



Community

April 2023

Pender Island Community Church
<http://www.penderislandcommunitychurch.ca>

Welcome!

Christ is Risen

He is risen indeed!

Christian topics you may have wondered about but had nobody to ask:

God <> Jesus <> The Trinity

Sin <> Repentance <> Salvation

Creation <> Judgment <> Eternity

Other??

Contact us by clicking below:



penderislandcommunitychurch.ca

[Photo courtesy Pender Islands Museum]

The cross is not a piece of jewelry. It has been adopted by performers, it is on flags and crowns. It is represented in many fields related to medical care.

All of these representations point back to one person in history. One, and only one person in history is 'attached' to this instrument of torture, propaganda and power. This despite the fact countless people died upon crosses

We remember this one. Jesus the Christ. Kind of makes you wonder why



EASTER

Good Friday

What makes Good Friday Good? The only truly innocent man ever, dies upon a cross for the crime of testifying faithfully to the truth of who He is, why He came, and how - if we choose to accept it - He makes peace between ourselves and God.

Of course the goodness of the day is wholly rested in the fact that mankind's greatest sin, though committed that day, was to be also our pathway to eternal life and forgiveness. The sin of that day was immeasurably wicked. And the crowd cried out "Crucify Him, Crucify Him".

But while the act to kill Jesus the Christ was sinful in the extreme it is also true that this was done, by both common folk and religious leaders alike, in ignorance. (Acts 3:17)

But what they meant for evil, God meant for good. The leaders and crowd alike meant to put an end to Jesus but their obstinance was intended by God to be His rescue plan for humanity.

Even humankind's most sinful schemes can be turned aright by God's mercy and love - if only we accept that one true way to peace with God through the Lord Jesus Christ.

Resurrection!

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ is the most wonderous event since creation. Yet for many believers, it remains a mysterious doctrine; one accepted but unexplored.

There are good reasons to take the scripture account as a true record of what happened to Jesus following his crucifixion. In a newsletter this size we cannot explore this at depth but we can ponder at the pointers. Consider:

Jesus' crucifixion is one of the most established facts of history.

The crucifixion account accurately describes a dead person.

Friend and foe-alike admit Jesus' body is not where it was left yet the tomb was guarded.

Hundreds of witnesses attested to seeing Jesus post crucifixion despite the fact they lived in a hostile place to proclaim the fact.

These witnesses - especially the apostles - were willing to face punishment up to and including death for something they were in a position to know was true or not. A person may die for a false belief but they will not die for something they know is false.

These same witnesses rose up, scattered to the winds and changed the world more profoundly than any movement at any time in history. And in the process Jewish and pagan alike received new life and fellowship with God Himself.

His resurrection life has been and is experienced by multiple millions today who can attest they not only believe Jesus rose from the dead but that they experience Him in their lives in many ways.

Jesus said: *I am the resurrection and the life ...*

Foolishness?

It is likely typical for a person of our time, upon reading or hearing an account of the crucifixion of Christ to recoil instinctively and exclaim 'What a bunch of foolish rot'!

Even Christians, long accustomed to the story in brevity may scratch their head - disconnected as we can be from the Cross Necessity. And God knows this (as all things) very well. Consider Paul's words:

For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. (1 Cor 1:21-24)

In our wisdom we are unreachable even to the divine. God however does reveal Himself to us in the atoning death of Jesus the crucified - God's power and wisdom redeeming whosoever is willing to listen and respond.



La Crucifixion
Jean-Léon Gérôme

What denomination is this church?

The answer is: almost any denomination. We are a small church in a small community surrounded by water. We come from many different traditions but share in common a traditional, biblical understanding of God's revelation through the Bible, the necessity to recognize our estrangement from God and repent of what the God of the Bible calls sin.

If you believe in your heart God has raised Christ from the dead and confess with your mouth 'Jesus Christ is Lord' you shall be saved.

Come, visit and learn more about God's extravagant love!