



STEWARDSHIP BULLETIN REFLECTIONS SCRIPTURE REFLECTION & ECO-THOUGHT YEAR B – EASTER

Easter Sunday

Scripture Reflection

"I have seen the Lord." (John 20.18)

Alleluia! Christ is risen! The risen Lord is in our midst. May our lives proclaim the glory of the resurrection.

Eco-Thought

The happiest man is he who learns from nature the lesson of worship.

~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

Spring brings spring cleaning. Get a head start when the weather changes and then help a neighbor. And when spring has second thoughts, help the neighbours by shoveling their sidewalks.

Second Sunday of Easter

Scripture Reflection

There was not a needy person among them. (Acts 4. 34)

Can we say this about our city? Our parish community? Our families? Ourselves? The earliest disciples practiced stewardship. Let them be our example.

Eco-Thought

There is no beautifier of complexion, or form, or behavior, like the wish to scatter joy and not pain around us. 'Tis good to give a stranger a meal, or a night's lodging.

~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

Homelessness is not just someone else's problem. Stewards take care of one another as well as the environment. The question is not "what can I do?" but "when can I start?"

Third Sunday of Easter

Scripture Reflection

Jesus had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread. (Luke 24. 35)

It is in sharing with others that the risen Christ is made known to us.

Eco-Thought

When a man dies he clutches in his hands only that which he has given away during his lifetime.

~ Rousseau

Carpooling is a great way to double your stewardship. While you share your vehicle, also share your faith and friendship. It's what Jesus did, it's what followers of Jesus should do.

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Scripture Reflection

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. (Ps. 118.22)

Discipleship is counter-cultural. Not the conventions of the world but Jesus, the good shepherd, who laid down his life for the sheep, is the cornerstone of our lives.

Eco-Thought

Who has not found the heaven below

Will fail of it above.

God's residence is next to mine,

His furniture is love.

~ Emily Dickinson

One person's garbage is another's treasure. Almost everything we use can have a second, third, or even fourth life with somebody else. Never underestimate the human imagination and share your creative recycling ideas with others.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Scripture Reflection

I am the vine, you are the branches. (John 15.5)

Abide in Christ so that Christ might abide in you. Then your deeds will bear fruit and glorify God.

Eco-Thought

When I go into the garden with a spade, and dig a bed, I feel such an exhilaration and health that I discover that I have been defrauding myself all this time in letting others do for me what I should have done with my own hands.

~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

Plant a garden or a tree or both! Get down and dirty this spring and get in touch with nature at the basic level. If you don't have a yard, consider helping an elderly neighbour or participating in a community garden. Your planting will bear fruit in many different ways.

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Scripture Reflection

Love one another as I have loved you. (John 15.12)

Loving one another enables us to share in the divine life of the Trinity. God the Father loves us through the gift of the Son. We return this gift by showing the same love to our neighbour.

Eco-Thought

Peace, in the sense of the absence of war, is of little value to someone who is dying of hunger or cold. It will not remove the pain of torture inflicted on a prisoner of conscience. It does not comfort those who have lost their loved ones in floods caused by senseless deforestation in a neighboring country. Peace can only last where human rights are respected, where the people are fed, and where individuals and nations are free.

~ Dalai Lama

Clean air is what we were given. Clean air is what we should leave. Have your car's exhaust system checked regularly for problems or leaks, which can increase gas consumption, and contribute to smog in the air. Keep your car in order and drive a little less.

Ascension of the Lord

Scripture Reflection

The gifts he gave were . . . to equip the saints for the work of ministry (Ephesians 4.11-12)

When the Lord Jesus ascended to heaven, it fell upon the disciples to continue the proclamation of the gospel and the saving work of Jesus' ministry. Let us employ our diverse gifts to be stewards of the mystery of salvation.

Eco-Thought

People usually consider walking on water or in thin air a miracle. But I think the real miracle is not to walk either on water or in thin air, but to walk on earth. Every day we are engaged in a miracle which we don't even recognize: a blue sky, white clouds, green leaves, the black, curious eyes of a child—our own two eyes. All is a miracle.

~ Thich Nhat Hanh

How can you use your gifts to make the world a better place? God did not give us the gift of the earth and its creatures to use up and discard. We are meant to steward the gift of creation and return it to God with increase! That means we must employ our gifts for the glory of God and in the service of all humankind.

Pentecost Sunday

Scripture Reflection

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. (Galatians 5.22)

Redeemed by the cross and brought to new life in the resurrection we turn now to the Holy Spirit, which guides us in the life of discipleship.

Eco-Thought

There is a wonderful mythical law of nature that the three things we crave most in life—happiness, freedom, and peace of mind—are always attained by giving them to someone else.

~ Peyton Conway March

Ever listen to your breathing? Every breath, is a gift from God. It is up to you whether you live each breath for God or for yourself. Being in peace with one another and in harmony with the natural world is a choice you can make daily to truly live in the Spirit of God.