

St James United Church

400 Burnhamthorpe Road, Etobicoke M9B 2A8 416-622-4113

www.stjamesunitedchurch.com

ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY, 4th of EASTER SEASON - MAY 3, 2020

Welcome! We are glad you have joined us in worship. May you feel the warmth of God's presence.

Our Mission:

To live God's love through our actions: Seek, Serve, Challenge.

Reflection Question:

"When has Love lifted me?"

WE GATHER AND APPROACH GOD

Welcome and Announcements – Rev. Coral Prebble

Lighting the Christ Candle:

One: Jesus, Light of the World, is risen.

All: Let us walk in the Light of Christ's life.

Call to Worship:

One: We celebrate St. James' 68th anniversary!

All: We rejoice in all that St. James means to us and the wider community.

One: Let us give thanks for inspiring people, meaningful ministries and magnificent music.

All: We praise God who formed, sustains and leads us forward as a loving shepherd.

Prayer of Approach:

One: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us pray:

All: Shepherding God, thank you for this opportunity to join in worship and friendship, share memories and celebrate your Spirit at work in our midst. We are grateful for all who made St. James possible and all who have enriched this community with their time, treasure and talent. Thank you for joy, generosity and love in action. Open us to hear Your voice and follow Christ's leading, that we may we continue to be a relevant church for today. Amen.

Opening Hymn V.U. 288 "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" verses 1 & 3

Vocalist: Bill Price, baritone choral lead
 Piano: J.-C. Coolen, Minister of Music

- 1 Great is thy faithfulness, God our Creator;
 there is no shadow of turning with thee;
 thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
 as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.**

Refrain:

**Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
 Morning by morning new mercies I see;
 all I have needed thy hand hath provided -
 great is thy faithfulness, ever to me!**

- 3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
 thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
 strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow -
 wondrous the portion thy blessings provide. R**

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LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

Acts 2: 42-47 Reader: Don Munday

The early disciples shared meals, pooled resources to help one another and joined together to praise God.

Sermon: "Ministries That Make a Difference"
 - Rev. Linda Maw, Marie Truelove and Nancy Violo

Junior Choir Anthem: "The Shepherd Psalm" –John Carter
 Wendy Simone, Junior and Youth Choir Director
 J.-C. Coolen, Piano

RESPONDING TO GOD

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession – Rev. Coral Prebble

Hymn V.U. 601 "The Church of Christ in Every Age" verses 1 & 3
 Tune: TRURO V.U. 158

Vocalist: Bill Price, baritone choral lead

Piano: J.-C. Coolen, Minister of Music

- 1 The church of Christ in every age,
beset by change but Spirit led,
must claim and test its heritage
and keep on rising from the dead.**
- 3 Then let the servant church arise,
a caring church that longs to be
a partner in Christ's sacrifice,
and clothed in Christ's humanity.**

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Commissioning and Benediction

Congregational Benediction: "Prayer of Dedication" –Don Besig

Cantor: Bill Price, baritone choral lead

Descant: Kathleen Wells, soprano choral lead

Piano: J.-C. Coolen, Minister of Music

**Go with us, Lord, as now we depart,
Calming the fears that trouble each heart.
Keep us all in your grace
Until we come, again, to this place.**

**Now we will walk in peace with the Lord,
Living in faith and teaching His word.
Share His love every day,
For He has surely shown us the way! Amen.**

Words: Nancy Price and Don Besig. © 1991 Alfred Publishing Co., Inc.
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Thank you Rev. Linda Maw, Marie Truelove and Nancy Violo for lifting up three of our many ministries and sharing their positive impact. We appreciate the time and care you put into your reflection and more importantly for the major role you have in making each of these ministries possible week by week for years.

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Thank you to the Junior and Youth Choir members, J.- C. Coolen, Bill Price, Wendy Simone and Kathleen Wells for leading us in music and song, to Gord Burrell for creating an audio recording, to Rod Lord for his camera and tripod, to Karen Munday for

reading the responsive “All” portions and creating slides of the hymn words and responsive prayers, to Don Munday for reading scripture and creating and producing our audio-visual worship experience.

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Sunday, May 10, online and by telephone

We celebrate Mother’s Day and all who have loved us like a mother. Our Senior Choir will be singing “For the Beauty of the Earth”. Please listen to J.-C.’s YouTube video to learn the original tune to hymn 556 “Would You Bless Our Homes and Families” so that we can sing along next Sunday.

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Sunday, May 17 online and by telephone

Rev. Kerri Hagerman will return as our guest preacher. Kerri was ordained in 2003 and served congregations outside of Winnipeg and in Brampton. In 2012 she received a Master of Theology in Pastoral Studies with a focus on preaching at Emmanuel College in Toronto. Currently, Kerri works for the Peel District School Board and as a Resource Teacher supporting Guidance and Career Education through the promotion of apprenticeship in the skilled trades. She has a son and daughter ages 17 and 20 who attend Kingsway-Lambton United Church in Etobicoke.

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Epistle Newsletter – the May issue is now available online at our website as well as a printed version for pick up from St. James. Thank you to our editors, Jennifer Ling and Jennifer Flaxman and to all who wrote articles and contributed content.

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YouTube Hymns: J.-C. Coolen has started a series of YouTube videos to help introduce new hymns and familiar hymns to their original tune. You can view the full list of videos on the church website, here:

<http://www.stjamesunitedchurch.com/music/introducing-new-congregational-song/>

Please feel free to enjoy and review these introductory videos as much as you desire, and do feel free to sing along!

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Outreach Offering this month supports **GO! Project**, a United Church ministry to Children and Youth, that has touched and inspired the lives of young people within St. James and across Canada. During COVID-19 they offer both Kids Church as well as a Youth Drop-in online five days a week. Check out “GO! Kids Church Online – YouTube” for fun and engaging lessons.

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Seniors Lunch has been cancelled for May and June. The next lunch and Program will be October 1st.