

St James United Church

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

www.stjamesunitedchurch.com

SUNDAY, APRIL 11, 2021

10:30 am

2nd Sunday of Easter

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:

"Does the resurrection produce faith or does faith produce the resurrection?"

WE GATHER AND APPROACH GOD

***Bold** indicates words said by All

PRELUDE *Cantad al Señor (Sing Praise to the Lord)* (arr. Nicholas Palmer)
J.-C. Coolen, piano

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Maya Douglas

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

There once was someone, who said... and he said,
"I am the Light of the World."

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Easter season reminds us that God comes in unexpected ways...

Surprising us with joy...

Reminding us that no darkness can destroy the immense power of love...

Enlivening our spirits with hope.

Let us worship God together.

OPENING HYMN*Oh, Sing to Our God***VU 241**

(cantor vs 1, congregation + cantor vs 1-3)

Cantor: Renee Fajardo, Alto Choral Lead/Soloist

Piano: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

- 1 Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing out a new song.
Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing out a new song.
Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing out a new song.
Oh, sing to our God. Oh, sing to our God.
- 2 Oh, dance for our God and blow all the trumpets.
Oh, dance for our God and blow all the trumpets.
Oh, dance for our God and blow all the trumpets.
And sing to our God, and sing to our God.
- 3 Oh, shout to our God, who gave us the Spirit.
Oh, shout to our God, who gave us the Spirit.
Oh, shout to our God, who gave us the Spirit.
Oh, sing to our God. Oh, sing to our God.

Words: Brazilian folk song, trans. Gerhard M. Cartford. © 1995 Gerhard M. Cartford, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
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PRAYER OF APPROACH

Empowering God,

when the song seems to have died,

teach us to sing once more...

when the flame seems to have gone out,

blow on the remaining embers and rekindle it within us...

when the road seems too hard,
 inspire us with fresh vision.
 In the spirit of the risen Christ. Amen.

A TIME OF WONDER

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

MUSICAL OFFERING *Like Him We Rise* (Tom Trenney)
 Renee Fajardo, mezzo-soprano
 J.-C. Coolen, piano

GREEK SCRIPTURE John 20.19-31

SERMON *Searching for a Better Ending* Rev. Tom Watson

RESPONDING TO GOD

SERMON HYMN *Joy Comes with the Dawn* **VU 166**

(cantor refrain, vs 1; congregation + cantor refrain, vs 1-3 alternating with refrain)

Cantor: Renee Fajardo, Alto Choral Lead/Soloist

Piano: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

Refrain: *Joy comes with the dawn;
 joy comes with the morning sun;
 joy springs from the tomb
 and scatters the night with her song,
 joy comes with the dawn.*

1 Weeping may come;
 weeping may come in the night,
 when dark shadows cloud our sight. *Refrain*

2 Sorrow will turn,
 sorrow will turn into song,

and God's laughter make us strong. *Refrain*

- 3 We will rejoice,
we will rejoice, and give praise,
to the One who brings us grace. *Refrain*

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

POEM

*"I Stood at The Water's Edge ~
thoughts in a time of pandemic"* (Wendy Truscott)

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING HYMN *Go To The World*

VU 420

Cantor: Renee Fajardo, Alto Choral Lead/Soloist

Piano: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

- 1 Go to the world! Go into all the earth.
Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth,
baptising as the sign of our rebirth.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
- 2 Go to the world! Go into every place.
Go live the Word of God's redeeming grace.
Go seek God's presence in each time and space.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
- 3 Go to the world! Go struggle, bless and pray;
the nights of tears give way to joyous day.
As servant Church, you follow Christ's own way.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
- 4 Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,
for I am with you 'til the age shall end,

when all the hosts of glory cry 'Amen!'
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Words: Sylvia Dunstan. © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc. Reproduced under One License #A-622413.

BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

No matter where the paths of life take us...

May the God of time and eternity help us look to the future with hope.

While remaining realistic about our limitations...

May we still be open to new hopes and dreams.

May God grant us courage for today and tomorrow...

And all the days of our lives!

CONGREGATIONAL BLESSING

Halle, Halle, Halle

VU 958

Cantor: Renee Fajardo, Alto Choral Lead/Soloist

(sung twice)

Piano: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-jah!

Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-jah!

Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-jah!

Hal-le-lu-jah! Hal-le-lu-jah!

Words: Caribbean traditional. Public Domain.

POSTLUDE

Lord of the Dance (arr. Mark Hayes)

J.-C. Coolen, piano

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Giving leadership in today's service:

J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

Rev. Maya Douglas, Presider

Renee Fajardo, Alto Choral Lead/Soloist

Rev. Tom Watson, Guest Minister

We are also thankful for those serving as tech support:

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

NEXT WEEK: Easter 3 – Sunday, April 18

Scripture Readings: Psalm 4; Luke 24.36b-48; Acts 3.12-19; 1 John 3.1-7.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome Rev. Tom Watson as our Guest Preacher today. Tom was raised on a small farm in southwestern Ontario. After serving churches in Ontario and Manitoba, he came to Guelph in 1991 as minister at Trinity United. Guelph has been home ever since. He has always loved music, has sung in a number of choirs and choral groups, and has played drums in various bands. Tom also loves writing, especially humorous stories and scripts for musical comedy productions...along with some very humorous sermons.

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We will be receiving our Lenten and Easter Outreach Offering throughout the month of April. Our offering gifts will be used to support United Church Camps. The following YouTube video, Heaven among Stars, Trees and Lakes, describes some of camping' gifts. Please give generously. Thank you.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J64MyxwkeE8>

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Worship Service Coffee Hour: To join Rev. Maya after worship at 12:30 p.m. on Sundays over Zoom in lieu of “meet and greet”, please use one of the following options.

Using the link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81414121724?pwd=S1lJakFPSnM5UEEx1UWVUNHI5MktSUT09Using>

Meeting ID: 814 1412 1724

Passcode: 555637

OR

If you wish to phone in, please use the following information. Dial by your location:

+1 647 558 0588 Canada +1 647 374 4685 Canada

Meeting ID: 814 1412 1724 Passcode: 555637

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Sunday School every Sunday via Zoom 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.

There will be NO Bible Study on Monday, April 12, 2021.

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The last deadline for the Epistle will be Sunday April 18th. This is the last issue before we break for the summer. If you have submissions, please send them to sjepitle@yahoo.com. This is the preferred method. You can still put hard copies into the Epistle mailbox.

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The SJUC Junior & Youth Choir and Vocal Academy is going strong and continues to welcome any enthusiastic young people aged 5-17 looking for a musical outlet. Rehearsals and private lessons are held on alternating Thursday evenings via Zoom. Please contact choir director Wendy Simone at wcsimone@gmail.com for more information and to register. We'd love to have you!

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Senior Choir rehearsals are 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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The new church Telephone Directory is now ready! Addresses, phone numbers and emails have been updated. They can be picked up at the church office (\$3) or mailed to you (\$5) to cover printing costs and postage. Please let Matty know if you need one mailed to you. Not to be used for any commercial purpose!

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UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS:

Camping Sunday – Sunday, April 25, 2021, from 2 pm to 3 pm

Zoom Link: <https://united-church.zoom.us/j/92292081317>

Join Us! April 25th, 2021 is Camping Sunday in the United Church of Canada, and we are inviting you to join the Shining Waters Regional Council camps and Jeffrey Dale, Minister for Faith Formation, Youth and Young Adults for an afternoon of camping fun, connection, and community building.

As many of you are aware, last summer was a difficult time for the camping ministry in Shining Waters. With the uncertainty this year continuing, we thought we'd take some time to celebrate camping ministry and how it has been an integral part of this region's youth and children's ministry.

Come and hear about the various camping ministries in Shining Waters Regional Council and how they continue to connect with the children and youth throughout the region!

There will be games and prizes (and we invite you to bring your own snacks)! This will be an intergenerational time for people of all ages.

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FUTURE SERVICES:

April 18, 2021 is Easter 3 Sunday.

April 25, 2021 is Easter 4 Sunday.

May 2, 2021 is Easter 5 & Anniversary Sunday. We are celebrating our 69th Anniversary!
Our guest preacher TBA.

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