



Fifth Sunday of Easter - B
May 2, 2021
Battle of the Atlantic

God is love, and those who
abide in love abide in God, and
God abides in them.

Theme - Abide With Me



Battle of the Atlantic Sunday commemorates the sacrifices of sailors, merchant mariners, Royal Canadian Air Force and Canadian Army personnel who gave their lives in the North Atlantic.

Today's Service draws from [Anglican Military Ordinariate - Commemoration of The Battle of the Atlantic](#)

Welcome and Announcements

- † **Newcomers please sign our guestbook**
- † Special requests may be made through Facebook
- † Trinity is Welcoming, Open, Inclusive and Accessible.
 - Trinity is an Affirming Congregation
- † **A Stay at Home Order has been issued. We will not meet in person for worship at least until the order is suspended.**
- † Services will be posted to [Facebook](#). You will find a window to our Facebook Page on our [Website](#). You will also find a link to our [Bulletin Page](#). Services are rebroadcast on COGECO (Your TV) the following Sunday 10:00 am and 2:00 pm.
- † **As a consequence of the current Stay at Home Order and the**

possibility that our situation may remain fluid afterward, we have postponed our Annual General Meeting until 13 June 2021.

† Stewardship Update

– Annual Geranium Sale

- Geraniums are sold out! Those who purchased will receive a telephone call prior to May 29, 2021 with a scheduled time to pick up their order.

† Trinity Compost Sale at REAL

– Plan to pick up a bag or two of compost

– **Sale is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday May 22 & 23**

- **Curbside pickup will be arranged**
- **Best Mushroom Compost ever!**
- **You may Pre-Order through the Office**
- **30 litre bags for \$10.00**

If you do not already track news and events in our larger Church Community, you may wish to [visit the United Church of Canada Website](#). Our Moderator has a well written and hopeful contribution to [Mental Health Awareness Week May 2–8](#). You will find other recent helpful posts here as well.

Wednesday last, 28 April, was the [National Day of Mourning](#). We join our prayers today with those who have been injured or have lost loved ones through workplace accidents.

We remember and honour those lives lost or injured due to a workplace tragedy, and also renew our commitment to improve health and safety in the workplace to prevent further injury, illness and death.



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

Introit 636 "Give to the Winds Your Fears" vs. 1 and 2

Give to the winds your fears.
Hope and be undismayed.
God hears your sighs and counts your tears.
God shall lift up your head,
God shall lift up your head.

Through waves and clouds and storms,
God gently clears your way.
Wait for the time, so shall this night
soon end in joyous day,
soon end in joyous day.

Call to Worship

Proclaim with me the greatness of God,
together let us extol God's holy name.
The Lord shall judge between many peoples,
and shall decide for strong nations afar off;

And they shall beat their swords into ploughshares
And their spears into pruning hooks;

Nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war anymore.

Micah 4:3

Opening Prayer

You are the vine, and we are the branches.

Your love is our strength.

Your energy is our joy.

Your attentiveness is our hope.

Your power can transform even the most difficult situations.

You nourish our faith and imaginations so that we can bear fruit in many ways.

You promise we can dwell in you because you are dwelling in us.

We gather today to offer our praise to you,

and bring glory to God through the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Fill us with the love you know as God, ever Three and ever One,
so that our love will honour you each and every day.

Amen.

Hymn 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.

Time With Children

Last Sunday, Lorraine and I pretended to have a canoe. It was made of cardboard. We had real paddles and we had real life jackets. It would look silly to be in a canoe without a paddle. There is even an expression about being up the creek without a paddle. It's not a place you want to be. Hopefully, it would also look wrong to be in a canoe without a life jacket.

When I was in school, they taught us safety. Back in my day, there was a cartoon "Elmer the safety elephant." You might know Elmer. I think Elmer is still a spokesperson for the Canada Safety Council even today. Elephants have long life spans.

Elmer would be concerned about - Fire Safety, Railway Safety, Internet Safety, School Bus Safety and Traffic Safety. This month Elmer has a special on germs - washing your hands and such.

Using the Crosswalk.

Walking when the light says you can.

Wearing a helmet when you ride a bicycle.

Wearing a seatbelt.

Wear a mask.

Sanitize your hands.

Of course wearing a life jacket in a canoe.

I learned safety tips from Elmer more than 50 years ago and I remember and practice them even today. I do what is safe and what is seen to be safe.

Do you know why?

1) I want to be safe

2) I want to set a good example

3) I want my grandchildren to be safe. I want to be a good Grandfather.

Because I do not know who is watching. I do not know who is seeing the example that I am setting.

Do you know for whom I am most concerned?

Children.

I do not want to be the person that a child refers to if they say to their parents or grandparents or caregivers that you do not have to wait for a walk light because “That man beside us did not have to wait ... nothing bad happened to him.” So I’ll wait at the light with you and I’ll even wear a life jacket in a pretend canoe.

Safety is very important. It is important to have habits that are consistent, so you do not forget and it is important to encourage others to be safe ... setting an example is one way we do this.

Why am I talking about safety today? Because this week on Wednesday, the 28th of April, we remembered the National Day of

Mourning. On the National Day of Mourning, we remember folk who have been hurt or died on the job. We honour them. We also promise to do what we can to make sure that our workers and workplaces are safe wherever people are employed.

We talk about this a lot this year because we are in a pandemic. Elmer even talks about it. Everybody has a part to play.

The Gospel today reminds us of something important,

“Those who say, “I love God,” and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen.”

Elmer might say that if we do not care about a person’s safety, we cannot say that we love them. So, following safety advice and showing other people is one way to demonstrate our concern and love for others.

We remember this every year on the National Day of Mourning.

Children’s Prayer

Dear God,

Help us to show others our love and respect in every way and every day. Help us to remember to be a good example in everything we do and show care and do our part in making safe schools, neighbourhoods and even work places when we grow up.

We pray for those who have been injured at work and those who feel the sadness of loving somebody they love. Keep them in your care.

Amen.

Prayer of Reconciliation

Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer,

We confess there are ways we fail to love you fully.

Forgive us for our lack of reverence for the earth and for using up more than our share of its resources.

Forgive us for ignoring the cries of others

who know pain or discrimination which we dismiss as mere complaint.

Forgive us for seeking praise from others yet failing to encourage them in their endeavours.

Forgive us, O God, and root our lives more deeply in your love. Amen.

Assurance of Blessing

God is love, and God's perfect love casts out fear.

We are promised that those who abide in love abide in God and God abides in them. Claim your hope in this good news - God's perfect love abides in you through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Scripture Psalm 22: 25-31 (VU 746 Parts Three and Four);
 1 John 4:7-21;
 John 15:1-8

Psalm 22: 25-31 (VU 746 Parts Three and Four)

Refrain -

***In the presence of your people
I will praise your name.***

Give praise, all you who fear God!

Proclaim God's greatness, all you children of Jacob;

stand in awe, all you children of Israel!

For God has neither despised

nor scorned the poor in their distress.

You, O God, have not hidden your face from them.

You heard them when they called to you.

Refrain -

***In the presence of your people
I will praise your name.***

You are the theme of my praise in the great assembly.

I will keep my promise in the presence of those who fear you.

Let the poor eat to satisfaction;

let those who seek you praise you.

May they be in good heart forever!

Let all the ends of the earth remember and turn to you, O God.

let all the families of the nations bow down before you.

**For yours is the dominion, O God,
you rule over the nations.**

Refrain -

***In the presence of your people
I will praise your name.***

Even all who sleep in the grave shall worship you;

those who do down into the dust shall bow before you.

I too shall live for you.

Our children shall serve you,

and tell generations yet to come about you.

To a people yet unborn,

**they shall make known the saving deeds you have
done.**

Refrain -

***In the presence of your people
I will praise your name.***

1 John 4:7-21

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

John 15:1-8

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can

you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

Meditation "Heart of Oak" (Boyce)

Reflection

The Battle of the Atlantic

Battle of the Atlantic Sunday commemorates the sacrifices of sailors, merchant seaman, Royal Canadian Air Force and Canadian Army personnel who gave their lives in the North 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 sailors, 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 history and is remembered with respect in the Canadian navy, air force and merchant marine.

The RCN and the Merchant Navy made nearly 26,000 safe crossings carrying over 181 million tons of supplies to Great Britain.

Freedom was made secure.

HMCS SMITHS FALLS was a modified Flower-class corvette that served in the Royal Canadian Navy during the Second World War. She fought primarily in the Battle of the Atlantic as a convoy escort and was the last Flower-class corvette to enter service with the RCN.

The ship's bell of HMCS SMITHS FALLS resides in the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 95, Smiths Falls, and it is the sound of her

bell that represents His Majesty's Canadian Ships lost at sea during this long and costly battle.

Thus we remember

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

They will not be forgotten.

Canadian Merchant Ships

Between 1939 and 1945, over 1700 Merchant Navy personnel lost their lives due to enemy action. This figure includes Canadian merchant sailors who were lost while serving aboard 278 Canadian and Allied ships.

Over 70 Canadian Merchant ships were sunk, most in the Battle of the Atlantic.

1940 – 7 ships lost

1943 – 2 ships lost

1941 – 13 ships lost

1944 – 8 ships lost

1942 – 36 ships lost

1945 – 7 ships lost

They will not be forgotten.

Royal Canadian Air Force Squadrons

Approximately 350 aircraft were lost and more than 900 aircrew were killed during the Battle of the Atlantic.

They will not be forgotten.

We remember all who lost their lives at sea.

They shall grow not old.

As we that are left grow old.

Age shall not weary them,

Nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun,

And in the morning,

We will remember them.

We Will Remember Them

A Prayer for Peace

Almighty God from whom true peace comes, open our minds and hearts to a true love of peace. Guide those who are in authority to listen well to your wisdom, to work only for justice and charity, which is the only true path to peace in the world. May your kingdom come so that the earth will be filled with your knowledge and your love and your peace. Amen.

The Naval Prayer

O Eternal Lord God, who alone spreadest out the heavens and rulest the raging of the seas; who has compassed the waters with bounds until day and night come to an end; be pleased to receive into Thy Almighty and Most Gracious protection the persons of us Thy servants, and the fleet in which we serve. Preserve us from the dangers of the sea and from the violence of the enemy, that we may be a safeguard unto our most Gracious Sovereign Lady, Queen Elizabeth, and her Dominions, and a security for such as pass on the seas upon their lawful occasions; that the inhabitants of the commonwealth may in peace and quietness serve Thee our God, and that we may return safely to enjoy the Blessings of the Land, with the Fruits of our Labours, and with a Thankful Remembrance of Thy mercies to Praise and Glorify Thy Holy Name. Amen.

Hymn 625 "I Feel The Winds of God"

I feel the winds of God today; today my sail I lift,
 though heavy oft with drenching spray and torn with many a rift;
if hope but light the water's crest, and Christ my bark will use,
 I'll seek the seas at his behest, and brave another cruise.

It is the wind of God that dries my vain regretful tears,
 until with braver thoughts shall rise the purer, brighter years;
if cast on shores of selfish ease or pleasure I should be,
 O let me feel your freshening breeze, and I'll put back to sea.

If ever I forget your love and how that love was shown,
 lift high the blood-red flag above; it bears your name alone.
Great pilot of my onward way, you will not let me drift;
 I feel the winds of God today, today my sail I lift.

Invitation to the Offering

While the season of Easter unfolds, the gifts of spring emerging around us also remind us of God's generosity in creation.

As we present our gifts to God, may our generosity reflect God's goodness to us and our hope for abundant life.

Offering Prayer

Generous God, we bless you for your gift of life renewed through springtime growth in fields and gardens.

Bless the gifts we offer you.

May they bring hope and renewal to others as we serve in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Hymn 637 "Jesus, Saviour, Pilot Me"

Jesus, Saviour, pilot me
over life's tempestuous sea;
unknown waves before me roll,
hiding rock and treacherous shoal;
chart and compass come from thee,
Jesus, Saviour, pilot me.

As a mother stills her child,
thou canst hush the ocean wild;
boisterous waves obey thy will
when thou biddest to them "Be still."
Wondrous sovereign of the sea,
Jesus, Saviour, pilot me.

When at last I near the shore,
and the fearful breakers roar
'twixt me and the peaceful land,
still supported by thy hand,
may I hear thee say to me,
"Fear not, I will pilot thee."

Prayers of the People

We draw near to you in prayer this day,
trusting that your love changes lives
and your resurrection brings hope into the world God loves.
You have drawn near to us and walk with us through every challenge.
We are grateful for signs of hope even in the midst of the pandemic,
for vaccine distribution and recovery plans,
for generosity and creativity offered in surprising ways.
As we lay before you the concerns on our hearts today,
draw near to those we name, and bring the gift that is needed.

We lay before you,
those who are in the news headlines this week
and situations in the world where justice and renewal are
badly needed -

We lay before you,
those who are in hospital or care
and all those who struggle with illness, pain or health
burdens of any sort -

We lay before you,
Workers who have been injured
And families who have experienced loss due to workplace
accidents -

We lay before you,
families under stress, relationships that are strained,
and friends and neighbours in need of reconciliation -

We lay before you,
people seeking food, homes or jobs in these hard times,
and those worried about economic recovery from the
pandemic -

We lay before you
those who face discrimination daily,
and who lack respect and opportunity because of their
identity,
or fear violence in their daily lives -

We believe that you hear our prayers
and will be faithful to our requests and concerns.

Help us seize the moments you give us to reach out to our
neighbour
and show them the love you have to share.

And so we pray together the words you taught us -

Prayers conclude with:

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

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

The Lord's Prayer

We Depart to Serve with Joy

Hymn 232 "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

Joyful, joyful, we adore You,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before You,
Op'ning to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day!

All Your works with joy surround You,
Earth and heav'n reflect Your rays,
Stars and angels sing around You,
Center of unbroken praise;
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain
Praising You eternally!

Always giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living,
Ocean-depth of happy rest!
Loving Father, Christ our Brother,
Let Your light upon us shine;
Teach us how to love each other,
Lift us to the joy divine.

Benediction

May the God of all consolation bless you in every way,
and grant you peace all the days of your life.

Amen.

May the Lord keep you from all misfortune,
and strengthen your hearts in peace.

Amen.

May the Lord enrich you with the gifts of faith, hope and love,
so that what you do in this life may bring you to the happiness of
everlasting life.

Amen.

And may the almighty God bless you, and all whom you love
this day and evermore.

Amen.

Choral Amen

Postlude "The Navy Hymn" (Dykes)

Eternal Father, Strong to Save

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

O Christ, the Lord of hill and plain
O'er which our traffic runs a main
by mountain pass or valley low:
Wherever Lord our comrades go,
protect them by thy guarding hand
from every peril on the land.

O Spirit, whom the Father sent
to spread abroad the firmament:
O Wind of heaven by thy might
Save all who dare the eagles flight,
and keep them by thy watchful care
from every peril in the air.

O Trinity of love and power,
be thou our shield in danger's hour;
from rock and tempest, fire and foe,
protect us wheresoe'er we go;
and evermore shall rise to thee
glad hymns from air and land and sea.