

Stouffville United Church
34 Church Street, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 1E3
www.stouffvilleuc.ca
June 14, 2020

Second Sunday After Pentecost

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:

Christ, the light in the world;
Christ, the light in our homes;
Christ, the light in our hearts;
Christ, the Light.

(Written by Fern Gibbard, for Penticton United Church, Penticton, B.C., Gathering Pentecost 1, 2017, page 27. Used with permission.)

Opening Prayer:

**You touch our lives, God, in many ways –
you raise us up when we feel down and discouraged.
You ground us when we are flighty and on edge.
You inspire us when we have lost a sense of who we are.
You accompany us in the many varied journeys we
undertake day by day.
Be with us in this time of worship,
and give us the direction we need to face the future
with hope and energy.
We pray all of this in Jesus' Name. Amen.**

(Written by Bill Steadman, First United Church, Waterloo, Ont., Gathering Pentecost 1, 2014, page 30. Used with permission.)

Hymn: Worship the Lord

[VU 401]

Refrain:

**Worship the Lord!
Praise the Creator, the Spirit, the Son,**

**raising our hands
in devotion to God who is one!**

**Raising our hands as a sign of rejoicing,
and with our lips our togetherness voicing,
giving ourselves to a life of creativeness,
worship and work must be one.**

Refrain

**Praying and training that we be a blessing,
and by our handiwork daily confessing:
we are committed to serving humanity,
worship and work must be one.**

Refrain

**Called to be partners with God in creation,
honouring Christ as the Lord of the nation,
we must be ready for risk and for sacrifice,
worship and work must be one.**

Refrain

**Bringing the bread and the wine to the table,
asking that we may be led and enabled,
truly united to build new communities,
worship and work must be one.**

Refrain

**Now in response to the life you are giving,
help us, Creator, to offer our living,
seeking a just and a healing society,
worship and work must be one.**

Refrain

Prayer of Confession:

**Giving and forgiving God: we confess those times when
we have been indifferent to the needs of your world. We
confess those times when we have remained silent
instead of challenging injustice and hate. We confess
those times when we have surrendered to self-interest,
self-satisfaction, fearfulness, or indifference. We confess
those times when we have made wrong choices that have
harmed others and ourselves. Heal us and restore us, we
pray. Amen.**

Words of Assurance:

God has promised that those who lose their lives will gain them, and those who are open to God's love will find it. Therefore, be joyfully confident in the future.

With God, the future is hopeful. Thanks be to God!

(Written by Diane Robinson, St. James United Church, Regina, Sask., Gathering Pentecost 1, 2020, page 40. Used with permission.)

Music Ministry

Offering Invitation

Offering Hymn: Grant Us, God, the Grace

[VU 540]

**Grant us, God, the grace of giving,
with a spirit large and free,
that ourselves and all our living
we may offer faithfully.**

Offering Prayer:

**As so many have done before us,
we make our offering now.
As so many have prayed before us,
we ask your blessing upon it.
As so many have dreamed before us,
we pray that our gifts will touch many lives.
In your name we pray. Amen.**

(Written by Kate Crawford, First-St. Andrew's United Church, London, Ont., Gathering Pentecost 1, 2016, page 41. Used with permission.)

Prayer before the Scriptures:

God of the ages, your story has been told:
by generations who sought to bear faithful witness,
by countless men and women who sought to be faithful,
by communities who tried to live out your love.

**Help us this day as we seek you in the story.
Help us this day as we seek your will for us in these
stories. Amen.**

(Written by Beth W. Johnston, Kings United Pastoral Charge, P.E.I., Gathering Pentecost 1 2014, page 34. Used with permission.)

A Reading from the Book of Ezra – selected verses

Sermon: "Rebuilding What Is Lost"

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: Like a Healing Stream

[MV 144]

Like a healing stream in a barren desert,

Spirit water bringing life to dusty earth,

God is trickling through our lives as in a dream unfolding,

promising revival and rebirth...

like a healing stream.

Like a gentle rain on a thirsty garden,

Spirit water come to nourish tiny seed,

God is bubbling through the soil to coax a new creation,

yearning for an end to want and need...

like a gentle rain.

Like a river strong with a restless current,

Spirit water rushing on to distant shore,

God is carving out a channel in a new direction,

calling for an end to hate and war...

like a river strong.

Like a mighty sea reaching far horizons,

Spirit water with a love both deep and wide,

God is working in our hearts to shape a new tomorrow;

God will always challenge and provide!

like a mighty sea,

like a river strong,

like a gentle rain,

like a healing stream.

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.**