

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

FATHER'S DAY AND INDIGENOUS SUNDAY, JUNE 21, 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

Lighting the Christ Candle:

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

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

Opening Hymn V.U. 265 "Creating God, Your Fingers Trace" verses 1, 3 & 4

Cantor: Kathleen Wells, soprano choral lead

Piano: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

- 1 Creating God, your fingers trace
the bold designs of farthest space;
let sun and moon and stars and light
and what lies hidden praise your might.**

- 3 Redeeming God, your arms embrace
all now despised for creed or race;
let peace, descending like a dove,
make known on earth your healing love.**

- 4 Indwelling God, your gospel claims
one family with a billion names;
let every life be touched by grace**

until we praise you face to face.

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Call to Worship:

One: The Creator welcomes us with open arms as a loving father.

All: We give thanks for God's steadfast love.

One: The Great Spirit nurtures and guides us as a wise father.

All: We trust and seek God's wisdom.

One: The Source of Life plants seeds within us as an inspiring father.

All: May we glorify God as we blossom into our full potential.

Prayer of Approach:

One: God is with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us pray together:

All: O Great Spirit, whose breath I feel in the wind, whose voice I hear in the birds, whose eyes I see in the children, may I know your Presence everywhere. You are the Creator who planted your seed of life within us. Give us eyes to see the Sacred Way you have prescribed for us. Teach us to walk in the footsteps of your Son, the Chief of chiefs. May our hearts beat as one with You and Mother Earth. Amen.

Musical Offering: "Keeper of the Song" – (Joseph M. Martin)

Junior Choir

Wendy Simone, director

J.- C. Coolen, piano

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

Matthew 13: 1-9 Reader: Don Munday

Jesus' parable of the sower, the seed and four types of soil.

Sermon: "Seeds of Hope"

- Rev. Coral Prebble

Hymn V.U. 556 "Would You Bless Our Homes and Families" vs. 1, 3 & 4

Cantor: Kathleen Wells, soprano choral lead

Piano: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

1 Would you bless our homes and families,
Source of life who calls us here;

in our world of stress and tension
 teach us love that conquers fear.
 Help us learn to love each other
 with a love that constant stays;
 teach us when we face our troubles,
 love's expressed in many ways.

3 From the homes in which we're nurtured,
 with the love that shapes us there,
 teach us, God, to claim as family
 every one whose life we share.
 And through all that life may offer,
 may we in your love remain;
 may the love we share in families
 be alive to praise your name.

4 Let us reach beyond the boundaries
 of our daily thought and care
 till the family you have chosen
 spills its love out everywhere.
 Help us learn to love each other
 with a love that constant stays;
 teach us when we face our troubles
 love's expressed in many ways.

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RESPONDING TO GOD

Dedication of More Voices Hymnals

One: Today we are dedicating 50 bound copies of the music edition of "More Voices", a United Church hymnal with 225 songs from around the world and from contemporary Christian song writers. These hymnals are presented as a gift to St. James United Church in loving memory of seven special people: Elizabeth (Liz) Allin, Joyce Auger, Lillian Cay, Doug Low, Marion Pattison, Joe Paxton and Iris Van Melle; people who were enthusiastic supporters of this church and our music ministry. This gift helps us make a joyful noise and celebrate their lives.

All: Thank you for the gift of these More Voices hymnals to enrich our worship and music. We are grateful for Liz Allin, Joyce Auger, Lillian Cay, Doug Low, Marion Pattison, Joe Paxton and Iris Van Melle and all that they mean to this congregation. We receive your gift with love and promise to value

and take good care of them.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession –Rev. Coral Prebble

Closing Hymn V. U. 580 “Faith of Our Fathers” vs. 1, 3 & 4

Cantor: Kathleen Wells, soprano choral lead

Piano: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

- 1 Faith of our fathers, living still
in spite of dungeon, fire, and sword;
O how our hearts beat high with joy,
whene'er we hear that glorious word:
 faith of our fathers, holy faith,
 we will be true to you till death.

- 3 Faith of our sisters, brothers too,
who still must bear oppression's might,
raising on high, in prisons dark,
the cross of Christ still burning bright:
 faith for today, O living faith,
 we will be true to you till death.

- 4 Faith born of God, O call us yet;
bind us with all who follow you,
sharing the struggle of your cross
until the world is made anew.
 Faith born of God, O living faith,
 we will be true to you till death.

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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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Reverend Maya Douglas will join our congregation on September 1 - Congratulations to St. James United Church and the Search Committee on the unanimous and enthusiastic approval of our new minister, Rev. Maya Douglas. 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. Thank you Brenda Beaton (chair), Jon Linton, Don Munday, Tina Shapero, Sylvie Ty and Randy Wilson for your diligent service on our behalf.

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Thank you to J.- C. Coolen, Wendy Simone and the Junior and Youth Choir, 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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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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Joint Worship in July and August

July 5, 12 & 19 - Rev. John Kim and Richview United Church will provide worship resources or online links as well as emergency pastoral care.

July 26, August 2 & 9 - Rev. Brian McIntosh and Bloordale United Church will provide printed worship resources posted on our website, as well as emergency pastoral care for all three congregations.

August 16, 23 & 30 – St. James will host worship much as we have been during COVID-19. Rev. Kerri Hagerman will be our guest preacher on August 16 and 23, and Rev. Debbie Johnson will return as our worship leader on August 30. Rev. Linda Maw has graciously agreed to offer pastoral care for all three congregations.

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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 reopened 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, please add Food Basket under "special instructions to the seller". Thank you for supporting this important ministry.

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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.

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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. 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 fourteen 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 1st.