

# *Friday News from South West*

May 5, 2023

## *Easter 5: The Sounds of the Resurrection*

We cannot know the actual sounds of the Resurrection, but we know some of the sounds that followed soon after that event: a stone rolling; women speaking in shock and disbelief; the good news being shared; disciples doubting; Jesus entering a locked room; footsteps on the Emmaus road; a community worshipping and sharing. Through these sounds, we hear the voice of God.

The focus Scripture for this Sunday is John 14: 1-14. NRSV Updated Edition

### ***Jesus the Way to the Father***

*14 "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup> In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. <sup>4</sup> And you know the way to the place where I am going."<sup>5</sup> Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?"<sup>6</sup> Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup> If you know me, you will know<sup>l</sup> my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."*

*<sup>8</sup> Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied."<sup>9</sup> Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? <sup>10</sup> Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. <sup>11</sup> Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe<sup>[e]</sup> because of the works themselves. <sup>12</sup> Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup> I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup> If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."*

How often have you heard the words "in my Father's house are many room" as the presiding minister or priest follows the casket of the deceased to the front of the sanctuary?

Did you realize that these are words of promise! In saying these words to his disciples, Jesus was promising them that he was going back to prepare places for them in the many rooms of his Father's house. These words too are one of the sounds of Resurrection!

As we come to the close of the Easter Season, I would like to share with you other words of Resurrection, perhaps easier to see and believe. They are attributed to Martin Luther\*\*:

***"Our Lord has written the promise of resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in springtime."***

Looking at the opening leaves outside my office window as I write this, my prayer for this week is:



Open us, loving God.

When we want to close our hearts, minds, and even our ears from the cries of others, from pleas for help and proclamations of justice, open us.

Remove every stumbling block and enliven us with your spirit.

Open us, we pray.

Amen.

In peace

Pastor Beryl, DLM

\*\*Martin Luther (1483—1546) German theologian, professor, pastor, and church reformer. Luther began the Protestant Reformation with the publication of his Ninety-Five Theses on October 31, 1517.

## *General Council Office Seeks Youth Climate Motivators*

[from the United Church of Canada E-ssentials newsletter]

In partnership with The GO Project, the General Council Office is hiring 16 Youth Climate Motivators to join us in raising our spirited voices for climate care and climate justice.

The Youth Climate Motivators will be employed from July 3 to August 25 to work with a local community of faith or United Church ministry on a climate care/climate justice initiative. They will meet online and come together in person in August at [Camp Pringle](#) in Shawnigan Lake,

BC. There, they will meet with Moderator Carmen Lansdowne share their local initiatives and develop an action plan to increase the impact of United Church climate care and climate justice initiatives. Learn more about the Youth Climate Motivator positions on the [Job and Volunteer Opportunities webpage](#). Application deadline is May 14, 2023.

[Image: Niklas Pntak on Pixabay]



## *A Message from the Mayor of Verdun\**

The year 2025 will mark the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our borough. We hope to make this event a memorable celebration for our community, and in order to do that, we need your input. I encourage you to respond to the call for ideas for Verdun's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. You may submit ideas up until May 15, 2023 on the platform <https://www.realisonsmtl.ca/verdun150e>. If you have any difficulty attaching documents, don't hesitate to forward them to the following email address: [verdun150e-Interne@montreal.ca](mailto:verdun150e-Interne@montreal.ca)

You have an important role to play in the preparation and organization of this event. We hope you will take the time to share your ideas and suggestions, so that the 150<sup>th</sup> celebration can be an unforgettable experience for everyone.

We are excited to learn what Verduners are passionate about, and looking forward to working together to celebrate the past, present and future of our beloved Verdun community.

Sincerely,

Marie-Andree Mauger,  
Mayor of Verdun and member of the executive committee of Montreal

\*Amy's translation

## *Upcoming Services:*

May 7: Easter 5  
May 14: Easter 6; Mother's Day  
May 21: Easter 7  
May 28: Pentecost

## *Other Announcements:*

May 7<sup>th</sup>: Mayor Maja Vodanovic, Visiting during coffee hour

May 13<sup>th</sup>: Puzzle Sale 10am-12pm (Saturday)

If you have **puzzles** that you would like to donate for the Outreach Committee's upcoming Jigsaw Puzzle Sale, please drop them off at the church weekdays from 8am-1pm or on the day of the sale, May 13<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00am.

Thank you.

*June 3<sup>rd</sup>: Plant Sale 10am-12pm (Saturday)*

*July – Summerlea closed for vacation*



## *SouthWest Prayer List*

John Adnum

David Adnum

Bridget McCarthy

Phyllis Luther

Shirley Mitchell

Patrick O'Leary

Doris Smith

Maurice Tringle

Helen Cameron

May Cook

Donna Cobb

Keith Wood

Violet L'Esperance

Roberta Roberts

If you would like your name added to the prayer list, or if you are requesting on behalf of a family member, call the office or contact Pastor Beryl directly.

**Pastoral Care:** for emergencies, you may contact Pastor Beryl directly on her cell phone. No calls after 9pm please: 514 942-6212.



*SouthWest United Church*  
*225 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Lachine, Qc. H8T 2T7*  
*phone: 514 538-0624*  
*email: [southwestunited@gmail.com](mailto:southwestunited@gmail.com)*  
*Web: [southwestunited.net](http://southwestunited.net)*