

Stouffville United Church
34 Church Street, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 1E3
www.stouffvilleuc.ca
November 22, 2020

Reign of Christ Sunday

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:

The candle is lit as a reminder of the light of Christ given to us all, a symbol of God's presence each and every day.

For the Light of Christ within us and around us, thanks be to God!

(Written by Bill Steadman, St. Andrew's United Church, Sudbury, Ont., Gathering Pentecost 2 2017, page 28. Used with permission.)

Call to Worship:

Gather in, fellow travellers.

Gather in and bring your prayers,
your wounded spirits, your questions,
your hopes and fears.

We wake to a world of beauty and catastrophe,
a world of visions and violence,
compassion and cowardice.

We wake and gather and pray and seek the God
who is always looking for, and loving, the lost.

(Written by Juanita L. Austin, Salmon Arm, B.C., from a draft of "Cup of Wine & a Piece of Bread." Used with permission. Gathering Pentecost 2 2019, page 36. Used with permission.)

Prayer of Confession:

God of All, we pray you forgive us when we distance ourselves from others – when we separate ourselves into "us" and "them." Help us open our hearts and lives

to Jesus' command to love each other as ourselves. Forgive us when we fail to live this love, out in the world as well as in our own homes and communities. Restore us all into a community of wholeness and grace. Amen.

(Written by Sandra Jenkinson, Zion United Church, Sundridge, Ont., Gathering Pentecost 2 2017, page 35. Used with permission.)

Words of Assurance

Candle Lighting

A time of silence

Music for Meditation

A time of silence

Offering

Offertory Prayer

Prayer before the Scriptures:

God, sometimes the words we hear in scripture challenge us more than we like. There are times when all we want is to hear something life-affirming and easy. But then you bring us words that call us to be more, to do more, and to love more. Open us to the challenge of these words and strengthen our faith; for we ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.

(Written by Susan Ivany, Westminster United Church, Thunder Bay., Ont., Gathering Pentecost 2 2017, page 37. Used with permission.)

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Psalm 100

[VU 824]

Sermon: "Job Posting: Shepherd"

Prayers of the People

The Lord's 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!