

Stouffville United Church
34 Church Street, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 1E3
www.stouffvilleuc.ca
January 31, 2021

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

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.

(Written by Bill Steadman, St. Andrew's United Church, Sudbury, Ont., Gathering A/C/E 2018/19, page 45. Used with permission.)

Call to Worship:

God welcomes us as followers and apostles of Jesus.

Jesus came to teach us that:

God forgives our sins,
God accepts all people as equals,
God encourages us to love each other,
God is present in us always,
God guides us through life's journeys.
Jesus gave us light when we saw only shadows,
and now we, in turn, show that light to the world.

(Written by the youth and submitted by Mead Baldwin, Waterville-Hatley-North Hatley Pastoral Charge, Que., Gathering A/C/E 2014/15, page 41. Used with permission.)

Hymn: "Tell Me the Stories of Jesus" [VU 357, Vs 1,2,3]

Prayer of Confession:

Source of Love and Forgiveness, you wrap us in constant compassion, inviting us to journey toward the way of wholeness. Forgive us when we lose our focus, directing our attention toward goals that fail to bring new life. Remind us that we do not walk alone, for Christ is our constant companion. It is in his name we pray. Amen.

Words of Assurance:

New life is promised to each of us when we commit ourselves to the challenging yet renewing way of love, justice, and compassion.

**God's mercy surrounds us,
God's grace encourages us,
and God's promise of new life sustains us!**

(Written by Laura Turnbull, Penticton United Church, Penticton, B.C., Gathering A/C/E 2018/19, page 49. Used with permission.)

Words of Assurance

Candle Lighting

A time of silence

Music Ministry

A time of silence

Offering

Offertory Prayer

Prayer before the Scriptures:

Sometimes the scriptures befuddle us, God.

Sometimes we aren't sure we understand.

Sometimes we are sure we don't!

Help us to see them,

help us to see you,

help us to see the world,

help us to see ourselves,

through Jesus' lens of love.

Because then,

even if we don't understand,

we'll still be living your call. Amen.

(Written by Richard Bott, Dunbar Heights United Church, Vancouver, B.C., Gathering A/C/E 2016/17, page 46. Used with permission.)

Psalm 111

[VU 833]

Sermon: "Well Versed"

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn: "O Love, How Deep"

[VU 348, Vs 1,3,4]

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!*