in Exodus 15, The Song at the Sea. The first part of this song was likely the victory chant sung by Miriam and the other women (in ancient Israel women drummed and sang victory songs (see Exodus 15:20ff). Whatever happened, the first part of the victory song which dates from close to the events, makes clear that Pharaoh and his army drowned (15:4-5), that there was a great wind attributed to YHWH's action (15:8, 10); and that Pharaoh's fate was due to his implacable desire to regain power and destroy the former slaves (15:9). [Dr. Walter Deller/2023]

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IT'S NEXT SUNDAY!

WELCOME BACK SUNDAY  
AND  
THE FEAST DAY  
OF  
ST. MATTHEW THE APOSTLE

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 24TH

Our celebrations will include a BBQ Potluck lunch following our 10:00 a.m. service!

We invite you to contribute a little something to our celebrations on the 24th!

Choose something Savoury, something Sweet, or perhaps something to Drink

A Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. Or, email the [office](#) to let us know what you will be contributing.

**TRAVEL ADVENTURE SERIES** ~ Returns to the Fellowship Hall on **Thursday, September 21st. 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 /8:30 p.m.** "Patagonia," Bruce and Bonnie LaRue. A series of illustrated talks, and potluck dinner, presented by parishioners who have travelled the world, and who want to share their experiences and pictures. We'll see and hear from the many members who have travelled to almost every corner of the world! All are welcome to attend! **Potluck Supper:** Every family/group brings a dish to serve 4-6 people. Everyone brings their own plates, cutlery, glass, and beverage. At the end, take home what you brought, including your dirty dishes. This is the easiest way to have a communal meal without undue fuss. Efficient and easy!



**MESSY CHURCH:** Our next Messy Church gathering will celebrate our Patron Saint / St. Matthew Day on Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 11:00 a.m. Messy Church is church that is fun, for all ages! It is a form of church that involves creativity, celebration and hospitality. Parents/grandparents are asked to remain with children. RSVP with all names, and the ages of children by Tuesday Sept. 19th by emailing

[office@stmatthew.ca](mailto:office@stmatthew.ca).

**TUESDAY NIGHT PRAYER ~ September 19th. 7:00 p.m.** Join us for a half-hour reflective service every Tuesday evening, using the tradition of Compline (or "Night Prayer"). Come pray together: by candlelight and with songs of Taize.

**BIBLE STUDY ~** Weekly Wednesday morning zoom sessions resume **Wednesday, September 20th 10:00 a.m. All are welcome!** Contact Reverend Sherri for the Zoom link to join.

**CHURCH OFFICE OPEN TO VISITORS ~** Tuesdays from 9:00 to 3:00 p.m. and Fridays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. via the main South door. Please ring the Bell outside the East wing door (on the left frame) for entry.

**PASTORAL CARE:** ~ If in need of pastoral support, please contact Reverend Sherri [priest-stmatthewtheapostleoriole@toronto.anglican.ca](mailto:priest-stmatthewtheapostleoriole@toronto.anglican.ca) or by phone at 416-494-7020 ext. 2. In case of pastoral emergencies, please call (416) 880 – 4211.

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### **Wear Orange!**

In honour of National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Day/Orange Shirt Day on September 30<sup>th</sup>, we encourage everyone to wear orange at our services the following day, **Sunday, October 1st**, so we can honour this important day together as a community.

### **Season of Creation Sept. 1-Oct 4.**

Please write a *"Water Drop prayer"* about the need for safe drinking water for all and add a link to the garland representing a mighty river as we join people around the world in prayer and action so that Justice and Peace May Flow.

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## Fall/Winter Clothing Needed

**New Circles** provides clothing in a store-like, supportive atmosphere for equity deserving individuals.

Donations of high quality fall/winter MEN'S Clothing is needed now.

161 Bartley Dr. (off Bermondsey.)

Check the website ([www.newcircles.ca](http://www.newcircles.ca)) for donation times.

### Community Events

**Henry Farm Community Interest Association:** Thanksgiving Food Parade, Sunday October 1st. Please bring your non-perishable food donations to the church anytime up to and including Sunday October 9th, and when the parade truck comes around that afternoon to collect the food, we will add our donations!

**Church of Our Saviour-Don Mills:** Enjoy wonderful choral singing with its roots in the valleys and mines of Wales! Hear the Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir in Concert on Saturday Sept. 30 at 2:30 p.m. Tickets: \$30.00. Payment by cheque (payable to Church of Our Saviour-Don Mills), by cash at the church office (Tuesdays & Fridays) or by e-transfer to: oursaviourdonmills@gmail.com

## Parish Calendar

SEPTEMBER	
Wednesday, 6th	<b>Choir practice – 7:15 p.m.</b>
Sunday, 10th	<b>Blessing of Backpacks / Family Service 10:00 a.m.</b>
Tuesday, 12th	<b>Tuesday Night Prayer 7:00 p.m. (<i>New Time</i>)</b>
Wednesday, 13th	<b>Bible Study – New series begins 10:00 a.m. / Choir practice – 7:15 p.m.</b>
Sunday, 17th	<b>Anointing with prayers for healing at both 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.</b>
Tuesday, 19th	<b>Tuesday Night Prayer (7:00 p.m.) / Advisory Board Meeting 7:30 p.m.</b>
Wednesday, 20th	<b>Bible Study – 10:00 a.m. (Zoom)/ Choir practice – 7:15 p.m.</b>
Thursday, 21st	<b>Travel Adventure Series 6:00 p.m.</b>

Saturday, 23rd	<b>Messy Church 11:00 a.m.</b>
Sunday, 24th	<b>Welcome Back Sunday / Feast Day of St. Matthew BBQ after 10:00 a.m. service</b>
Tuesday, 26th	<b>Tuesday Night Prayer 7:00 p.m. (New Time)</b>
Wednesday, 27th	<b>Bible Study – 10:00 a.m. (Zoom) / Choir practice – 7:15 p.m.</b>
Thursday, 28th	<b>Anti-Racism Committee Meeting 7:30 p.m. (Zoom)</b>
<b>October</b>	
Sunday, 1st	<b>Wear orange to church</b>

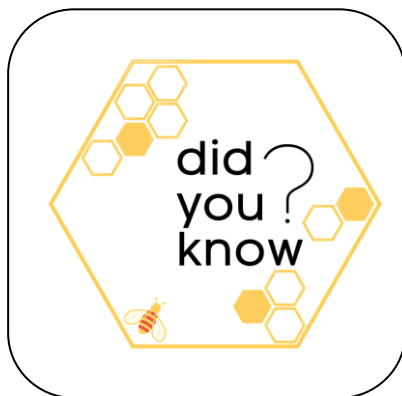


### Opportunities to serve!

There are many ministry opportunities open at St. Matthew. We need your help! If you would like to learn more, speak to Rev. Sherri or one of the wardens. The opportunities

include but are not limited to...

*Sidespeople, Greeters, Live-Streaming Support, Counters, Messy Church, Children and Youth, Hospitality, Altar Guild, Readers, Intercessors, Choir Members and Instrumentalists, and more.*



.... that our church is a popular meeting place for the wider community? We have many local organizations who rent space from us on a regular basis, including:

- ✓ Don Mills Camera Club
- ✓ University Women's Club North York
- ✓ North York Obedience Club (Dog Training)
- ✓ Henry Farm Community Interest Association
- ✓ Beulah House of God church
- ✓ Good Shepherd Korean church

And more!



## **ST. MATTHEW'S ANTI-RACISM COMMITTEE MONTHLY COLUMN**

### **Looking at Twentieth Century Racism and Twenty-First Century Racism**

*Reflection by Anne Creighton*

We remember (or we have read about) the Civil Rights and Human Rights movements of the twentieth century. A right is something that cannot be legally denied. We saw how people protested, marched, and were arrested in their struggle to achieve the right to political independence, the right to vote, the right to be served in hotels, stores, and restaurants, the right to have access to jobs, the right to equal pay, the right to be admitted to schools and clubs, the right to assemble, the right to marry, and the right to equal treatment under the law. Basic human rights were denied many people in the twentieth century.

Around the world, the latter part of the twentieth century saw human rights codified in laws. In Canada, this struggle for Human Rights culminated in 1982's Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms as well as the various provincial and territorial Human Rights Codes. Although great gains were made in the fight for equal rights in the twentieth century and laws were changed to recognize human rights, people's underlying attitudes and values have been slower to change. We know that people are still subject to prejudiced, discriminatory, and racist acts and micro-aggressions today. The fight against racism and other struggles for equality in the twenty-first century have shown us how much there is still to accomplish.

When white people say "I do not see race", they are revealing that they do not see that race is a daily issue in their lives. Their white privilege shields them from daily interactions based on race. For them, it is easy to assume that something they do not see or experience does not exist. A privilege is a special advantage or opportunity that is available only to certain people. White people have the privilege of assuming that they will be treated as "normal" and they will not be treated as different, foreign, or a threat.

Despite reaching huge success, Barack Hussein Obama's colour and name meant that he has always been treated as "different" and "foreign". In 2008, Barack Obama won the election and became the first black president of the United States. The social media backlash and racist commentary written about him was often overwhelming. In 2011, two different Republican politicians had to apologize for describing him using different racial epithets in two separate events. In 2011, as well, Donald Trump began his five-year

campaign on both regular and social media that questioned Barack Hussein Obama's eligibility to be president. (Sadly, the campaign pre-dates Trump's involvement and was started by the Democrats in about 2008.)

The "Birther Movement" questioned the validity of Barack Hussein Obama's Hawaii birth certificate. Conspiracy theorists also claimed that the president's middle name and his years spent at school as a child in Indonesia both were proof of his anti-Christian, anti-U.S.A. and pro-Muslim biases. The white privilege enjoyed by all the presidents before Barack Obama meant that their loyalties to the U.S.A. were never in doubt. Their white privilege meant that their birthplaces and their documents were never questioned. Millions of Americans believed that Barack Obama was born in Kenya and his mother and grandparents later registered the birth in Hawaii. These people's anti-non-white and anti-Hawaiian prejudices made it easy for them to believe that Hawaiian officials routinely faked records and recorded the birth of people born elsewhere as if they were born in Hawaii. The "Birther Movement" only subsided in 2016 because, after serving two terms as president, Obama was not eligible to run again.

The father of one of my former students is a superintendent of an apartment building in the Don Mills and Sheppard area. When tenants (who have never met him) call him with a problem, he books a time to come and make a repair. When he arrives at the door, he often is not invited into the apartment. There are still many tenants who, upon seeing a black man through their peep hole, will not let him in to their apartments, despite what he is saying through the door. He often has to phone again and explain that he is the black man at their door there for the repair. He has even had to deal with phone calls from tenants telling him that there is a "scary black man" outside their door. He had to explain to them that he is the "scary black man". My former student's father explained that he constantly faces these kinds of racist attitudes and micro-aggressions.

Micro-aggression refers to common verbal, behavioural, or environmental actions that stem from negative or derogatory attitudes toward marginalized groups. Micro-aggressions in the workplace, at school, with a medical professional, in government settings, with the police, at a store or business, in a religious setting, at people's homes, or out in public still continue. The fight against racism and discrimination must address prejudiced, discriminatory, and racist acts and micro-aggressions. As well, it must address white privilege and other forms of privilege. We may have changed the laws, but there is still a lot of work to do to change people's hearts and minds in order to fight racism and other forms of discrimination in the twenty-first century.

## PRIEST-IN-CHARGE CONTACT INFORMATION

You may reach the Rev. Sherri by email at [priest-stmatthewtheapostleorile@toronto.anglican.ca](mailto:priest-stmatthewtheapostleorile@toronto.anglican.ca), or by phone at 416-494-7020 ext. 2. Sherri's day off is Monday. In case of pastoral emergencies, please call (416) 880 – 4211.

## CHURCH ASSISTANT'S OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Friday: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**NOTE:** The office is open to visitors by appointment only.

Please email the office at [stmatthewtheapostleorile@toronto.anglican.ca](mailto:stmatthewtheapostleorile@toronto.anglican.ca) or [office@stmatthew.ca](mailto:office@stmatthew.ca) to make an appointment.

## **Parish Officers**

Rector's Warden	Valerie Seales
Peoples' Warden	Steve O'Keefe
Rector's Deputy Warden	Nigel Jansz
Peoples' Deputy Warden	Norma Walker Roberts
Office/Rentals	Donna Lam
Treasurer/Bookkeeper	Sandra Lumb <i>treasurer@stmatthew.ca</i>
Sidespeople 8:00	Trevor Evans
10:00	Valerie Seales
Music Director/Organist	David Braund
Envelope Secretary	Sandra Lumb
Synod Representative	Margaret Gordon Allen
Alternative Synod Member	Norma Walker Roberts
Church School	TBD
Nursery Director and Messy Church Facilitator	Diane Wilton
Altar Guild Chair	Gwynne Barker
Fundraising	Bonnie LaRue Sherry Jansz
Growing Healthy Stewards Chair	Delores Lawrence
Social Justice & Outreach	Anne Creighton
Hospitality	Valerie Seales Margaret Gordon Allen