

SUNDAY SERVICE AT ST. JOHN'S UNITED

J. D. G.
Rev. John M. Smith had for his subject at St. John's United Church on Sunday morning, "It takes . . . to work for God." His texts were, from Thessalonians, "Now God, comfort your hearts, and establish you in every good word and work;" and from James "Be ye doers of the word."

It is quite evident from all the teachings of the bible, both old and new testament, that we need to be workers for God, not hearers only, deceiving ourselves. The comforts of God and Christianity, the hope and blessings are there, real and abundant, but unfortunately too many Christians make their religion, receivers only, benefitting from the sacrifice and suffering of Christ, and all the work and effort of His followers, and yet giving very little of themselves for the continuance and growth of God's cause and kingdom here, so that others can have the same rich Christian heritage which they have accepted. That is not enough, nor is it fair either, thoughtless most of it. Paul said: to the Thessalonians; "May God comfort your hearts," but he also said "and establish you in every good word and work." And James wrote: "Be ye doers of the word." Jesus himself said: "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." To be worthwhile Christians we need to work for God.

But what does it take? It takes "time." And what is time? It is our life from our birth until our death, given us by God our creator and sustainer. The time He has given us in which to prepare for all that lives beyond, which Jesus called Eternity. So it, our time, is really God's, given us for our rightful use, not abuse. How much of God's precious gift of time do we waste; how much wrongfully use almost without a thought of what we are really doing? Or do we give God a small corner of our time, set aside because we feel it our duty, not actually using it for the furtherance of His gospel? In the parable of the talents, Jesus commended those who used what their Lord had given them and condemned him who had neglected to use his time and opportunity.

And it takes "money" to work for God, another of His gifts to us. He has given us the strength and ability to labour for money, the fruit of our toil, the opportunity to use the time and life He has given us to this end, and He expects us to consider our earnings as a stewardship from Him. If we keep it for ourselves, gathering it in quantities without considering God's claims, then are we foolish indeed. What was it Jesus said? "Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee, then whose shall these things be?"

Also, it takes "effort" to work for God. Giving part of our time, setting aside a portion of our money, is good; but it isn't enough for the urgency of our task. Jesus did not do it that way. He gave all of His time, all of His earthly possessions, all He had to God's will and way, to work for God, and that has availed much. To consummate all that Christ did and to bring in God's Kingdom, God needs all the effort of our mind, to place first things first, plan for their advancement, direct and encourage the efforts of others. Needs all the effort of our soul to bring into action His spirit of love and goodwill; to overcome hate and greed. And all the effort of our body, to overcome weariness in well-doing; to overcome the selfish forces striving against us; to build up a mighty force for God's Kingdom, so that His Kingdom may really come on earth and His will be done here.

May we not feel like the artist studying one of the pictures which had been acclaimed by the critics, yet realized he could have put more into it if he had made the effort, cried out, "God forgive me for not doing a better job." May we realize the need of our very best and give what it takes, of our time, of our money, of our effort, to work for God, so that at the end of our time here, we have little or no regret, but rather God's "well done, good and faithful servant."

The Senior Choir's anthem was "God Bless Our Land." The Junior Choir's was "Onward, Christian Soldiers," sang as an Offertory.

CHURCH NEWS

St. George's Church
Archdeacon W. G. O. Thompson,
Rector
Sunday after Ascension:

Holy Communion 8 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m.; Matins 11 a.m.; Evensong 7 p.m. Adult Confirmation lecture after Evensong.

St. Alban's Church, Glen Williams
Sunday after Ascension,
Matins — 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School — 10:30 a.m.


First Baptist Church
Rev. A. J. Barker, R.A., B.D.
10 a.m. — Church School
11 a.m. — "He Ascended Into Heaven"
7 p.m. — "The Quiet Work of God"

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St. John's United Church
Rev. John M. Smith, Minister
Norman Laird, Music Director
Sunday School 10 a.m. — Come to S.S. Stay for church.
Morning Worship — 11 a.m.
Nursery 11 a.m. — Child care while parents worship.
Junior Worship 11 a.m. — Bible Study

Knox and Limehouse
Presbyterian Churches
Rev. Alex J. Calder, B.A., B.D.
Mrs. Edgar Gowland, A.T.C.M.
Organist and Choir Leader
Mr. Joseph Young, Carillonneur
Knox Church
10.00 a.m. — Church School
11 a.m. — Public Worship
7 p.m. — Public Worship
Limehouse Church
1.30 p.m. — Church School
2.30 p.m. — Easter Service

Norval, Hornby, Stewarttown
Church of England
Rev. J. E. Maxwell, B.A., L.Th.
St. Stephen's Church, Hornby
11.00 a.m. — Morning Service,
(Except 1st Sunday in the month
3.00 p.m. evening service.)
St. John's Church, Stewarttown
10 a.m. — Children's service.
3.00 p.m. — Evening Service
(Except 1st Sunday in the month
7.30 p.m. evensong.)
St. Paul's Church, Norval
7.30 p.m. — Evensong
(Except 1st Sunday in the month
11.00 a.m. Holy Communion.)

Zion Tabernacle
Rev. F. M. Fletcher
Sunday School — 9.45 a.m.
We welcome you.
Services each Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7.30 p.m.

Norval and Union
Presbyterian Churches
Rev. G. Lockhart Royal, B.A.
Norval
10.00 a.m. — Sabbath School
11.00 a.m. — Praise Service
Union
3.00 p.m. — Sabbath School
3.00 p.m. — Praise School

Christian and Missionary Alliance
Rev. E. T. Holt, pastor
Services each Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. in the Oddfellow Hall.
Sunday School at 10 a.m.

Grace Baptist Sunday School
Associated with the Fellowship of Evangelical Baptists of Canada
Rev. Glen Wardell, Minister
Oddfellows Hall, — 3 o'clock p.m.

Norval and Glen Williams
United Church
Rev. C. D. Lemke, B.A., B.D.
Norval

10.00 a.m. — Sunday School
11.00 a.m. — Public Worship
Glen Williams
10.30 a.m. — Sunday School
7.00 p.m. — Public Worship
Home Church
2.30 — Public Worship

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Mass at 11 a.m.
2nd and 4th Sundays:
Mass at 8 a.m.

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