



Birchcliff Bluffs United Church

Ministers: All the People – wherever and however they gather

Rev. Gregory Daly: Minister of Word & Sacrament

Rev. Carmen Llanos: Minister of Community Development

Music Director: Randy Vancourt

Reader: Betty McCulloch

June 27, 2021

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude

Fight The Good Fight

Music: William Boyd

Call to Worship

Come to this connected space

Whether you come here in recliner or rocking chair



From your kitchen, couch or porch,
The risen Christ welcomes you here and now.

***We come as we are: unshaven or coifed;
dressed or in pajamas; having brunch or brushing our teeth.***

Though physically separated, we are one.

Come now to worship across the distance.

We come to listen, sing, pray, and rejoice.

Come now to worship united in faith.

We come to connect deeply with each other and with God in worship.

Response

Now There Is No Male or Female

VU 627

Words: © 1985 Lynette P. Miller
Music: Trier Gesangbuch

*Now there is no male or female,
now there is no free or slave,
now there is no Jew or Gentile
in the earth Christ died to save.*

*Christ has set us free for freedom:
we no more sing slavery's creed;
old submissions cannot claim us,
Christ has set us free indeed.*

*Death has no dominion o'er him,
so for us death holds no power;
life's own waters now have marked us*

*born to God this very hour.
From this moment and forever
dead to sin, alive in Christ,
born of water and the Spirit,
now in Christ we find our life.*

Life & Work of the Church

Welcome to online worship

*Whoever you are, however you identify, wherever you come from,
you are welcome here at Birchcliff Bluffs United Church*



Land Acknowledgement



Candle Lighting

Opening Hymn

My Life Flows On

Words and Music by Robert Lowry

VU 716

*My life flows on in endless song,
above earth's lamentation.
I hear the sweet, though far off hymn
that hails a new creation.
Through all the tumult and the strife,
I hear the music ringing:
It finds an echo in my soul -
how can I keep from singing?*

*What though my joys and comforts die?
My Saviour still is living.
What though the shadows gather 'round?
A new song Christ is giving.
No storm can shake my inmost calm,
while to that Rock I'm clinging:
since Love commands both heaven and earth,
how can I keep from singing?*

*I lift my eyes; the cloud grows thin;
I see the blue above it;*

*and day by day this pathway smooths,
since first I learned to love it.
The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,
a fountain ever springing:
all things are mine since I am Christ's -
how can I keep from singing?*

Prayer for Grace

*In our soul's despair, we shout to you, O God.
Incline your ear, Gracious God, hear our
seeking voice.
Our failings are many and they condemn us.
Yet you bestow forgiveness and we are amazed.
We pause to invite your assistance, and in your
promise we believe.
Our thirst for you is more persistent than the
water flowing over the rocks.
May we taste your living water and be satisfied.
Amen*



WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

**And Now
For Something Completely Different**



Hymn

Christ Has No Body Now But Yours

MV 171

Words: © 2003 Stephen C. Warner Adapted from St. Teresa of Avila
Music: © 2006 Rick Gunn

*Christ has no body now but yours,
no hands but yours.
Here on this earth, yours is the work,
to serve with the joy of compassion.*

*No hands but yours to heal the wounded world,
no hands but yours to soothe all its suffering,
no touch but yours to bind the broken hope
of the people of God.*

*Christ has no body now but yours,
no hands but yours.
Here on this earth, yours is the work,
to serve with the joy of compassion.*

*No eyes but yours to see as Christ would see,
to find the lost, to gaze with compassion;
no eyes but yours to glimpse the holy joy
of the city of God.*

*Christ has no body now but yours,
no hands but yours.
Here on this earth, yours is the work,
to serve with the joy of compassion.*

*Through ev'ry gift, give back to those in need;
as Christ has blessed, so now be his blessing,
with ev'ry gift a benediction, be
to the people of God.*

*Christ has no body now but yours,
no hands but yours.
Here on this earth, yours is the work,
to serve with the joy of compassion.*

Prayer of Illumination



*Help us O God, to come to you with open lives to receive your words.
May we give them new life as we listen to what you have to say.
Open our hearts as we embark on this journey with each other and with
you. Amen*

Psalm 130

New Revised Standard Version

James 2: 17-26

New Revised Standard Version

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God

Guest Sermon Thoughts and Prayers

Dr. Vivia Kay Kieswetter,
Student, Trinity College Toronto
Courtesy of Shining Waters Region
“The Sermon Project”



Hymn

If We Just Talk of Thoughts and Prayers

Words: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette
Music: O Waly Waly

*If we just talk of thoughts and prayers,
and don't live out a faith that dares,
and don't take on the ways of death,
our thoughts and prayers are fleeting breath.*

*If we just dream of what could be,
And do not build community,
And do not seek to change our ways,
Our dreams of change are false displays.*

*If we just sing of doing good,
And don't walk through our neighbourhood,
To learn its hope, to ease its pain,
Our talk of good is simply vain.*

*God, may our prayers and dreams and songs,
lead to a faith that takes on wrongs;
that works for peace, and justice too,
then will our prayers bring joy to you.*

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Offering



Welcome of New Member



Prayers of the People



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

BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

Closing Hymn

Like a Healing Stream

Words and Music: © 2003 Bruce Harding

MV 144

*Like a healing stream in a barren desert,
Spirit water bringing life to dusty earth,
God is trickling through our lives
as in a dream unfolding,
promising revival and rebirth
like a healing stream.*

*Like a gentle rain on a thirsty garden,
Spirit water come to nourish tiny seed,
God is bubbling through the soil
to coax a new creation
yearning for an end to want and need
like a gentle rain.*

*Like a river strong with a restless current,
Spirit water rushing on to distant shore,
God is carving out a channel
in a new direction,
calling for an end to hate and war
like a river strong.*

*Like a mighty sea reaching far horizons,
Spirit water with a love both deep and wide,
God is working in our hearts
to shape a new tomorrow:
God will always challenge and provide!
Like a mighty sea, like a river strong,
like a gentle rain, like a healing stream.*

Benediction & Commissioning

Postlude



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Other Resources for Today

Candle Lighting Photo Credit: Daphne Hunt

And now for Something Completely Different - Life of Trans Refugees
[The Plight of LGBT Refugees \(proquest.com\)](http://proquest.com)