



St Paul's Hampton

*Growing spiritually and building community
through discipleship, worship & service*

March 26, 2017

4th Sunday in Lent

Mothering Sunday

9:00 am Holy Communion | Book of Common Prayer P67

10:30 am Holy Communion | Book of Alternative Services P185

Collect:

Almighty God, through the waters of baptism your Son has made us children of light. May we ever walk in his light and show forth your glory in the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

This Sunday's Readings:

1 SAMUEL 16:1-13 (9am) - *After Saul had failed as the first king of Israel, YAHWEH sent the prophet Samuel to Bethlehem and the house of Jesse to anoint one of his sons as the next king. Both Samuel and Jesse were blind to the proper choice because they, unlike YAHWEH, could not see into the heart. Even though he seemed too young for the job, David the shepherd boy was finally selected and when Samuel anointed him he was filled with the Spirit.*

PSALM 23 - *David depicts his relationship with YAHWEH in terms of a sheep who trusts that the shepherd knows what he is doing in spite of appearances. He provides water, food and shelter, even in circumstances that the sheep, with its limited vision, would see as extremely threatening.*

EPHESIANS 5:8-14 - *According to St. Paul, the Christian has passed from darkness to light, producing that which is good, right and true. Living in this way makes even the works of darkness visible in the light of Christ.*

JOHN 9:1-41 - *In healing a man born blind Jesus graphically demonstrates that he is indeed the light of the world. The impenetrable darkness of the blind man is dispersed and when he recognizes Jesus as the Son of Man and believes in him, he comes even to see as God sees. The sighted Pharisees, on the other hand, demonstrate through their opposition to Jesus that they are the ones who are really blind and dwell in darkness.*

Reflections:

It's usually religious people who are the most likely to believe in miracles. In the Gospel this morning, however, it's the most religious people in the story (the Pharisees) who have the hardest time believing what they are told that Jesus has done. Why do think that is?

We often say, "seeing is believing." Is that true for you?

What do you think of the idea that sometimes it's believing which allows us to see?

St Paul's Prayer Corner

Mission of the Month: Hampton High School Pancakes

International: Our Companion Diocese of Ho - Bishop Matthias

Diocese: Our Bishop David and his wife Janet & Retired Bishops Harold, George, William and Claude.

Government: Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier Brian Gallant, Mayor Ken Chorley and the town council

Deanery: Parish of Waterford: Rev. Robert Langmaid, Retired Clergy: Rev. David Gray

Parish: Rev. David & Family, Rev. Deacon Deborah Cochran & Family

Parishioners: Gale, Jackie, Don, Della, Loretta, Barb, Glenn, Pat, Donald, Dawn, Paul, Sylvia, Erika

Printed copies of the newsletter with upcoming events
are available at the back of the church