

Stouffville United Church
34 Church Street, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 1E3
www.stouffvilleuc.ca
July 19, 2020

Seventh 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:

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.)

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 and 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 this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

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

Hymn: O God of Bethel

[VU 650]

**O God of Bethel, by whose hand
your people still are fed,
who through this earthly pilgrimage
have all your servants led:**

**Our vows, our prayers, we now present
before your throne of grace.
God of past ages, be the God
of each succeeding race.**

**Through each perplexing path of life
our wandering footsteps guide;
give us each day our daily bread,
and shelter fit provide.**

**O spread your covering wings around,
till all our wanderings cease,
and at our God's beloved abode
our souls arrive in peace.**

Prayer of Confession:

For all we might have offered and chose not to:

Loving God, we ask forgiveness.

For all we might have risked and were afraid to:

Loving God, we ask forgiveness.

For all we might have loved and held back from:

Loving God, we ask forgiveness.

For all we might have nurtured and withdrew from:

Loving God, we ask forgiveness.

(Written by Cindy Randall, Humbervale United Church, Etobicoke, Ont., Gathering Pentecost 1, 2014, page 33. Used with permission.)

Words of Assurance

New days, new dawns, new beginnings.

Our God offers forgiveness and gives us the chance to begin again.

Thanks to be God for restoring us to the fullness of life!

(Written by Cindy Randall, Humbervale United Church, Etobicoke, Ont., Gathering Pentecost 1, 2015, page 36. 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

**Prayer before the Scriptures:
Your word sheds light upon our way,
brings healing into our souls,
and gives purpose to our lives.
Open our hearts and minds to hear
what your spirit is saying to us. Amen.**

(Written by Fern Gibbard, for Penticton United Church, Penticton, B.C., Gathering Pentecost 1 2015, page 37. Used with permission.)

A Reading from Genesis 28:10-19a

Sermon: "Stone Pillows"

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: God Says

[MV 172]

**God says, "Be still so you may hear
the words I whisper in your ear.
If you will listen, you will know
I'm with you always where you go."**

**God says, "Look up and see the prize
I've placed here right before your eyes.
Find beauty in the things of earth,
a cause for wonder and rebirth."**

**God says, "Come here! I need your voice.
Please teach my people to rejoice.**

**In who you are, in what you do,
your life will show my love for you.”**

**God says, “Reach out! The world’s in need
and wants a word, a song, a deed.
I send you forth to speak, to sing,
to act for Christ in everything.”**

Blessing

Closing Song:

[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.**