

**Stouffville United Church**  
 34 Church Street, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 1E3  
 www.stouffvilleuc.ca  
 September 19, 2021

## 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

## CHRIST CANDLE

**LEADER:** Jesus says, I am the light of the world.  
 Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness,  
 but will have the light of life.

*We welcome Christ's light into our midst as we light the Christ candle.*

## CALL TO WORSHIP:

**LEADER:** The psalmist says, "How precious is your steadfast love, O God..  
 With you is the fountain of life;  
 In your light we see light. (ps 36, v.7a, 9)

## OPENING PRAYER

**LEADER:** We come to you, O God, our River of Life:

**PEOPLE** **May we drink deeply and receive your grace.**

**LEADER:** We come to you, O God, our Rock of Ages:

**PEOPLE:** **May we stand in trust and receive your strength.**

**LEADER:** We come to you, O God, our Source of Compassion:

**PEOPLE:** **May we open our hearts and receive your healing love. Amen**

**OPENING HYMN                    266    Amazing Grace****PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**LEADER:**    Lord Jesus Christ,  
                  who sat at table with outcasts and sinners,

**PEOPLE:**    **We confess that too often we fall short  
                  of following in your way:  
                  we turn away from the needy,  
                  show indifference to the lonely,  
                  and reject those who seem different from us.  
                  Forgive us, we pray.  
                  And lead us in your ways.**

*Silent reflection*

**LEADER:**    Stretch out your hand of healing love, Lord God.

**PEOPLE:**    **Create in us a clean heart, we pray,  
                  and renew a right spirit within us.  
                  Amen**

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE.**

**LEADER:**    In Christ, you are a new creation.  
                  the past is finished and gone.  
                  The new has come!  
                  Believe the good news of the gospel:

**ALL            In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.  
                  Thanks be to God.**

**PRAYER OF COMMITMENT**

**LEADER:** Gracious God,  
We lift our hearts to you in thanksgiving  
for the blessing of faith  
and this place of spiritual feeding.

**PEOPLE:** We offer you now, Lord God,  
everything you have blessed us with,  
that you may use it all for your loving purposes.  
We pray that through your power and presence  
this church may be an oasis  
for parched and weary travellers  
to drink deeply of your healing grace,  
and find your light and truth.  
Amen.

#### **PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

**Leader:** Your Word is a lamp to our feet,  
and a light to our path

**People** Give us grace to receive your truth  
In faith and love.  
Amen.

**First Scripture:** Isaiah 49: 5-6

**Second Scripture:** Acts 8: 26 - 39

*Music ministry*

**Sermon: "Kissed by God"**

**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, the power and the glory  
Forever and ever. Amen

**CLOSING HYMN: 313 Let There Be Light**

**COMMISSIONING AND BLESSING**

**MUSIC POSTLUDE**

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