

## Struggling with a terminal illness,

Becky quietly shared the source of her strength:

"Over the years I have had several experiences of trusting God when life's problems seemed overwhelming, and God has honoured that trust. As a result I have been able to trust God more and more, so much so that now I journey each day grounded in and upheld by that trust. God is my rock. I am at peace."

Becky's words echo the refrain of the psalmist:

"God alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall never be shaken." (Psalm 62:2,6)

Trust—or we could say "faith"—is not a static gift of grace but one that must be accepted and nurtured. Over time it becomes stronger and able to withstand that which "assails" and "batters" us in life. It becomes engraved on, anchored in, the Rock that is our "Salvation," our "Refuge," our "Fortress." Then we, too, can add our voices to the recurring refrain of Becky and the psalmist:

**"God alone is my rock and my salvation,  
my fortress; I shall not be shaken."**

The Rev. Dr. Shirley Gale is a retired minister of  
The Presbyterian Church in Canada and lives in Guelph, ON.

Photo by Bonnie Sitter, Exeter, ON



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# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, January 25, 2015

3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Please stand at items marked \* if you are able.  
Passages in **Bold Print** are to be spoken in Unison  
Organ Prelude – Hymn and Quiet Reflection

"Be Still and Know that  
I am God" (Ps. 46: 10)  
Please take the time before  
the service as an opportunity  
to quietly prepare your heart  
and mind for worship.

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Susan Mattinson

Organist - Carol Wehrstedt      Music Director- Kendall House

## WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

\* Entry of the Bible

Introit

Call to Worship

\* Hymn: "God of mercy, God of grace" #39

Opening Prayer:

Gentle is your power, O God, and strong is your tenderness. Your wisdom is light in the darkness; your love towards us is kind and true. You call us to waken from our slumbers and phantasies and to worship you in the light of truth and beauty. Forgive the sins of our souls and the sins of our bodies; our secret and our well-known offences. The sins we know and the sins we have forgotten. The sins we have attempted to hide and the sins we were once proud to commit. The sins we have done to please ourselves, and the sins we have done to please others. The sins of our youth and the sins of today. Bring light out of our darkness and order out of our chaos. Breathe new life into your world and into us, your people. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Choir Anthem: "There is a Redeemer"

\* Children's Hymn: "Brother, sister, let me serve you" #635  
(last verse to be sung after Children's Time)

Children's Time

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Hymn of Preparation

Spirit of the living God, move among us all; make us one in heart and mind, make us one in love: humble, caring, selfless, sharing. Spirit of the living God, fill our lives with love!

## Bible Readings:

Jonah 3: 1-5	P. 860 & 861	O.T.
Psalms 62: 5-12	P. 526 & 527	O.T.
Mark 1: 14-20	P. 35	N.T.

Gloria Patri: 594

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

Sermon: "Fish for People"

\* Hymn: "To show by touch and word" #763

## WE RESPOND TO GOD

Tithes and Offerings

\* Offertory Response 661

We give thee but thine own, whatever the gift may be; all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.

Prayer of Dedication

God of Deliverance, we pause during this time of worship to return to you some of the monetary riches that you have given to us. While we spend this time in prayer, we are reminded to set our hearts and minds on your steadfast love. You alone are our rock, our fortress, and our salvation. We experience comforting solace in your refuge. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer (debts ....debtors)

## WE GO OUT TO SERVE

\* Hymn: "All the way my Savior leads me" #699

Blessing

Response:

Praise the Lord from whom all blessings flow.  
He has washed and made me white as snow.  
I'm redeemed from all my sin and shame.  
Now and forever, praise his holy name.  
Praise his holy name. Praise his holy name.  
To God be the glory now and forever.  
Praise his holy name!

### Prayer Concerns:

Marie Huffman (Roseview)  
Bernice Johnston  
Walter Hogarth



### Thank you this week to:

**Greeters:** Betty Irwin and Betty Irving  
**Lay Reader:** Sandra Allan  
**Fellowship Time:** Myrna Grace and Lynae Grace  
**Elevator Operator:** Russ Brown  
**Offering Counting:** Kathleen, Richard and Cameron Noy  
**Offering Collection:** Russ Brown, Don Munn, Joyce Nystrom, Janet Taylor  
**Phoning/Visiting:** Joan Anderson

### Next week's volunteers: Feb. 1st

**Greeters:** Betty Irwin and Betty Irving  
**Lay Reader:** Lynae Grace  
**Fellowship Time:** Alice and Laird Morrison  
**Elevator Operator:** Robert Workman  
**Offering Counting:** Ruth George, Betty Ann Burn, Beth Workman  
**Offering Collection:** Russ Brown, Don Munn, Joyce Nystrom, Janet Taylor  
**Phoning/Visiting:** Joan Anderson

### After service TODAY

Please stay for the  
More than Muffin sale.



You are invited to help us get a new, good quality knife for the kitchen by donating your Safeway grocery stickers to the church. Please give donated stickers to Janey Racey or drop them off to the church office weekdays between 1-4pm. Deadline is February 12th.

### Upcoming Events at First

Mon., Jan. 26th	- Cards afternoon	- 1 pm
Thurs., Jan. 29th	- Bible Study	- 10 am
	- Choir Practice	- 7 pm
Sun., Feb. 1st	Communion Service	
Tues., Feb. 3rd	- More than Mission	- 1 pm

### Pastor Shep

Okay, who filled the communion cups with Jello instead of grape juice?

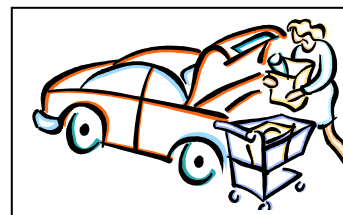


www.pastorshep.ca @Susan Mattinson

Visiting regularly? Would you like Sunday Offering Envelopes or to participate in our automatic banking program? Please speak to the church's envelope secretary, Sandy Allan. Either choice will make it easier for us to track your donations and provide an accurate tax receipt at the end of the year. Thank you for your support.

### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

Our Mission purpose is to put our faith into action through mission education, community outreach, and personal and financial support both at home and abroad.



Thank you so much to everyone who donates to the Food Bank.