

St James United Church

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

www.stjamesunitedchurch.com

SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 2021

10:30 am

Fourth Sunday of Lent

PIE 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.

Reflection Questions: "How is your prayer life?"

"In what ways do you speak with God every day?"

WE GATHER AND APPROACH GOD

**Bold indicates words said by All*

PRELUDE

The Love of God (arr. Larry Shackley)

J.-C. Coolen, piano

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Maya Douglas

CALL TO GATHER

A Rainbow Journey Resource

**We come together to worship, to celebrate publicly,
to intentionally lift up all gathered,
to be explicit in our acceptance and kindness for all!**

We come together as the rainbow people of God!

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LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

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

OPENING PRAYER

Enfleshed: Affirming Liturgy

God, when you called each of us into being,
 you delighted in your works.

**You gifted us with differences that illuminate
 the breadth of beauty, wisdom and practices
 of love in your creation.**

In whatever ways we still struggle
 to accept and celebrate our own unique offerings,
 free us from narrow thinking that confines, constrains,
 or condemns your good work in us.

Amen.

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OPENING HYMN

Sing Your Joy

VU 253

Cantor: Rene Fajardo, Alto Choral Lead/Soloist

Piano: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

- 1 Sing your joy, proclaim God's glory!
 Rise and sing, the morning has come!
 Bless our God and praise all creation;
 song of the earth, and light from heaven:
 God is alive! O praise our God!

- 2 All the earth is filled with rejoicing,

light and life, the wonder of God!
 Christ has triumphed! Risen for ever!
 Joy of our hearts, and hope of our dreaming:
 God is alive! O praise our God!

3 May we learn to become your kingdom,
 may we be your kindness and truth!
 Love is our calling, gift of your presence;
 children of God, and spirit of Jesus:
 God is alive! O praise our God!

4 Light our way, O God of the living,
 may we learn to see with new eyes!
 Jesus the Lord, our power and promise;
 light for the blind, and food for the hungry:
 God is alive! O praise our God!

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A TIME OF WONDER

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

MUSICAL OFFERING *For Everyone Born* (arr. Tom Trenney)
 Rene Fajardo, mezzo-soprano
 J.-C. Coolen, piano

HEBREW SCRIPTURE Genesis 9.8-17

GREEK SCRIPTURE Luke 12.29-32

SERMON *Is What You See, What You Get?* Rev. Greg Daly

RESPONDING TO GOD

SERMON HYMN *Teach Me, God, to Wonder*

VU 299

Cantor: Rene Fajardo, Alto Choral Lead/Soloist

Piano: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

- 1 Teach me, God, to wonder, teach me, God, to see;
let your world of beauty capture me.

*Refrain: Praise to you be given, love for you be lived,
life be celebrated, joy you give.*

- 2 Let me, God, be open, let me loving be;
let your world of people speak to me. *Refrain*

- 3 Let me, God, be ready, let me be awake,
in your world of loving my place take. *Refrain*

- 4 Teach me, God, to know you, hear you when you speak,
see you in my neighbour when we meet. *Refrain*

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING HYMN *Draw the Circle Wide*

MV 145

Cantor: Rene Fajardo, Alto Choral Lead/Soloist

Piano: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

*Refrain: Draw the circle wide. Draw it wider still.
Let this be our song, no one stands alone,
standing side by side, draw the circle wide.*

- 1 God the still-point of the circle,
'round whom all creation turns;
nothing lost, but held forever,
in God's gracious arms. *Refrain*

- 2 Let our hearts touch far horizons,
so encompass great and small;
let our loving know no borders,
faithful to God's call. *Refrain*
- 3 Let the dreams we dream be larger,
than we've ever dreamed before;
let the dream of Christ be in us,
open every door. *Refrain*

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BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

CONGREGATIONAL BLESSING *Prayer of Dedication* (Don Besig)

Cantor: Renee Fajardo, Alto Choral Lead/Soloist
Descant: Anna Wojcik, 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 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* (arr. Joel Raney) J.-C. Coolen, piano

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Giving leadership in today's service:

J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

Rev. Greg Daly, Guest Preacher

Rev. Maya Douglas, Presider

Rene Fajardo, Alto Choral Lead/Soloist

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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NEXT WEEK: Lent 5 Sunday, March 21

Scripture Readings: Psalm 51.1-12; Jeremiah 31.31-34; John 12.20-33; Hebrews 5.5-10.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome on this P.I.E. Day, our guest minister, The Rev. Greg Daly. He brings his passion for justice to his call at Birchcliff Bluffs United Church in Scarborough. He is a graduate of Emmanuel College and was ordained in 2018. As a life-long learner, Greg is currently enrolled in the Master of Pastoral Studies program at Emmanuel College with a primary focus on pastoral counselling in health care settings. In support of that work, Greg has undertaken placements at Dorothy Ley Hospice in Etobicoke and St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto. Greg has previously served as the lead minister at Palgrave United Church in Caledon.

Prior to entering ministry, Greg pursued a 20-year career in Urban and Regional Planning focusing on mediation, public policy in land use, and strategic planning; working for local, regional, and provincial governments and agencies in Ontario. Greg, finding his scriptural grounding in Micah 6:8, has engaged in social justice initiatives both within church structures and in the community, evidenced at present in his role on the Shining Waters Regional Council Equity Committee. Greg and his partner Joseph live in a housing cooperative in the St. Lawrence neighbourhood of downtown Toronto.

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Easter plants can be purchased in memoriam throughout the month of March. These will be displayed in church Easter Sunday then distributed to those on the Pastoral Care List.

To contribute please:

Put \$10 in an envelope with the name of the person you wish to remember, and your own name.

Mail it or put it through the front door slot of the church or leave it in the office



OR

E-transfer \$10 to stjames_uc@rogers.com.

Leave the name you are memorializing in the message, along with your name also.

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WANTED: NEW CHAIR OF THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE/UNIFIED BOARD

Duties

1. Convene and preside, typically, over eight Coordinating Committee (CC) meetings, one Unified Board (UB) meeting (pre budget approval), one AGM and one Congregational meeting.
2. Consults with other committee chairs and the minister to set the agenda for the meeting and ensures that the minutes of the meeting are recorded and distributed.
3. Builds consensus and develops teamwork with the CC/UB and with the minister for the vision and mission of the church.
4. No voting privileges except in case of a tie break.
5. Participates at baptisms.
6. Signing authority for all church documents.

Skills required: good organizational and communication skills plus the desire to serve.

If interested contact Mhairi Godley at mmgodley@hotmail.com or Rod Lord at roderick.lord@gmail.com

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Sunday School is back at 1:30 p.m. as of this Sunday. 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 meets Mondays via ZOOM at 1p.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!

<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.

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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UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS:

STORIES THROUGH A CHRISTIC LENS

Our Lenten TED Talk series this year will be held via Zoom (see link below) with Rev. Maya on the days outlined below. Please mark your calendars, Maya is looking forward to journeying with her new church family! We will view the talk together and engage in conversation around questions from a Christian perspective, "a Christic lens". New participants are welcomed at any time!

5 - Tues. Mar.16 7pm-8pm Baratunde Thurston *"How to deconstruct racism, one headline at a time"*

Baratunde Thurston is an Emmy-nominated writer, activist and comedian who addresses serious issues with depth, wit and calls to action. He believes that stories we tell help shape the world in which we live.

Topic: Stories Through a Christic Lens

Time: This is a recurring meeting at the assigned times

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82589699778?pwd=NEcvYWZTRjlmOGF3K0p4NUNQZ0JlOQ09>

Meeting ID: 825 8969 9778

Passcode: 378504

Dial by your location +1 647 374 4685 Canada +1 647 558 0588 Canada

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We have joined with other churches for a Lenten book study on “The Skin We’re In” by Toronto writer Desmond Cole. Our meetings, led by the Rev. Hewitt Holmes of Collier Street UC, are every Wednesday at 7 pm from Feb 24th - Mar 31st over Zoom.

The study's schedule is as follows:



February 24 – Chapters 1, 2 & 3

March 3 – Chapters 4 & 5

March 10 – Chapters 6 & 7

March 17 – Chapters 8, 9 & 10

March 24 – Chapters 11 & 12

March 31 – Chapter 13

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FUTURE SERVICES:

March 21, 2021 is the fifth Sunday of Lent. Spring arrives.

March 28, 2021 is Palm/Maundy Sunday. We will celebrate Communion.

April 2, 2021 is Good Friday. We will host a meditative service of word and music at 10:30 am. Bloordale UC will join us with the Rev. Brian McIntosh.

April 4, 2021 is Easter Sunday. Christ is risen. Christ is risen, indeed!