

Stouffville United Church
34 Church Street, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 1E3
www.stouffvilleuc.ca
May 24, 2020

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Welcome

Acknowledgement of the Land

We are gathered on the treaty territory
of the Huron Wendat, Haudenosaunee
and Anishinaabe people and their ancestors.
As a community of faith called to seek justice,
may we honour our role as treaty people.

Announcements

Lighting the Christ Candle:

The light of understanding, the light of compassion, the light of
community, are all represented by the light that shines out from
this candle. Let that light illumine our lives, our worship, and our
way forward, as we gather as God's people.

(Written by Peter Chynoweth, Yellowknife, N.W.T., Gathering A/C/E 2019/20, page
47. Used with permission.)

Call to Worship:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, with praise-filled lungs we come.

We inhale hope. We exhale worries.

We inhale peace. We exhale confusion.

We inhale strength. We exhale exhaustion.

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, power, might, and grace,

Fill us, lead us, equip us again.

Our worship as vital as breath.

(Written by Elaine Bidgood Sveet, Port Perry United Church, Port Perry, Ont.,
Gathering L/E/P 2011, page 40. Used with permission.)

Hymn: All Creatures of Our God and King

[VU 217]

**All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing:
hallelujah, hallelujah!
Bright burning sun with golden beam,
Soft shining moon with softer gleam,
Sing praises, sing praises,
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!**

**O rushing winds and breezes soft,
O clouds that ride the winds aloft,
Sing praises, hallelujah!
O rising morn, in praise rejoice;
O lights of evening, find a voice:
Sing praises, sing praises,
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!**

**Earth, ever fertile, day by day
Brings forth rich blessings on our way:
Sing praises, hallelujah!
The flowers and fruits that verdant grow,
Let them God's glory also show:
Sing praises, sing praises,
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!**

**And everyone of tender heart,
forgiving others, take your part:
sing praises, hallelujah!
All who long pain and sorrow bear,
praise God and yield up all your care,
Sing praises, sing praises,
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!**

**Let all things their Creator bless,
and worship God in humbleness:
sing praises, hallelujah!
Praise God eternal, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, three in one:
Sing praises, sing praises,
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!**

Prayer of Confession

Risen Lord, we are often blind to your presence with us on the road of life. Sometimes we are looking back in regret for what might have been, but is not. Sometimes we are looking ahead fearful of what yet might be. It is hard for us to live in the now with eyes open to perceive the Spirit at work. Forgive us. Open our eyes to love expressed in many ways. Open our ears to hear your good news. And open our hearts to respond with thankfulness and praise.

Amen.

(Written by Dianne Astle, Chemainus United Church and Cedar United Church, Vancouver Island, B.C., Gathering L/E/P 2009, page 38. Used with permission.)

Words of Assurance:

The God who challenges us is also the God who encourages us.
The God who confronts us is also the God who accepts us. Be
assured that God is with us even now, accepting, guiding, and
forgiving. We are a forgiven people. Thanks be to God!

(Written by George Allan, Sprucedale Providence Pastoral Charge, Chatham, Ont.,
Gathering L/E/P 2011, page 42. Used with permission.)

Music Ministry

Minute for Mission

Offering Invitation

Offering Hymn: Praise God From Whom

[VU 541]

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures high and low;
give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.**

Offering Prayer:

**May these gifts be far more than their physical presence
can command.**

May they be an inspiration and a blessing given in love.

Amen.

(Written by Jim McKean, St. Paul's United Church, Midland, Ont., Gathering L/E/P
2011, page 43. Used with permission.)

Prayer before the Scriptures:

The pages of scripture hold many things, O God.

You have inspired poetry, song, and story.

You have called many people
to faithfulness through these words.

Open to us the meaning so that we
may find your will for us. Amen.

(Written by Beth W. Johnston, Kings United Pastoral Charge, Annandale/Bay
Fortune/Dundas/Souris, P.E.I., Gathering L/E/P 2011, page 43. Used with
permission.)

A Reading from Acts 1:6-14

A Reading from John 17:1-11

Reflection: "When All Are One"

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer:

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us,

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom

and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen.

Closing Hymn: All Beautiful the March of Days

[VU 530]

All beautiful the march of days,

As seasons come and go;

The hand that shaped the rose has wrought

The crystal of the snow,

Has sent the silvery frost of heaven,

The flowing waters sealed,

And laid a silent loveliness

On hill and wood and field.

O'er white expanses, sparkling pure

The radiant morns unfold;

The solemn splendors of the night

Burn brighter through the cold;

Life mounts in every throbbing vein,

Love deepens round the hearth,

And clearer sounds the angel hymn,

good will to all on earth.

O God, from whose unfathomed law

The year in beauty flows,

Yourself the vision passing by

In crystal and in rose,

Day unto day declare thro' speech,

And night to night proclaim

In ever changing words of light

The wonder of your name.

Blessing

Closing Song: God Be with You till We Meet Again

[VU 423]

**God be with you till we meet again;
loving counsels guide, uphold you,
with a shepherd's care enfold you;
God be with you till we meet again.**