

Stouffville United Church
34 Church Street, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 1E3
www.stouffvilleuc.ca
October 25, 2020

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

Music Prelude

Welcome

Acknowledgement of the Land

We are gathered on the treaty territory of the Huron Wendat, Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe people and their ancestors. May we honour their history, spirituality, culture and teachings and uphold our responsibilities as treaty partners.

Announcements

Lighting the Christ Candle:

In this autumn season, we are grateful for glowing colours and mellow afternoons. Evenings shorten, sunset comes early, and, with the night, the chill creeps in. As we light the Christ candle, we remember and are thankful that, in all seasons, the light of Christ warms our hearts and homes.

(Written by Fern Gibbard, for Penticton United Church, Penticton, B.C., Gathering Pentecost 2 2017, page 29. Used with permission.)

Call to Worship:

We turn to the right
and Jesus gives us a sign
to let go of the past,
to offer forgiveness.
We turn to the left
and the Holy Spirit
swirls the freshness
of the present moment around us.
Then, we recognize God's voice behind us,
urging us to move forward.
Come, let us follow the signs of our faith
and breathe in the freshness of the Spirit
as we go forward into worship.

(Written by Norah Laverty, St. Andrew's United Church, Sioux Lookout, Ont., Gathering Pentecost 2 2020, page 34. Used with permission.)

Prayer of Confession:

Loving, creative God, we come as those who enjoy control.
We like to know what is going to happen
so we can plan ahead.

We don't like it when surprises throw a wrench
into our plans.

It scares us – even terrifies us – when we ponder
the future.

What will remain? What will disappear?

What will change?

The shifts in our world, in our lives,
and in our church

squeeze our hearts with apprehension.

Will we lose what we have worked so hard to build?

We reach out to you, O God,

in the midst of our fears.

Hold us. Comfort us. Strengthen us. Enliven us.

Amen.

(Written by Gord Dunbar, Port Nelson United Church, Burlington, Ont., Gathering
Pentecost 2 2017, page 36. Used with permission.)

Words of Assurance:

We know this about our God:

God forgives our shortcomings
and opens a new path before us.

Let us dare to follow where God leads us,
knowing that as we do,

we will become whole and holy.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

(Written by Frances Flook, Emo/Devlin Pastoral Charge, Emo, Ont., Gathering
Pentecost 2 2019, page 39. Used with permission.)

Candle Lighting

A time of silence

Music for Meditation

A time of silence

Minute for Mission

Offering

Offertory Prayer

Prayer before the Scriptures:

God of long ago, God of present day,
God in whom the future lies:

We come seeking a word for the day,
a light for our way,
and bread for the journey.

Fill us with your word
and nourish us at your table of grace
so that we can become the people
we are called to be. Amen.

(Written by Bethh W. Johnston, Bridging Waters Pastoral Charge, Nipawin, Sask.,
Gathering Pentecost 2 2020, page 41. Used with permission.)

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Responsive Psalm 90

[VU 805, Parts 1 and 3]

Sermon: The Long View

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Closing Prayer

Blessing

Music Postlude

*Thank you for worshipping with us, whether in person or on
line. We look forward to joining with you again next week!*