



321 East 27<sup>th</sup>  
Hamilton, ON L8V 3G8  
Church phone: 905-385-5775  
[www.churchofchristhamilton.com](http://www.churchofchristhamilton.com)  
Evangelist: Randy Morrirt

## *The Fennell Visitor*

August 2, 2020

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### *Sunday Morning Service 11:00 am*

The Fennell Ave Church will be open for Sunday Morning Service on August 2<sup>nd</sup>, If you are not as yet comfortable to come to the Church on Sunday, we will be also broadcasting our Service via Zoom. Contact via Zoom is as indicated below.

### *Wednesday Evening Bible Study 7:00 pm*

Eastern Time (US and Canada) each week

### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6585671730?pwd=K1k0QjIzcXBGOUIQN1NoaXpVeTlXdz09>

Via Device (Computer/tablet/laptop)  
Meeting ID: 658 567 1730  
Password: 4dEx5p

Phone in connection:  
1 647 374 4685 Canada  
Meeting ID: 658 567 1730  
Password: 065970

*August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020*

**“He Who Holds the Seven Spirits  
and the Seven Stars”**

**Scripture Reading: Revelations 3: 1 - 6**

## *Sermons on Audio*

The Sunday Morning CHURCH SERMONS for the past year are posted to the Fennell Avenue Church website- [click here](#)

<http://churchofchristfennellave.homestead.com/Sermons.html>

### *Blessed Are the Poor* *(In Spirit)*

Randy Morritt

This is the first of four beatitudes concerning principles of faith. (2 Cor. 5:7, Heb. 11:1, 2, 6; 1Jn. 5:1-5). Both Matthew and Luke include it in their list of beatitudes. However, there is one major difference between the two. Matthew adds the phrase “in spirit” after the word “poor” whereas Luke says simply says: “Blessed are the poor.” Just what Jesus meant has been disputed for centuries.

It is remarkable that Jesus began his ministry in this manner, so unlike many other teachers who taught that happiness was to be found in honour, or riches, or splendour, or sensual pleasure.

The audience to whom Jesus spoke shared this popular misconception. Many consider poverty to be the foundation of the world’s misery. Jesus overlooked all those things. In the “Beatitudes” Jesus announces that God’s values are often radically different from those of the world; and that God would bless those who pursue the ethics of his kingdom and choose to put him first over the things of this world.

Many Jewish traditions associated piety with the “poor,” Although not Jewish, Luke is especially concerned with the blessings that the gospel brings to the poor. (Lk. [1:46–55](#), [51–53](#)) It was predicted that the Messiah would preach to the poor. ([Is. 61:1](#); cf. Matt. 11:5; [Lk. 4:18](#)) Also, the poor are said to have special facilities for being saved. ([Matt. 19:23](#); [Lk. 18:24](#)). The state of such persons is therefore comparatively blessed, or happy. Riches can produce cares, anxieties, and dangers, not the least of which is the danger of losing heaven by them.

However, we must be careful not to think that this beatitude calls actual material poverty a good thing. Poverty is not a good thing. In fact, it can be a curse in that it can lead to envy, jealousy, and ill will towards those who are better off than oneself. It can even motivate one to resort to crime and/or violence to obtain that which he or she wants and does not have. (cf. Prov. 30:7-9) Jesus would never have called a state where people live in slums and don’t have enough to eat, and where health rots because conditions are all against it blessed, a religious

term meaning “fortunate” or “happy, one possessed by those who enjoy the favor and grace of God.

At face value, it may have seemed as though Jesus was making a blanket promise of salvation and blessing to everyone who was poor materially. The difficulties and hardships of their lives drove them to listen to Him. As those who lacked material wealth, they may have hoped Jesus would tell them more about the kingdom of God when the righteous Messiah, not the cruel Romans, would govern them.

Based on this interpretation, some have viewed the poor as God’s chosen people. They believe that, while they may suffer in this world, they can expect immeasurable blessings in the next. Those holding this view often advocate that God’s people, the church, should prioritize ministry to the poor and in this way advance the kingdom of God.

Many, if not most, of the people who listened to Jesus were poor. Jesus wanted to dispute the conventional wisdom of the time that said the wealthy and influential enjoyed more of God’s blessings than the poor and powerless. From his initial statement, Jesus launched into a series of statements that turned the crowd’s perceptions upside down. In a few sentences, He affirmed that things in this world are not always what they seem; and certainly are not what they will one day be.

In Greek, there are two words for poor. There is the word *penes* which describes one who is *autodiakonos*, the

working man who serves his own needs with his own hands. Such a person has nothing superfluous, the individual who is not rich, but who is not destitute either. Secondly, there is the word *ptochos* describes absolute and abject poverty. It is connected with the root *ptossein* which means to crouch or to cower; and describes the poverty which is beaten to its knees, the person who has nothing at all, one who is destitute and completely poverty-stricken. That is the word Jesus uses in this beatitude. One of the aims of Christianity is to abolish, not laud and commend, such conditions. Jesus wanted his followers to see that material things are only temporary and certainly not the only reality.

(to be continued next week)



**The AUGUST 2020 issue of the Gospel Herald is now available and free for all to review**

**It can be located at [Gospelherald.org](http://Gospelherald.org)**



## Tintern Church of Christ

Attached is the link to the sermon from Noel Walker at Tintern Church of Christ  
[Click Here](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgauWefOeBn7LzlikgmWuYw>



Below is the link for the worship Services provided by the Strathmore Blvd Church of Christ. The Link can also be found on the Fennell Avenue Church of Christ Facebook Page (Cut and paste into your browser or [Click Here](#))

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCX\\_eia0aX9-7cSZLS\\_u0DGw/videos?disable\\_polymer=1](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCX_eia0aX9-7cSZLS_u0DGw/videos?disable_polymer=1)

## Contributions

If you wish to continue with your contributions to Fennell Avenue Church of Christ, you can mail in your contribution to the Church address. [Do not mail cash](#)

Fennell Avenue Church of Christ,  
321 East 27<sup>th</sup>  
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## 2019 Corporation Meeting for the Fennell Avenue Church of Christ

Due to the Corvid-19 Isolation, we are still unable to have the Annual Corporation Meeting. We shall reschedule once we are able to return to the Church Building

## Ruth Zimmerman Newsletter

The Link below will open the Newsletter from Papua New Guinea of July 23, 2020

<https://mailchi.mp/cf0c3269616b/news-from-ruth-zimmerman?e=d0614b3402>



*This Little Child set in their midst*

Harold Copping

<sup>2</sup> Then Jesus called a little child to Him, set him in the midst of them, <sup>3</sup> and said, “Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup> Therefore whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>5</sup> Whoever receives one little child like this in My name receives me. **Matt.18:2-5**

## Prayer List:

- Julie V. mother....Please keep her in your prayers
- Pray for the strength and growth of our Church
- Prayers for the children attending City Kidz
- Isabel T, remember in your prayers
- Please pray for those who have lost their jobs as a rest of the Pandemic.
- Please remember to pray for Andrew Heron and his wife Mae. Andrew is having Chemo Treatments
- Please pray about the re-opening of our church. We are reviewing the process necessary to open the church in a safe and healthy manner for everyone.
- Dianne G mother was in the hospital for surgery. She is at home recovering comfortably. Please remember in your prayers
- Please pray for Patti Wiebe and her family. Patti has been fighting leukemia and has been in the hospital for most of the summer. They have determined that the chemo treatments are not working for her and they have stopped them.
- Congratulations to Sue Jones as she is a Grandma again! Simone Johanna Jones was born to Micah and Cassandra Jones on July 30th, 2020 @ 6 AM. 7lbs 12oz.

## **Returning to the Church Building.**

**From the meeting on Monday July 20, we have decided that we will begin Morning Services at the church building on Sunday August 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 11:00am.**

**All precautions are being followed and members can meet and worship when they feel they are ready.**

**Entrance will be by the Fennell Avenue door. Please exit by the doors on the East 27<sup>th</sup> entrance. Those who require the Ramp entrance off the parking lot may use this entrance to enter and exit the building. The church basement will be off limits – no entrance to the basement. The washroom upstairs is available to use. Please use the hand sanitizer when you enter and leave the building. We ask that you do not linger in the building after the worship time is complete and follow the arrows on the floor to enter and exit.**

**When you enter from the Fennell entrance, there will be communion items available on**

**the table. Please pick up your Communion cups which will contain a bread wafer and grape juice and proceed to the seating area. If you prefer to bring your own communion items, you are welcome to do that. Please choose your seat while being particular to social distance from other members. Masks are required within the church building. If you do not have one, there will be a supply of masks available for members to use. We will not be singing during the worship time, but some Acapella music will be played.**

**We will be simultaneously using Zoom for those participating from home on their device or phone while we have our service. We will also record the service and post it to our website.**

**Please use your judgment when considering returning to the building for worship. If you do not feel comfortable at this time to return, that is understandable and acceptable.**

**Blessings to everyone!**