



Birchcliff Bluffs United Church

Ministers: **All the People – wherever and however they gather**

Minister of Word & Sacrament: **Rev. Dr. Ellen Redcliffe**

Minister of Community Development: **Rev. Carmen Llanos**

Music Director: **Randy Vancourt**

Guest Musician: **Daniel Giverin**

Scripture Reader: **Janet Bawcutt**

Sunday, May 8, 2022

Year C - 4th Sunday of Easter

Mother's Day

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude

Call to Worship

In the silence of this moment, we sit, we listen,

Lord Jesus, we are here. Come and be with us, we pray.

Opening Hymn

She Comes Sailing on the Wind

VU 380

She comes sailing on the wind, her wings flashing in the sun;
on a journey just begun, she flies on.
And in the passage of her flight, her song rings out through the night,
full of laughter, full of light, she flies on.

Silent waters rocking on the morning of our birth,
like an empty cradle waiting to be filled.
And from the heart of God the Spirit moved upon the earth,
like a mother breathing life into her child.

Many were the dreamers whose eyes were given sight
when the Spirit filled their dreams with life and form.
Deserts turned to gardens, broken hearts found new delight,
and then down the ages still she flew on.

She comes sailing on the wind, her wings flashing in the sun;
on a journey just begun, she flies on.

And in the passage of her flight, her song rings out through the night,
full of laughter, full of light, she flies on.

To a gentle girl in Galilee, a gentle breeze she came,
a whisper softly calling in the dark,
the promise of a child of peace whose reign would never end,
Mary sang the Spirit song within her heart.

Flying to the river, she waited circling high
above the child now grown so full of grace.
As he rose up from the water, she swept down from the sky,
and she carried him away in her embrace.

She comes sailing on the wind, her wings flashing in the sun;
on a journey just begun, she flies on.
And in the passage of her flight, her song rings out through the night,
full of laughter, full of light, she flies on.

Long after the deep darkness that fell upon the world,
after dawn returned in flame of rising sun,
the Spirit touched the earth again, again her wings unfurled,
bringing life in wind and fire as she flew on.

She comes sailing on the wind, her wings flashing in the sun;
on a journey just begun, she flies on.
And in the passage of her flight, her song rings out through the night,
full of laughter, full of light, she flies on.

Land Acknowledgement

This land on which we gather is the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Haudenosaunee and the Mississaugas of the Credit. We live, work, play and worship the Creator on this land and acknowledge with respect the thousands of years of ceremony and relationship that are etched in footprints, fire, and faithfulness on the soil and rock that surrounds us.

Candle Lighting

As we light this candle, may we be reminded that we are not alone, we live in God's world. Call and God will come.

- Light candle here-

Christ is here in the presence of this candle, our light in the world.

Opening Prayer

We are called together to sit, calm our being, to open ourselves to the word as it comes to us this day. Be ready, for God wants to speak to you.

We have come and are open to God's word as meant for us this day.

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Hymn

I Heard The Voice of Jesus

VU 626

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Come unto me and rest;
lay down, O weary one, lay down
your head upon my breast.'

I came to Jesus as I was,
weary and worn and sad;
I found in him a resting place,
and he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Behold, I freely give
the living water; thirsty one,
stoop down, and drink, and live.'

I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
and now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'I am this dark world's light;
look unto me, your morn shall rise,
and all your day be bright.'

I looked to Jesus, and I found
in him my star, my sun;
till travelling days are done.

Prayer of Illumination

O God, help us to live out your word in a broken and hurting world.

Speak to us as we learn to surrender our hearts to you as we continue to build a loving and sharing community that thrives on justice, equity and peace.

Scripture 1 The Divine Shepherd

¹ The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

² He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;^[a]

³ he restores my soul.^[b]

He leads me in right paths^[c]
for his name's sake.
4 Even though I walk through the darkest valley,^[d]
I fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff—
they comfort me.
5 You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
6 Surely^[e] goodness and mercy^[f] shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
my whole life long.^[g]

Gospel John 10:22-30

²² At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³ and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon.

²⁴ So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.”

²⁵ Jesus answered, “I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; ²⁶ but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷ My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand.

²⁹ What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. ³⁰ The Father and I are one.”

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God

Sermon Is He Enough?

Hymn

River

MV 3

River, rushing down to the ocean blue,
River from a mountain high.
River, as you do what rivers do,
River, draw the Spirit nigh.

Spirit, coming down to the riverside,
Spirit, spark of wondrous thought.

Spirit, I am free for you to guide,
Spirit, pray that I be taught!

Water, let me drink of your healing pow'r,
Water, strength and life you give.
Water, as I travel with each hour,
Water, help my body live.

River, flowing down where you ran before,
River, source of clearer view.
River, as I walk your rocky shore,
River, see my journey through,
See my journey through,
See my journey through.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Life & Work of the Church

Offering

What shall I render unto the Lord for all benefits towards me? God's loving-kindness is beyond our understanding. May we continue to be motivated by the blessings that come our way as we share a portion of what we have with those in need as we are empowered by the living Christ.

Amen.

Prayers of the People

O Lord, our Lord, who indeed has called us by name ...

we recognize your voice and hear your words but are not always sure we want to follow ...

We now take a moment to remember those we keep in our prayers.

(pause)

We ask this through Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

"The Word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God

BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

Closing Hymn

One More Step Along the World I Go

VU 639

One more step along the world I go,
one more step along the world I go,
from the old things to the new,
keep me travelling along with you:
And it's from the old I travel to the new;
keep me travelling along with you.

Round the corner of the world I turn,
more and more about the world I learn;
all the new things that I see
you'll be looking at along with me:
And it's from the old I travel to the new;
keep me travelling along with you.

As I travel through the bad and good,
keep me travelling the way I should;
where I see no way to go
you'll be telling me the way, I know:
And it's from the old I travel to the new;
keep me travelling along with you.

Give me courage when the world is rough,
keep me loving though the world is tough,
leap and sing in all I do,
keep me travelling along with you:
And it's from the old I travel to the new;
keep me travelling along with you.

You are older than the world can be,
you are younger than the life in me,
ever old and ever new,
keep me travelling along with you:
And it's from the old I travel to the new;
keep me travelling along with you.

Benediction & Commissioning

We go to be a bold, nurturing Christian witness in God's world. May it always be so.
The peace of Christ be with you as you journey forward. **Amen.**

Postlude

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**Additional Lectionary Readings
Year C –4th Sunday of Easter
Sunday, May 8, 2022**

Acts 9:36-43

New Revised Standard Version

³⁶ Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas.^[a] She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷ At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸ Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, “Please come to us without delay.” ³⁹ So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰ Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, “Tabitha, get up.” Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹ He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴² This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³ Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Revelation 7:9-17

New Revised Standard Version

⁹ After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

¹¹ And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” ¹⁴ I said to him, “Sir, you are the one that knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵ For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

¹⁶ They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;

¹⁷ for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”