

Let us be bound in love to one another.

One: We join together this morning
with a new desire for understanding those in our midst.

All: Braid us together.

Let us be bound in love to one another.

One: We come to hear a song of hope.
We come to dance a dance of peace.
We come to share the words of scripture that inspire.

All: Braid us together.

Let us be bound in love to one another.

One: We are here in this place together,
in body or in spirit.
Let us be moved to understand the journey of others
a little bit better today.
And let us be ever mindful of the opportunities
that will present themselves to us.

All: Braid us together.

Let us be bound in love to one another.

Amen.

OPENING HYMN MV 28 God of the Bible (*Fresh as the Morning*) v. 1, 2 & 5

Cantor: Kathleen Wells, Soprano Choral Lead/Soloist

Piano: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

*Refrain: Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,
God always faithful, you do not change.
Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,
God always faithful, you do not change.*

- 1 God of the Bible, God in the Gospel,
hope seen in Jesus, hope yet to come,
you are our centre, daylight or darkness,
freedom or prison you are our home. R
- 2 God in our struggles, God in our hunger,
suffering with us, taking our part,
still you empow'r us, mothering Spirit,
feeding, sustaining, from your own heart. R
- 5 Hope we must carry, shining and certain

through all our turmoil, terror and loss,
bonding us gladly, one to the other,
till our world changes, facing the Cross. R

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LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

A TIME OF WONDER

MUSICAL OFFERING

Be Thou My Vision (Bob Chilcott)

Kathleen Wells, soprano

J.-C. Coolen, piano

READINGS

Matthew 22.34-46

MESSAGE

Perhaps Love

Rev. Marlene Britton

RESPONDING TO GOD

SERMON HYMN

VU 333 *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

Cantor: Kathleen Wells, Soprano Choral Lead/Soloist

Piano: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

- 1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.
- 2 Come, almighty to deliver;
let us all thy grace receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.
- 3 Finish, then, thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be;

let us see thy great salvation
 perfectly restored in thee,
 changed from glory into glory,
 till in heaven we take our place,
 till we cast our crowns before thee,
 lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Words: Charles Wesley. Public Domain

OFFERTORY PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING HYMN

VU 227 *For the Fruit of All Creation*

Cantor: Kathleen Wells, Soprano Choral Lead/Soloist

Piano: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

- 1 For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.
 For the gifts to every nation, thanks be to God.
 For the ploughing, sowing, reaping,
 silent growth while we are sleeping,
 future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.
- 2 In the just reward of labour, God's will is done.
 In the help we give our neighbour, God's will is done.
 In our worldwide task of caring
 for the hungry and despairing,
 in the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.
- 3 For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.
 For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.
 For the wonders that astound us,
 for the truths that still confound us,
 most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

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BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

CONGREGATIONAL BLESSING

Prayer of Dedication – Don Besig

Cantor: Renee Fajardo, Alto Choral Lead/Soloist

Descant: Kathleen Wells, Soprano Choral Lead/Soloist
Piano: J.- C. Coolen, Music Minister

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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POSTLUDE ***For the Fruit of All Creation*** (Thomas Keesecker)
J.-C. Coolen, piano

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Giving leadership in today's service: (*in alphabetical order*)

Rev. Marlene Britton, Guest Preacher

J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

Rev. Maya Douglas, Minister of Pastoral Care, Word and Sacrament

Renee Fajardo, Alto Choral Lead/Soloist

Kathleen Wells, Soprano Choral Lead/Soloist

We are also thankful for those serving as tech support:

Gord Burrell, Jasmin Li, Don Munday, Karen Munday.

God bless our greeters: Mhairi Godley, Linda Maw; and our ushers and counters: James Ankrah, Regina Ankrah, Tony Gray, Bob Harris, Eleanor Harris, Shayan Manouchehri, and Aldo Violo (Usher & Counting Captain).

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NEXT WEEK: 22ND Sunday after Pentecost – All Saints Day – Spirit Sunday

Scripture Readings: Psalm 104, Matthew 5.1-12, 1 John 3.1-3, Revelation 7.9-17.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome the Rev. Marlene Britton as our guest preacher this morning. The Rev. Marlene Britton is a Diaconal minister in the UCC who was born in Jamaica. She began ministry 27 years ago serving in Belize and Barbados, before transferring to the UCC. She lived in Cold Lake, AB, serving a 2 point charge, before serving a UC in Thunder Bay. Currently she serves at the GCO as Program Coordinator for Admission and Pastoral Relations. She is the mother of two sons.

Happy Birthday to our St. James family members who celebrate their birthdays this coming week. We are glad you were born and give God thanks for your lives: Nicole Conforzi October 27, Lila Bowen October 28, Barbara Wane October 28, Edith Paxton October 29, Marty Linton October 30, Harry Sutton October 30. Please note: anyone submitting the names of people celebrating birthdays needs the permission of those individuals first.

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Sunday School via Zoom, Sundays at 1:30 p.m. If you have a child/grandchild from JK to Grade 9 who would like to participate please contact Karen at karen_forgrave@hotmail.com so that she can be sure that you are included in the mailing list, and she can send you the Zoom Link.

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Our Bible Study group will be held over ZOOM every Monday at 1p.m. Please confirm your interest in joining by contacting Rev. Maya at revmaya.douglas@gmail.com and she will send you the log-in information.

We will read through the four lectionary readings for the week and discuss each one as well as how they may impact our lives and the world.

An evening session will also be made available if a growing interest is shared with Maya. Thanks to all who emailed last week. Newcomers are always welcome!

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Rev. Maya will be hosting a Zoom coffee hour after worship at 12:30 p.m. on Sundays in lieu of “meet and greet” after worship beginning on Sunday, November 1st. More details to come.

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If you wish to attend a "Live" service in the sanctuary: please note you **must register ahead** for a place in the sanctuary by contacting Karen Munday at munday@sympatico.ca or 416 233 3619. You can now reserve 2 weeks at a time, but please no more than 2 weeks in advance.

Once registered please arrive at the church by 10:15 a.m. to allow the ushers sufficient time to 'process' and seat you before the service begins at 10:30 a.m. Thank you.

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OUTREACH APPEAL FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER – CAMH (*Centre for Addiction and Mental Health*) is one of five hospitals in the GTA who partnered with the Ministry of Health and Ontario Health to provide resources for frontline healthcare workers. From the CAMH website, “To support patients and their families, it’s important that you also take care of yourself. CAMH provides access to mental health and addiction supports for health care workers impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes access to resources, psychotherapy and psychiatric services.” Please support this CAMH initiative. Send your donation to St. James United Church, 400 Burnhamthorpe Rd., Etobicoke ON

M9B 2A8 and mark your envelope “CAMH” or “Outreach”, **OR** donate on-line at our website www.stjamesunitedchurch.com, please add “Outreach-CAMH” under “special instructions to the seller”.

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The SJUC Junior and Youth Choir meets on Thursdays from 6:45 – 7:30 p.m. via Zoom. We are excited to announce the introduction of our very own Vocal Training Academy, for ages 5-17. For details see the e-flyer on St James’ website. To register, please complete the short survey at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WZTN8YF>

There is no deadline for registration. Singers may join at any time. If you have any questions or concerns, contact Choir Director Wendy Simone at wcsimone@gmail.com.

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Senior Choir rehearsals have resumed, virtually over Zoom, on alternate Thursday evenings at 8 p.m. To participate in the Senior Choir, and for Zoom rehearsal meeting information, please contact J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister, at (905) 683-5757 or jccoolen@sympatico.ca.

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Egg Cartons – Our Food Basket is currently in need of empty, clean, egg cartons. If you have any to donate, please feel free to drop them off at the church anytime during the week during our office hours (Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.). Thank you.

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Coffee for sale - Unused fair trade, organic coffee for hospitality for sale for \$9 a pound. Call Eleanor Harris at 416-234-1365. She can arrange for pickup or delivery.

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FUTURE SERVICES:

Sunday, November 1 is All Saints Day, Spirit Sunday and the launch of our month-long Stewardship Campaign – A joyful celebration of All Saints Day as children, youth and adults alike are welcome to dress up as Biblical heroes and heroines of our faith.

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Sunday, November 8 is Remembrance Day Sunday. All veterans; police officers and fire fighters; scouts, brownies and guides are welcome to attend service in uniform. Please remember to wear a poppy over your hearts. We will commemorate the ways our service people have and continue to serve Canada and her allies.

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Sunday, November 15 is Stewardship Sunday.

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Sunday, November 22, the Rev. Tom Watson will be our guest preacher.