



Fourth Sunday of Easter - A
May 3, 2020
Battle of the Atlantic Sunday

Key Scripture - Psalm 23
The Good Shepherd

Theme
HMCS SMITHS FALLS
A Shepherd of the Sea



Welcome All

- † Newcomers please sign our guestbook 
- † Special requests may be made through Facebook  [Contact Us](#)
- † Trinity is Welcoming, Open, Inclusive and Accessible.
 - Trinity is an Affirming Congregation and is inclusive of folk who find themselves a part of what is described as “LGBTQ+”
 - Our church building is closed but our Congregation is Open and Active in a Ministry of Prayer, Service and Care
 - Church business will be conducted remotely as much as possible
 - Worship will be recorded and posted to FaceBook and our WebPage

Welcome and Announcements

This week's Phone Tree Message -
29 April 2020

○ Comfort

When the night surrounds,
and stars are out,
I like to sit and look at the sky,
and remember -
I am one individual,
of one species,
on one planet,
in one arm,
of one spiral galaxy,
in one galactic cluster,
in the immensity of
all space and time.

And yet, my God,
your love,
your peace,
your everflowing grace,
encompasses even me.

In the all that is,
every part,
every moment
is entangled by your love.

I am comforted by that.

A prayer for comfort - Right Rev. Richard Bott, Moderator of The United Church of Canada

○ Communication

○ Trinity United Church News and Updates -

- Our Congregation is active in Prayer, Care and Service
- Council and teams meet regularly by video or phone
- Worship Services are replayed
 - On COGECO - Your TV Sundays at 10:00 and 2:00
 - On the Trinity Web Page and FaceBook at our regular Service Time, 10:30 Sunday Morning
- This Sunday is the Fourth Sunday of Easter. It is when we normally celebrate our Anniversary. Anniversaries are a time to remember. Today, we have much -

- We remember those who served us well in our congregation.
- We remember that the 28th of May is the National Day of Mourning, a remembrance of those who have died as a result of their work, or become ill or have been injured. Those known to us are -
 - Joey Drummond
 - Stephen McMullen
 - G. Ritchie Stanzel
 - Bruce Halladay
- We continue to remember the rampage that started in Portapique, Nova Scotia and spread to other communities, consuming innocent folk.
- We remember RCMP Constable Heidi Stevenson, Regimental #45161. Who died while fulfilling her pledge to help shape safe communities as a shepherd, and -
- The first Sunday in May is the Battle of the Atlantic Sunday -

HMCS SMITHS FALLS was a Flower Class Corvette that escorted Convoys in the Atlantic. She survived the war. Her ship's bell rests in the Smiths Falls Legion

Many Ships and sailors did not survive.

Most of the 2,000 RCN officers and men who died during the war were killed during the Battle of the Atlantic.

More than 1,600 Merchant Navy personnel from Canada and Newfoundland were lost. Percentage-wise, their casualty rate was higher than those of any of Canada's fighting services during the Second World War. One out of every seven Merchant Navy sailors who served was killed or wounded.

In days past our Church and Community would have made a promise, “Never to Forget.” This morning we honour that promise and remember.

- Some of our folk are making Non-Medical Face Masks. This will make our community a safer place to be. Arlene Hunter is helping to coordinate our efforts.
- Our Food Distribution efforts on Tuesday and Saturday, continues. Please contact Betty Lou Kempt at 613-291-0701 if you would like to help
- **The Christian Community Team is able to distribute Take Away Lunches to those who find meal preparation a challenge during these days. Please let us know if this would be helpful and we will serve as we are able**
- Our Stewardship Team, Treasurer and Trustees are mindful about finances.
 - This may be a good time to start using Pre-Authorized Payments (PAR) in whole or in part. It is an easy and consistent way to support the congregation
 - Geraniums are still for sale. We will have 500 ready for distribution on 30 May. **We only have Pink left**
 - We will follow whatever limitations are in place at that time
 - You can order yours by phoning Barb Byam at 613-283-1182
 - Grocery / Gift Cards are still available for sale - Contact the Church Office at - 613 283 4444
- Connection
 - The Communications Team would like to help you stay in touch
 - If you would like the latest posts from the church but have not been receiving updates by email, we may not have your address.

- Care
 - The Healing Pathway Team and others are actively praying together starting at 1:00 pm every Wednesday.
 - This week, we remember a heritage of selfless sacrifice.

If you want to be contacted regularly by phone, contact the church and let us know - the church office number is - 613 283 4444

COVID-19 Community Meal Distribution Points		
Monday	St. John the Evangelist Anglican Delivery Only	11:00 am - 12:30 pm
Tuesday	Trinity United Church - Brown Bag & Blessing Front Foyer - 41 Market Street	11:30 am - 12:30 pm
Wednesday	St Francis de Sales - St. Vincent de Paul Society 4 McGill St (Hanley Hall) Suspended for two weeks We will resume May 13, 2020	12:00 - 12:30 pm
Thursday	St. John the Evangelist Anglican Delivery Only	11:00 am - 12:30 pm
Friday	Mississippi Rideau Lakes - Salvation Army 251 Brockville St	11:30 am - 1:00 pm
Saturday	Trinity United Church - Volunteers from - SFDCI Front Foyer - 41 Market Street	11:30 am - 12:30 pm
Sunday	St. John the Evangelist Anglican Delivery Only	11:00 am - 12:30 pm

St. John the Evangelist Anglican has a “delivery only” model of food distribution. Lunches will be left at the door that the participant indicates.



SMITHS FALLS
RISE AT THE FALLS
III

We are grateful for the Town of Smiths Falls. Take Away Meals that are being offered during this State of

Emergency are subsidized through the generosity of the Community Grant Program

We are also grateful for the gracious gift of volunteers from Smiths Falls and District Collegiate Institute who make meals on Saturdays possible.

People who prepare and people who serve are screened.
Conditions under which the food is prepared is consistent with best practices respecting COVID-19

Acknowledging Traditional Territory

Smiths Falls is located on the traditional territory of the Algonquin peoples dating back countless generations. We are grateful for our neighbours and recognize the opportunity to exercise the Ministry of Reconciliation

Elements of today's Worship Service are drawn from the Presbyterian Church in Canada online Worship Planner

Introit "Het vrije Nederland" (Sluijter)

Call to Worship

Let us worship God in the name of Jesus Christ, the good shepherd,
who offers us abundant life.

Let us worship God in the name of the One who leads us by still waters,

and restores our souls.

Let us worship God in the name of the One who prepares a banquet for us,

and fills our cups to overflowing.

Prayer of Gathering

Generous and loving God,

Your steadfast love endures throughout the ages.

Generation after generation, you offer renewal and rest
to all who are lost or carry heavy burdens.

However far we have strayed,

you seek us out and guide us beside still waters.

You lead us in path of righteousness,

and walk with us even through the darkest valleys.

You are our hope and our source of life.

Today we worship you for your endless love,

as you embrace us once again,
our Creator, Redeemer and Guide.

Amen.

Hymn 218 "We Praise You, O God"

We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;
we bless your holy name: glad praises we sing.

We worship you, God of our mothers and fathers,
through trial and tempest, companion and guide.
When perils o'ertake us, you will not forsake us,
but faithful to your promise, you walk by our side.

With voices united our praises we offer,
and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
Our sins now confessing, we pray for your blessing,
to you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

Learning with Children

Remembering Promises

When we make a promise to remember we have to demonstrate that promise fulfilled. Anniversary Sunday is a time to remember.

This is also Battle of the Atlantic Sunday.

We remember HMCS SMITHS FALLS.

Our Bible readings are about Shepherds.

Since you are home and may have access to the internet, look up

HMCS SMITHS FALLS, what a convoy escort did during the Second World War and how that is like being a Shepherd.

It is very common that when we remember and honour people, we do so because they lived and served like a Shepherd.

May God help us to live like shepherds too.

Call to Reconciliation

Let us join together as we admit our human frailty -

Prayer of Confession

**Ever-patient God, endless in love and abundant in mercy,
we confess that too often we forget
the forgiveness, kindness and friendship we receive
from one another.**

**You have called us to be compassionate,
but too often we fall into judgment.**

**You have called us to follow Christ,
but too often we are distracted.**

Forgive us and renew a right spirit within us.

Assurance of Pardon

Dear friends in Christ, while it is true that we forget,
it is a greater truth that we are remembered by Christ and are
forgiven through God's love.

Be at peace with God, with yourself and with one another.

Scripture Psalm 23 (VU 747); John 10:1-10

Psalm 23 (VU 747) "The Lord Is My Shepherd"

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not
want;

 he makes me down to lie
in pastures green; he leadeth me
 the quiet waters by.

My table thou hast furnished
 in presence of my foes;
my head thou dost with oil anoint,
 and my cup overflows.

My soul he doth restore again,
 and me to walk doth make
 within the paths of
righteousness,
 e'en for his own name's sake.

Goodness and mercy all my life
 shall surely follow me;
and in God's house forevermore
 my dwelling place shall be.

Yea, though I walk through death's
dark vale,
 yet will I fear none ill,
 for thou art with me; and thy
rod
 and staff me comfort still.

John 10:1-10 (NRSV)

“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will

not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

Hymn 232 "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

Joyful, joyful, we adore you, God of glory, life and love;
 hearts unfold like flowers before you, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive our fear and doubt away;
 giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

All your works with joy surround you, earth and heaven reflect your
rays,
 stars and angels sing around you, center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,
 chanting bird and flowing fountain, sound their praise eternally.

You are giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,
 wellspring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!
Source of grace and fount of blessing, let your light upon us shine;
 teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals, join the mighty chorus which the morning stars began;
 God's own love is reigning o'er us, joining people hand in hand.
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife;
 joyful music lifts us sunward in the triumph song of life.

Reflection Shepherds Among Us

Our Scripture lessons for today speak to shepherds and safety. Shepherds shape the environment in which lambs reside. Shepherds guide their lambs through perilous terrain to places of rest. Shepherds watch at the boundaries. Boundaries that keep sheep from wandering astray. Boundaries that establish the limits of a secure space or path.

Shepherds walk that path with the lambs, taking every effort to place themselves between their charges and the threats that wait outside of that safe place or passage. Shepherds know too, that predators do not wait passively outside but ever seek ways to break through. Shepherds watch and stand prepared to keep bandits and predators at bay.

Today, we remember and honour the Shepherds of Smiths Falls past and present.

Our police Services in Smiths Falls and all Police Services act as shepherds in our communities.

Our Public Health Measures at this time are a form of boundary. Shepherds are the folk in the Health Care community who work in that space that brings them closest to the threat, as we understand the virus as predator and we, the prey.

This Sunday is the Fourth Sunday of Easter. It is when we normally celebrate our Anniversary. Anniversaries are a time to remember, to honour, to give thanks and to Bless. Today, we have many Shepherds to remember -

We remember those who served us well in our congregation. Trinity has had a long tradition of shepherds - Those who led the way decades ago in Environmental Stewardship. Folk who today work to eliminate discrimination and exclusion. As an Affirming Congregation, we draw the

circle wide to ensure that nobody, no Lamb of God, feels left outside of the Sheep Fold,... God's Grace, fellowship and abundant blessing.

We remember that the 28th of May is the National Day of Mourning, a remembrance of those who have died as a result of their work, or become ill or have been injured. This year and the years that follow, will include folk who have become ill or died as they served others who were or are under the attack that is COVID-19.

We continue to remember the rampage that started in Portapique, Nova Scotia and spread to other communities, consuming innocent folk. We remember RCMP Constable Heidi Stevenson, Regimental #45161; mom, wife and daughter, who died in the line of duty, fulfilling her pledge to help shape safe communities as a shepherd.

The first Sunday in May is the Battle of the Atlantic Sunday. HMCS SMITHS FALLS was a Flower Class Corvette that escorted Convoys in the Atlantic. Her ship's bell rests in the Smiths Falls Legion. Today, the community of Smiths Falls remembers her namesake, HMCS SMITHS FALLS a Shepherd on the Sea. While she survived the war, many ships and sailors did not.

Most of the 2,000 RCN officers and men who died during the war were killed during the Battle of the Atlantic. More than 1,600 Merchant Navy personnel from Canada and Newfoundland were lost.

Percentage-wise, their casualty rate was higher than those of any of Canada's fighting services during the Second World War. One out of every seven Merchant Navy sailors who served was killed or wounded.

In days past our Church and Community would have made a promise, "Never to Forget." This morning we honour that promise and remember.

THE BATTLE OF THE ATLANTIC

On September 3rd, 1939, the German Navy received a signal to open

hostilities with England at once. Seven hours later, the passenger liner SS Athenia was sunk by submarine U-30. Thus began a running battle that lasted until the final day of the Second World War in the European theatre. Canada declared war against Germany on September 10th, 1939 and the Royal Canadian Navy, the Royal Canadian Air Force, and the Merchant Navy joined the battle.

The Battle of the Atlantic pitted Allied naval and air forces against the notorious German submarine “wolf-packs”, whose prey were the convoys of merchant ships carrying valuable war material and personnel across the ocean. It was a bitter struggle. Although the Battle of the Atlantic was fought at sea, it touched the life of virtually every Canadian. Not only did men and women from across the country serve in the Navy, Air Force and Merchant Navy, but the overseas trade they were defending was vital to Canada. In order to preserve this critical trade and build up the supplies necessary for victory, it was essential that the convoys reach their destinations.

The Battle of the Atlantic ended with V-E Day on May 8th, 1945. During the long bitter struggle, the Royal Canadian Navy and Royal Canadian Air Force had participated in the escort of at least 200 million tons of shipping and had sunk 52 U-boats. The battle however, had been costly to Canada. Merchant ship losses totalled over 70 and 24 Canadian warships were lost. Fatal casualties in the Merchant Navy amounted to over 1700, in the Navy to over 2000, and in the Air Force to more than 900.

Canadian ships and seamen, and the naval and air forces used for the defence of shipping, may well have made the most important of all Canadian contributions in the Second World War. The Battle of the Atlantic is thus an important element in the nation’s and Smiths Falls’ history and is remembered with respect in the Canadian navy, air force and merchant marine.

Let us remember ...

HMCS FRASER	HMCS LEVIS
HMCS CHARLOTTETOWN	HMCS ST CROIX
HMCS REGINA	HMCS CLAYOQUOT
HMCS BRAS D'OR	HMCS WINDFLOWER
HMCS OTTAWA	HMCS CHEDABUCTO
HMCS ALBERNI	HMCS TRENTONIAN
HMCS MARGAREE	HMCS SPIKENARD
HMCS LOUISBOURG	HMCS ATHABASKAN
HMCS SKEENA	HMCS GUYSBOROUGH
HMCS OTTER	HMCS RACOON
HMCS WEYBURN	HMCS VALLEYFIELD
HMCS SHAWININGAN	HMCS ESQUIMALT

Our scripture today speaks of a shepherd. So often with respect to sheep and shepherds, Christians adopt a view as of the sheep, with Jesus as shepherd. *If we are called to be like Jesus*, then a more helpful view would be to see our world and ministry *as a shepherd sees it*. May we ever be faithful in engaging ministries and partnerships that shape the environment in which we serve to facilitate safety, security and peace for All.

AMEN.

Hymn He Who Would Valiant Be

He who would valiant be 'gainst all disaster,
Let him in constancy, follow the Master.
There's no discouragement, shall make him once relent,
His first avowed intent to be a Pilgrim.

Who so beset her round, with dismal stories,
Do but themselves confound, her strength the more is.
No foes shall stay her might, though she with giants fight,
She will make good her right to be a Pilgrim.

Since Lord, thou dost defend us with Thy Spirit,
We know we at the end, shall life inherit.
Then fancies flee away! I'll fear not what men say,
I'll labour night and day to be a Pilgrim.

We Respond to God's Word Offering Ourselves For The Work And Witness Of The Church

Invitation to Offering

In this season of Easter, we celebrate God's most precious gift to us in Christ's dying and his rising. As we present our offering this morning, may our generosity reflect God's goodness to us and the hope we have In Christ Jesus.

Trinity Needs Your Help

During these trying times, Trinity's life and work continues in many ways. While our Sunday services and many other things in our lives are on hold until further notice, and our building is closed, our staff and members are still active and operational costs continue.

There will be no opportunity for the regular collection of offerings each week, so Trinity needs you to share your gifts in a different way. We have 4 options:

1. Please visit the www.trinityunitedsf.ca and use the "DONATE" button. It takes you to CanadaHelps.org where you can make a safe and secure, one time or monthly donation as often as you want.
2. This may also be a good time to start using Pre-authorized Payments. The form for that is attached to this post and can be printed off and mailed to the church office at 41 Market Street / PO Box 28, Smiths Falls, K7A 2E7
3. We have also set up an e-transfer account to accept your donation. Please use secretary@trinityunitedsf.ca . Password not required. Please note your envelope number and amount allocated to general church expenses, M&S. and/or capital projects.
4. Of course you can always mail a donation to the church office at 41/ PO Box 28 Market Street, Smiths Falls, ON K7A 2E7

If you require assistance or have any questions about making donations, please do not hesitate to contact the church office at 613-283-4444 or by email at secretary@trinityunitedsf.ca.

Thank you.

***Offering Prayer**

Generous God, we thank you for all we have received from you which brings us hope and joy. Bless the gifts we bring. May they help to establish your reign in the world you love. In the name of your greatest gift, Jesus Christ, we pray.

Amen.

Meditation "Heart Of Oak" (Boyce)

Prayers of the People

Holy and gracious God, shepherd of our lives,
we come to you with thanksgiving for you are our provider and sustainer.

You transform our weary souls with your grace, wisdom and love.
You bless us each day with glimpses of resurrection and the promise of new life,
in signs of spring, in stories of kindness and perseverance during crisis.

Touch our hearts in surprising ways.

Listening God, shepherd of the world, we bring you now our prayers for others. Hear them in your tender mercy:

We pray for people who are struggling with illness, loneliness, grief or sadness,
thinking especially of those whose lives have been redefined by COVID-19.

And we pray for those whose working life has been changed drastically by this pandemic, thinking of health care workers, those in the food supply chain, and all those whose jobs have disappeared.

May each life be touched by the power of resurrection and new hope.

We pray for countries and communities where it is not safe for people to live out their truth and faith openly.

May all people of faith be granted the freedom to live, love and praise without fear.

We pray for people in the world who are victims of discrimination and acts of hatred.

May your desire for justice be made known and lived out.

We pray for the family of RCMP Constable Heidi Stevenson, Regimental #45161. Who died while fulfilling her pledge to help shape safe communities as a shepherd. Wrap family and friends in your loving arms.

We pray for members of the SFPS, OPP and all members Police Services using the words of the American National Police Wives Association

-
Lord

 bless the ones who wear the badge
 The ones who walk the beat,
Protect and keep them safe
 While they're on the street.
As they wait and as they watch
 Doing good for all,
guide their minds and give them strength
 For each and every call.
Ready to put their lives on the line
 Give them courage each day,
Let them know you're always there
 In each and every way.
So bless the ones who wear the badge,
 Protect them from harm,
Always keep them safe
 And in your loving arms.

On this Battle of the Atlantic Sunday, we pray for members of the RCN and all those who serve as shepherds on the sea.

We remember the National Day of Mourning, those who have died as a result of their work, or become ill or have been injured. Those known to us and those who today, continue to work in that dangerous space between us and the CoronaVirus.

We pray for our congregation and all people who make up your Church, who consider how to be faithful shepherds in our day and circumstance.

Feeding the hungry.

Delivering lunches to folk for whom preparing a meal is a challenge.

Making and distributing masks.

Checking in by phone.

Praying without ceasing.

This morning too, we join our hearts with those who remember Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. We pray for your peace and comfort upon our sister Flora, as we remember with her, Daphne Brown, her sister, a Metis woman killed by her husband in Labrador in 1970.

In days past our Church and Community would have made a promise to remember. This morning we honour that promise .

May we discover new ways to be your Easter people in the world.

We are thankful that we can experience God in a relationship from which we draw strength, courage and encouragement.

The ways of knowing God - as Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer; may be expressed in the prayer Jesus taught us -

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever

Amen

We Depart to Serve with Joy

Hymn VU 659 "Eternal Father, Strong To Save"

Eternal Father, strong to save, whose arm has bound the restless wave,
who bade the mighty ocean deep its own appointed limits keep:
O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

O Christ, whose voice the waters heard and hushed their raging at thy
word,
who walked upon the foaming deep, and calm amid the storm didst
sleep:
O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

O Holy Spirit, who didst brood upon the chaos dark and rude,
and bade its angry tumult cease, and gave for wild confusion peace:
O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

O Trinity of love and power, all travellers guard in danger's hour.

From rock and tempest, fire and foe, protect them whereso'er they go:
thus evermore shall rise to thee glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

Benediction

May God lead you to places of rest and renewal;

May Christ accompany you on the journey;

May the Holy Spirit fill your hearts with joy and generosity;

And may the blessing of God Almighty, Creator, Christ and Spirit,
descend upon you and dwell in your hearts this day and always.

Choral Amen

Postlude "Eternal Father, Strong To Save" (Dykes)