St James United Church

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

www.stjamesunitedchurch.com

SUNDAY, MAY 23, 2021

10:30 am

Holy Communion

Pentecost Sunday ~ Asian Heritage Month

The lotus flower is a symbol of rebirth in Asia.
It submerges in still water each night to re-bloom the next day.

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.

WE GATHER AND APPROACH GOD

Bold** indicates words said by **All

PRELUDE ***Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart*** (arr. Lloyd Larson)
J.-C. Coolen, piano

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Linda Maw

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

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

CALL TO WORSHIP David Sparks

Holy Spirit, come among us!
Inspire our worship, strengthen our faith.
Holy Spirit, stay with us!
Deepen our fellowship, support our time together.
Holy Spirit, challenge our discipleship!
Encourage us to venture out, give us the compassion of Jesus.
Holy Spirit, work through us!
Touch the downhearted with hope, move the dispirited with Love.

Written by David Sparks. Prayers to Share, Year B: Responsive Prayers for Each Sunday of the Church Year, 2006.
Use of prayers in congregations for worship is encouraged; no permission required for such a purpose.

OPENING HYMN ***Spirit of God, Unleashed on Earth*** **VU 207**
Cantor: Anna Wojcik, Soprano Choral Lead/Soloist
Piano: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

1 Spirit of God, unleashed on earth
with rush of wind and roar of flame!
With tongues of fire saints spread good news;
earth, kindling, blazed its loud acclaim.

2 You came in power, the church was born;
O Holy Spirit, come again!
From living waters raise new saints,
let new tongues hail the risen Lord.

3 With burning words of victory won
inspire our hearts grown cold with fear,

revive in us baptismal grace,
and fan our smouldering lives to flame.

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RESPONSIVE PSALM ***Psalm 104. 24-34, 35b***

O Lord, how manifold are your works!
In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.
Yonder is the sea, great and wide,
creeping things innumerable are there,
living things both small and great.
There go the ships,
and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it.
These all look to you to give them their food in due season;
when you give to them, they gather it up;
when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.
When you hide your face, they are dismayed;
when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.
When you send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the ground.
May the glory of the Lord endure forever;
may the Lord rejoice in his works -
who looks on the earth and it trembles,
who touches the mountains and they smoke.
I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;
I will sing praise to my God while I have being.
May my meditation be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the Lord.
Bless the Lord, O my soul. Praise the Lord!

God who spoke Creation into being,
astonishing the angels with galaxies and sunsets,
all your creatures proclaim your majestic power and playful wisdom.
Send forth your renewing Spirit, that we might discover your purpose for us
and live for your glory and delight. Amen.

New Revised Standard Version, reprinted for worship in *Psalms for All Seasons*, 2012.

A TIME OF WONDER

MUSICAL OFFERING ***Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God*** (arr. Lloyd Larson)
Anna Wojcik, soprano
J.-C. Coolen, piano

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

GREEK SCRIPTURE John 15.26-27; 16.4b-15

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE ***Breathe on Me, Breath of God*** **VU 382**
Cantor: Anna Wojcik, Soprano Choral Lead/Soloist ***v. 1, 2***
Piano: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

1 Breathe on me, breath of God,
fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love,
and do what thou wouldst do.

2 Breathe on me, breath of God,
until my heart is pure,
until my will is one with thine,
to do and to endure.

Words: Edwin Hatch. Public Domain.

HOMILY ***Roots to Wings*** **Rev. Maya Douglas**

RESPONDING TO GOD

COMMUNION HYMN ***Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us*** **VU 198**
Cantor: Anna Wojcik, Soprano Choral Lead/Soloist
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.
In the church's pilgrim journey
you have led us all the way,
still in presence move before us,
fire by night and cloud by day.

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.
God, all holy, Son and Spirit,
three in one: what mystery!
We would sing our loud hosannas
now and through eternity.

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THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Friends, Jesus invites us to share in this Pentecostal feast of remembrance...
...
Come! Come with the joy of spring's warmth.
Come all who are weary and yearn for peace.
Come to Christ's table to be fed with Love.

God be with you

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift up our hearts in prayer.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is good to give God thanks and praise.

It is indeed good to give God thanks and praise!

...

In Jesus, you called us to be neighbours, to share words of love with one another. And so as strangers, now neighbours and friends, mentors, teachers, students, justice seekers and peace makers, we raise our voices to sing:

O holy, holy, holy God, **MV 203**
O God of time and space.
All earth and sea and sky above
bear witness to your grace.
Hosanna in the highest heav'n,
creation sings your praise.
And blessed is the One who comes
and bears your name always!

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But Jesus' words were not welcomed by everyone.

...

We remember that Jesus took the bread, gave thanks, broke it saying:

"Take, eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

And after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and passed it among us saying:

"Drink this all of you; this is my blood. Do this in remembrance of me."

And so in the Spirit of the risen Christ, we sing:

Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen, Christ will come again! **MV 204**
Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen, Christ will come again!

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Remembering that Jesus, the Christ, promised to be with us to the end of time, through the Advocate - the Holy Spirit, we pray for all with whom you'd have us share this feast...

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Bless us, O Spirit-God, and all our prayers.
...
Ignite us with your Love, nourish us with your presence.
All praise and glory are yours, Redeeming God, now and forever, as we sing:

Amen, amen, O Holy One! **MV 205**
Hosanna and Amen!
Amen, amen, O Holy One!
Hosanna and Amen!

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SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

MUSICAL MEDITATION *As We Gather at Your Table* (K. Lee Scott)
Anna Wojcik, soprano
J.-C. Coolen, piano

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy God, we are fed by your love;
we are strengthened by your life.
We are sent forth into this world to live your way and
share your joy, sustained by the Holy Spirit.
We are commissioned to feed as we have been fed,
forgive as we have been forgiven, love as we have been loved.
May it be so. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN *Filled With the Spirit's Power* **VU 194**

Cantor: Anna Wojcik, Soprano Choral Lead/Soloist
Piano: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

1 Filled with the Spirit's power, with one accord
the infant church confessed its risen Lord.
O Holy Spirit, in the church today
no less your power of fellowship display.

2 Now with the mind of Christ set us on fire,
that unity may be our great desire.
Give joy and peace; give faith to hear your call,
and readiness in each to work for all.

3 Widen our love, good Spirit, to embrace
with your compassion all the human race.
Like wind and fire with life among us move,
till we are known as Christ's, and Christian prove.

Words: J. R. Peacey. © 1978 Hope Publishing Company. Reproduced under One License #A-622413.

BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

CONGREGATIONAL BLESSING *May the Lord, Gracious God*

(cantor vs 1, congregation+cantor vs 1, vs 2)

Cantor: Anna Wojcik, Soprano Choral Lead/Soloist
Piano: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

1 May the Lord, gracious God,
bless and keep you forever;
grant you peace, perfect peace,
courage in every endeavor.

2 Lift up your eyes and see God's face,
and God's grace forever;

may the Lord, gracious God,
bless and keep you forever.

Words: Scripture. Public Domain.

POSTLUDE ***I'm Gonna Sing (When the Spirit Says Sing)/ Ain't-a That Good News?*** (arr. Larry Shackley)
J.-C. Coolen, piano

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Giving leadership in today's service:
J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister
Rev. Maya Douglas, Minister of Pastoral Care, Word and Sacrament
Rev. Linda Maw, Presider
Anna Wojcik, Soprano Choral Lead/Soloist
We are also thankful for those serving as tech support:
Gord Burrell, Don Munday, Karen Munday, Andrew Paley.

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

NEXT WEEK: Asian Heritage Celebration ~ Trinity Sunday - May 30th
Scripture Readings: Psalm 29; Isaiah 6.1-8; Acts 8.26-40; Romans 8.12-17.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please note that our Office will be CLOSED on Monday, May 24, for the Victoria Day Holiday.

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Communion Outreach Offering: Our Communion Outreach Offering received today, will go to support services provided by The Scott Mission. The Scott Mission, 502 Spadina Ave, has been able to remain open during COVID-19, continuing to provide food bank services, hot meals, and access to their clothing bank. When St James' Food Basket is closed clients use The Mission's clothing bank and food bank.

There will be an opportunity to donate to The Mission for four weeks, until June 13th. Please send your donations to St. James United Church, 400 Burnhamthorpe Rd., Etobicoke, ON, M9B 2A8 and mark your envelope "for The Scott Mission," OR donate on-line at our website < www.stjamesunitedchurch.com >. Please add "for The Scott Mission" under "special instructions to the seller". Thank you so much.

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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=S1lJakFPSnM5UEx1UWVUNHI5MktSUT09Using

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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There is no Sunday School on Zoom today (Sunday, May 23rd) for the long weekend. Sunday School will resume at its regular time, 1:30pm on Zoom, next Sunday, May 30th. 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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There will only be ONE Bible Study group on Monday, May 24. It will be via Zoom from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. 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. Newcomers are always welcome!

Please use the same Zoom information:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87231297360?pwd=NzVubjZnbjZsUEdmRG84MzFPaTZlQT09

Meeting ID: 872 3129 7360

Passcode: 983213

Dial by your location:

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

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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 over 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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We've posted a new episode in our series of YouTube videos to help introduce new congregational song, introducing VU 169 Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing. You may view it at **https://youtu.be/L4zaEuhaCMo**. You can also 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, 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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Social Justice Group: After watching the documentary "Shoreline" and reading "The Skin We're In", many of us felt a need to "do something"! We know we have many members of St. James who are passionate about the environment, or other important issues that we see in the news. If you would be interested in sending letters to members of parliament or governmental organizations to promote a cause (e.g., to promote

enhanced water quality, through a number of possible initiatives), please let us know. Contact the church office - email stjames_uc@rogers.com – to be included on the list of people who will help us write and send emails/letters or add their name to petitions for a cause. This is a great thing to do during Covid, when we all have more time inside! Thank you for your help!

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

Choral Leads/Soloists' Concert Connection. Our fantastic St James Choral Leads/Soloists are performing in a variety of settings in the wider community. Below, please find information on their upcoming performances. We invite you to take in these excellent performances by our Choral Leads/Soloists and their musical colleagues!

Thursday, May 20, 2021, at 3:00 pm (archive available online afterward)
Glenn Gould School Vocal Showcase Concert
featuring Anna Wojcik, St James' Soprano Choral Lead/Soloist
Admission: Free
https://www.royalconservatory.live/videos/the-glenn-gould-school-vocal-showcase

Sunday May 23, 2021 | 2 PM EDT
Asian Heritage Month Virtual Revitalization Concert
featuring Renee Fajardo, St James' Alto Choral Lead/Soloist
Event Poster with bios
Opening Remarks: Mr. Justin Poy, Honorary Patron, Asian Heritage Month-CFACI
Artistic Directors: Professor Chan Ka Nin, Alice Ping Yee Ho
FREE ADMISSION: Please register at https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/virtual-annual-asian-heritage-month-concert-tickets-152283033653
Zoom
link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88676411783?pwd=WDVIb3RLbmhWMDBYMzRCTHNKTEdOQT09
Meeting ID: 886 7641 1783
Passcode: 876869

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Etobicoke-Lakeshore Climate Town Hall Meeting will take place on **Thursday May 27 at 7pm** sponsored by the "Mimico Resident Association (MRA)" and "ECULINKS Etobicoke." This event is not associated with a political party. Its purpose is to allow citizens of all political persuasions to receive an update on progress being made to address the climate crises. As well, the forum will present an opportunity for the community to discuss the issues associated with climate change, and next steps to combat climate change. Participants:

- Rev. Hans van Nie, Moderator
- James Maloney, MP Etobicoke-Lakeshore, Standing Committee on Natural Resources
- Yvan Baker, MP Etobicoke-Centre, Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development

We invite you to sign up for the town hall at **Etobicoke Lakeshore Climate Change Town Hall ZOOM Registration Page**. You can submit questions both during the town hall via the ZOOM Chat, or you can send your questions ahead of time to **"Etobicoke Lakeshore Climate Town Hall Questions"**.

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TRIVIA NIGHT! Do you have what it takes to be the St. James Trivia Champion? Join us online on Friday, May 28th at 7 pm for a family-friendly Trivia Night! There will be different categories of multiple-choice questions. All you need to participate is a pencil and paper (to write down your answers). You are guaranteed to learn something about someone at St. James that you didn't know before! ☺
Zoom link to
join: https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79946383417?pwd=LzdiS1NDMjlaUEF2VVpTTzBFNnNSdz09
Meeting ID: 799 4638 3417 Passcode: S4ByXx

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FRED'S WALK - June 4, 2021 - Supporting the Fred Victor Mission - Helping people find place and purpose - You can help! See: https://fredswalk2021.ca/

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Collier Street United Church's Social Action Task Force, the same people who held the Lenten Book Study, invites us to hear **Kelly Brownbill** speak on Indigenous '**Land Acknowledgements - Why are we doing them?**' on **Tuesday June 15 at 7 pm**. This will be a virtual event. Please join Rev. Maya in registering at:

http://collierunitedjune15.eventbrite.com/

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FUTURE SERVICES:

May 30, 2021 is Trinity Sunday. We will celebrate Asian Heritage.
Our guest preacher will be the Rev. Dr. HyeRan Kim-Cragg.

June 6, 2021 is Pride Sunday! for the United Church of Canada this year. It is a day that we celebrate the lives and ministry of LGBTQIA+ and Two Spirit people in all their diversity.

June 13, 2021 is the Children's/Intergenerational Service. The Sunday School will lead the service and we will honour Karen Forgrave for her amazing leadership during covid!

June 20, 2021 is Fathers' Day and Indigenous Sunday. Our guest preacher will be the Rev. Evan Swance-Smith from the Toronto Urban Native Ministry.

There will be no live streamed service on June 27, 2021. We will share links for services elsewhere.

St. James UC will be hosting joint summer services on **July 4, July 11, and July 18.**
Please join us and invite your friends to check us out online!

Richview UC will host July 25th to August 8th, and
Bloordale UC will host August 15th to August 29th.
All summer services will be online with the hopes that we may return to in-person worship in the fall.

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