

St James United Church
400 Burnhamthorpe Road, Etobicoke M9B 2A8 416-622-4113
www.stjamesunitedchurch.com

PENTECOST SUNDAY, MAY 31, 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 the Spirit been active in my life?"

WE GATHER AND APPROACH GOD

Welcome and Announcements – Rev. Coral Prebble

Musical Offering: "The Gift of Love" –Hal Hopson
(based on 1 Corinthians 13/American folk tune, arr. Hal Hopson)
Bill Price, baritone
J.-C. Coolen, piano

Lighting the Christ Candle:

One: The risen Christ gifts us with the Holy Spirit.

All: Come, Holy Spirit, and light up our lives.

Call to Worship:

One: A mighty wind blows.

All: Tongues of fire dance.

One: God's Spirit pours out upon us;

All: Just as Jesus promised.

One: Spirit of God, come into each heart, each prayer, each song, each life;

All: Be our inspiration.

Prayer of Approach:

One: God is with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us pray together:

All: God of Pentecost, thank you for gift of the Holy Spirit: breath of life, bubbling laughter, healing touch, voice of peace, spark of insight, flame of passion, wind of change, power of God, holy companion. Thank you for your animating energy that opens our eyes, warms our hearts, inspires hope, speaks truth, musters courage, ignites love and brings us together. We celebrate the birth of the Church and your life among us and within. O Holy Spirit, may we give you breathing space and allow your life to flow through us as you did on Pentecost. Amen.

Opening Hymn V.U. 195 “On Pentecost They Gathered” vs. 1, 2 & 3

Cantor: Bill Price, baritone choral lead

Piano: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

- 1 **On Pentecost they gathered
 quite early in the day,
a band of Christ's disciples,
 to worship, sing, and pray.
A mighty wind came blowing,
 filled all the swirling air,
and tongues of fire aglowing
 inspired each person there.**

- 2 **The people all around them
 were startled and amazed
to understand their language,
 as Jesus Christ they praised.
What universal message,
 what great good news was here?
That Christ, once dead, is risen
 to vanquish all our fear.**

- 3 **God pours the Holy Spirit
 on all who would believe,
on women, men, and children
 who would God's grace receive.
That Spirit knows no limit,
 bestowing life and power.
The church, formed and reforming,
 responds in every hour.**

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

Acts 2:1-8 and 12-18 Reader: Don Munday
The day of Pentecost.

Sermon: "Life in the Spirit"
- Rev. Coral Prebble

Hymn V.U. 196 "Wind Who Makes All Winds That Blow"

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

- 1 **Wind who makes all winds that blow,
gusts that bend the saplings low,
gales that heave the sea in waves,
stirrings in the mind's deep caves,
aim your breath with steady power
on your church this day, this hour.
Raise, renew the life we've lost,
Spirit God of Pentecost.**

- 2 **Fire who fuels all fires that burn,
suns around which planets turn,
beacons marking reefs and shoals,
shining truth to guide our souls,
come to us as once you came:
burst in tongues of sacred flame!
Light and Power, Might and Strength,
fill your church, its breadth and length.**

- 3 **Holy Spirit, Wind and Flame,
move within our mortal frame.
Make our hearts an altar pyre,
kindle them with your own fire.
Breathe and blow upon that blaze
till our lives, our deeds and ways,
speak that tongue which every land
by your grace shall understand.**

RESPONDING TO GOD

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession – Rev. Coral Prebble

Closing Hymn V. U. 198 “Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us” vs. 1 & combo of 2 & 3

Cantor: Bill Price, baritone choral lead

Piano: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

- 1 **Come, O Spirit, dwell among us,
come with pentecostal power;
give the church a stronger vision,
help us face each crucial hour.
Built upon a firm foundation,
Jesus Christ, the cornerstone,
still the church is called to mission
that God's love shall be made known.**

- 2 **We would raise our hallelujahs
for the grace of yesteryears;
for tomorrow's unknown pathway,
hear, O God, our humble prayers.**

- 3 **Come, O Spirit, dwell among us,
give us words of fire and flame.
Help our feeble lips to praise you,
glorify your holy name.**

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Commissioning and Benediction – Rev. Coral Prebble

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.**

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Thank you to J.- C. Coolen, Bill Price 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 and coordinating Sunday worship by telephone, to Karen Munday for reading the responsive “All” portions of the responsive prayers and creating slides of the hymn words and to Don Munday for reading scripture and creating and producing our audio-visual worship experience.

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Sunday, June 7 – Trinity Sunday and Holy Communion. We will be singing “Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty”, the hymn that used to be sung during worship every Sunday. You are also invited to have a piece of bread or cracker and a beverage of choice ready as we remember the gift of Jesus and the multiple meanings of communion. Rev. Coral Prebble will be preaching on Genesis 1 – 2:4, the story of creation.

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Outreach Offering for St. James Food Basket – Our June outreach offering will go to our Food Basket. It has been closed since March 17 due to the pandemic, but will re-open on June 10. Due to the number of people out of work now, temporarily or permanently, we expect increased need in our community. If you are willing to help with this work, please send your donation to St. James United Church, 400 Burnhamthorpe Rd., Etobicoke ON M9B 2A8 and mark your envelope “St. James Food Basket”. OR donate on-line at our website www.stjamesunitedchurch.com, please add Food Basket under “special instructions to the seller”. Thank you for supporting this important ministry.

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Sunday, June 14 - Rev. Coral Prebble will be preaching on God promising Abram and Sarah a son and Jesus sending out the disciples to preach and heal based on Genesis 18:1-15 and Matthew 9:35 – 10:8. These scriptures invite us to be confident in the God who holds our future.

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Sunday, June 21 – We celebrate Father’s Day and Indigenous Sunday. Rev. Coral Prebble will be preaching.

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Sunday, June 28 – Rev. Coral Prebble will preach her final message to the people of St. James and return the symbols of her ministry to mark the end of her covenant relationship with us as our minister.

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M & S Coloured Bulletin Covers. Since the switch to digital worship in mid-March we have had eleven Sunday services without the need for paper bulletins. Worship and Music Committee members wish to thank the members of St James who donated the beautiful worship bulletin covers in celebration, in memory or in honour of someone during this time and coming months: Carol Jones and Gord Burrell, Don and Marion McDougall, the Charlot family, Shirley Missios, Don Laing and Judy Jones, Lila Bowen, Marty and Jon Linton, Bill and Pam Lowry and Mary Greco. We look forward to using your choices of bulletin covers in 2021.

There will also be opportunity to choose and donate new Mission and Service bulletin covers for 2021. *The new 2021 M & S Bulletin Cover Catalogue*, which usually is available in June, will be sent out instead this Fall. So stay tuned for further announcements regarding ordering in September.

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YouTube Hymns: J.-C. Coolen has 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 our 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!

If you choose to subscribe to our YouTube channel you will receive automatic notifications of new videos.

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Seniors Lunch has been cancelled until the fall, hopefully October 1st.

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