

## Timothy Topics

February 2024 newsletter  
St Timothy's Presbyterian Church  
2400 Alta Vista Drive,  
Ottawa, ON, K1H 7N1  
Sunday Worship Service 10:00 am  
Do you want to meet the minister?  
Rev. Reine loves to meet with you online or in-person, by appointment.  
Do you want a link to participate online? Please contact the office.

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## -Bible Trivia-

### Where were Peter and John sent after Philip had preached the gospel there?

Find the answer on your own or wait for the next *Timothy Topic*.

Last issue's answer: Tentmaking (Acts18:3)

## Minister's Corner: what are you looking for?

With life moving so fast and unrelenting demands and pressures, it is easy to lose perspective. This is why it is always important to ask ourselves the question that we hear sometimes in handwear stores or car dealership 'what are you looking for?' This is a meaningful stop sign because it is not uncommon for 'life' to become just a habit, and our experience shrinks to what days throw at us in contrast to an intentional endeavor to learn and grow.

The first words that Jesus speaks in the Gospel of John are a question addressed not only to the first followers but to every reader or hearer of the Gospel of John down the centuries: "What are you looking for?" (1:38). Jesus answers his own question by an invitation: 'come & see'. The theme "come and see" goes beyond a mere physical invitation. It is an invitation to a special spiritual experience. It implies a call to encounter the divine and to witness the transformative power of faith. It encourages individuals to explore and interrogate their belief system on a personal level. "Come and see" can be perceived as an encouragement to engage in experiential learning, rather than relying solely on theoretical knowledge. It prompts individuals to actively participate, observe, and learn through direct experiences. In a world filled with information and opinions, Jesus calls us for a personal quest for truth, and encourages us to seek it firsthand, immersing ourselves in it rather than relying solely on the words of others or the wisdom of the age we live in. "Come and see" serves as an invitation to a deeper, personal engagement with matters of faith, truth, and transformative experiences. It encourages us to actively seek and explore, fostering a more profound understanding of spiritual and life principles. So, as you go around the aisles of 'life store' inspecting every shelf and bin, trying to land a winning deal, Jesus approaches you with the question 'what are you looking for?' And if you ask for his recommendation, he will offer you a simple and practical invitation 'come and see.' I sincerely pray you heed this most special offer. Rev. Reine

**In the rearview mirror:** We started Advent season on Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> in a special way. The recently wed Wissam & Mada lit the candle of Hope. The Singing Saints performed a beautiful hymn "Let there be love shared among us" that we all enjoyed. Communion was co-officiated by Maj. Rev. Dr. Tom Hamilton.

- On Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>, Second Sun. of Advent, the Ginting Family led our call to worship and lit the candle of Peace. We were blessed to have Rev. Tom Hamilton singing "The Birthday of a King" along with our organist Louise T. Christmas Carols were played by the flute director Cathy Baerg and her students who filled the space with the season's spirit. The African Chorus concluded the service with upbeat rhythms and sang two beautiful hymns. After the service, most of our young families and their children went downstairs for making Gingerbread houses. Fun, joy, and laughter filled the place. A very yummy pizza was enjoyed by all.

-Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> was a joyful Sunday at St. Timothy's. The Christmas Story was told enthusiastically by St. Timothy's Children. The angelic voices sang to us Christmas hymns. After church, a celebratory Christmas cake was appreciated by all.

- Christmas Eve Candle light Service was celebrated on Dec.24<sup>th</sup>. We listened to the Christmas Story, followed the drama and sang the joyful Carols. The Sacrament of the Holy communion took place during the service.

**Looking forward:** -Interested in becoming a member of St Timothy's? you are invited to join confirmation classes on Sundays Feb.4 &11 after the worship service. Rev. Reine will be glad to discuss faith related issues and questions.

- Ash Wednesday marks the start of Lent season. A zoom service will be held on February 14 at 7 pm.

- Sunday, February 18 is the first Sunday in Lent. Communion will be celebrated during the service.

- St. Timothy's annual Black History Service is on Feb. 25, after which there will be a get-together featuring exotic international cuisine from Africa, the Caribbean, and the Middle East.

- If you feel the Spirit calling you to step forward and serve as an Elder, we warmly invite you to express your interest to the Minister or any Session members. Your willingness to serve is a blessing and a testament to your devotion.

- St. Tim's Tech Team is looking for volunteers. If interested in operating the church's audio-video equipment, contact Kelvin Lee.

## Sunday Worship Services @10 am

In-person & Online  
February 4,11,18,25

## Sunday school during the service

## Coming Events

In-person Bible Study Wednesdays	@ 10 am
Craft Group Mondays	@ 2 pm
Confirmation Classes Feb.4,11	@ 12 pm
Ash Wednesday service via zoom	@ 7 pm
Holy Communion Feb. 18	@ 10 am
Café Connections, February 9	@ 10 am
Black History service February 25	@ 10 am
Agape Gathering February 27	@ 10:30 am

-Prayer Time: Do you have a prayer request or a prayer of thanksgiving? Please contact Rev. Reine or a member of the Pastoral Care Team.

-ST. TIMOTHY'S FAMILY PRAYER BOOK: A reminder that we are putting together a St Timothy's Family Prayer Book for our anniversary in April. Please send your family's prayer to the office or Rev. Reine.

# St. Tim's Pictorial



## *The special story of a Communion set*

Communion, on the First Sunday in Advent, was co-officiated by Maj. Rev. Dr. Tom Hamilton, a military historian, chaplain and Co-Minister, St. Mark's Presbyterian Church, Charlottetown, PE & our own Rev. Reine.

Rev. Tom used the Communion Set of **Padre David Gowdy**, honouring the ministry of Flight Lieutenant (F/Lt) Rev. Dr. David Gowdy Th.D., the Father of St. Timothy's own David Gowdy.

During WWII, David's father, Padre Gowdy, was a military chaplain with the Royal Canadian Air Force in Canada and overseas. The communion set that Padre Gowdy used to serve the Sacrament to countless Canadians in uniform during the war, served our people at St. Timothy's.

