

**St James United Church**  
400 Burnhamthorpe Road, Etobicoke M9B 2A8 416-622-4113  
[www.stjamesunitedchurch.com](http://www.stjamesunitedchurch.com)

**SEASON AFTER PENTECOST - SUNDAY, JUNE 14, 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.**

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**Reflection Question:**

"When has the Spirit been active in my life?"

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**WE GATHER AND APPROACH GOD**

Welcome and Announcements – Rev. Coral Prebble

Musical Offering: "If Only You Believe" – (Robert J. Gielas)  
Kathleen Wells, soprano  
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: God calls us to new adventures.

**All: We step out in faith.**

One: Christ calls us to do what is right.

**All: We follow Christ's example.**

One: The Spirit opens new opportunities and calls us to celebrate.

**All: We laugh, sing and rejoice in God's blessings.**

Prayer of Approach:

One: God is with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Let us pray together:

**All: Promise-making and Promise-keeping God, we rejoice in your love that never ends, joy that overflows and faith which is always full. Thank You for your steadfast presence, infinite compassion and endless creativity. Be our brightest vision, our breath of hope and Source of blessing. Raise us up to reach our full potential and be a gift to the world, in Jesus' name. Amen.**

**Opening Hymn V.U, 820 "Make a Joyful Noise" verses 1 & 3**

Cantor: Bill Price, baritone choral lead

Piano: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

**Refrain:**

**Make a joyful noise all the earth!  
Worship your God with gladness.  
Make a joyful noise all the earth.  
Come to this place with a song!**

**1 Know that your God has made you.  
Know it's to God we belong.  
And come to this place with joyfulness and praise.  
Worship your God with a song! R**

**3 Ages through endless ages,  
seasons of endless years,  
the love of our Maker ever shall endure.  
Worship your God with a song! R**

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**LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD**

Genesis 18:1- 15 and 21:1-7      Reader: Don Munday  
Abraham and Sarah are promised a son and give birth to a child.

Sermon: "Gift of Laughter"  
- Rev. Coral Prebble

**Hymn V.U. 747 "Psalm 23: The Lord's My Shepherd" vs. 1, 2 & 5**

Cantor: Bill Price, baritone choral lead

Piano: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

**1 The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want;  
he makes me down to lie  
in pastures green; he leadeth me,**

the quiet waters by.

- 2 My soul he doth restore again;  
and me to walk doth make  
within the paths of righteousness,  
even for his own name's sake.**
- 5 Goodness and mercy all my life  
shall surely follow me,  
and in God's house for evermore  
my dwelling-place shall be.**

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## RESPONDING TO GOD

**Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession –Rev. Coral Prebble**

**Closing Hymn V. U. 657 “He Leadeth Me” vs. 1 & 3**

Cantor: Bill Price, baritone choral lead

Piano: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

- 1 He leadeth me: O blessed thought!  
O words with heavenly comfort fraught!  
Whate'er I do, where'er I be,  
still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.**

**Refrain:**

**He leadeth me! He leadeth me!  
By his own hand he leadeth me!  
His faithful follower I would be,  
for by his hand he leadeth me!**

- 3 Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine,  
nor ever murmur nor repine,  
content, whatever lot I see,  
since 'tis my God that leadeth me. R**

Words: Joseph Henry Gilmore. Public Domain.

**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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**Congratulations to St. James United Church and the Search Committee** on the unanimous and enthusiastic approval of your new minister. Thank you to members of the Ministerial Search Committee for all of the time, thought, preparation and research that went into this search in challenging circumstances and for your unanimous recommendation: Brenda Beaton (chair), Jon Linton, Don Munday, Tina Shapero, Sylvie Ty and Randy Wilson for their diligent service on our behalf. You will hear more about the new minister in upcoming weeks.

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

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**Outreach Offering for St. James Food Basket** – Our June outreach offering will go to our Food Basket. It had been closed since March 17 due to the pandemic, yet re-opened on June 10. Due to the number of people out of work now, temporarily or permanently, we expect increased need in our community. 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](http://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 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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**The Curtains Are Up** – Thanks to Nancy Polito as chair of our Decorating Team, Marie Truelove and Karen Taylor, our two sewers, the three curtains located in the corridors on either side of the sanctuary chancel have been replaced and look refreshingly beautiful. Thank you for this labour of love and service. Thank you to everyone else who offered to help with this project.

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**Video: “Why We Love St. James United Church”** - In January Karen Forgrave invited us to share what we love about St. James U.C.. Karen and Steven Truelove then edited all of the testimonials down to 5 minutes. This video was created to post on the national UCC “Church Hub” to accompany our written profile, as we searched for a minister. The 25 participants have all graciously given permission for this video to appear on our own website. You may want to check it out and think about your own reasons for why you love St. James.

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**M & S Coloured Bulletin Covers.** Since the switch to digital worship in mid-March we have had thirteen Sunday services without paper bulletins. The Worship and Music Committee 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 the coming summer 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:** We've started a series of YouTube videos to help introduce new congregational song. 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! If you'd like to receive automatic notifications whenever we release a new video, go directly to the bottom right of the YouTube video window, click on the red Subscribe button, then click on the Notifications bell.

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**Seniors Lunch** has been cancelled until the fall, hopefully October 1<sup>st</sup>.