



Birchcliff Bluffs United Church

Ministers: All the People – wherever and however they gather

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CANADIAN MUSIC SERVICE

WE GATHER AS GOD’S PEOPLE

Prelude

Welcome

Lighting the Christ Candle

We light the Christ candle, reminding us of the light that shines among us, and that we are called to carry that light into the world.

Lighting the Rainbow Candle

May the light that shines from these flames illuminate our path ahead, and help us to grow together in love, peace and justice.

Land Acknowledgement

We now take a moment to acknowledge the sacred land beside the water on which Birchcliff Bluffs United Church stands. It has been a site of human activity for many thousands of years. This land is the traditional territory of the Huron-Wendat and Petun First Nations, the Seneca, and most recently the Mississaugas of the Credit River.

We are grateful for the opportunity to live and work on this territory and we seek to be mindful of broken covenants and the need to strive to make right with all our relations.

Opening Hymn

His Eye Is On The Sparrow

1 Why should I feel discouraged,
why should the shadows come,
Why should my heart be lonely,
and long for heav’n and home,
When Jesus is my portion?
My constant Friend is He:
His eye is on the sparrow,

and I know He watches me;
His eye is on the sparrow,
and I know He watches me.

I sing because I'm happy,
I sing because I'm free,
For His eye is on the sparrow,
and I know He watches me.

2 "Let not your heart be troubled,"

His tender word I hear,
And resting on His goodness,
I lose my doubts and fears;
Though by the path He leadeth,
but one step I may see;
His eye is on the sparrow,
and I know He watches me;
His eye is on the sparrow,
and I know He watches me.

I sing because I'm happy,
I sing because I'm free,
For His eye is on the sparrow,
and I know He watches me.

3 Whenever I am tempted,
whenever clouds arise,
When songs give place to sighing,
when hope within me dies,
I draw the closer to Him,
from care He sets me free;
His eye is on the sparrow,
and I know He watches me;
His eye is on the sparrow,
and I know He watches me.

I sing because I'm happy,
I sing because I'm free,
For His eye is on the sparrow,
and I know He watches me.
For His eye is on the sparrow,
and I know He watches me.

Call to Worship

Come together. Be present. Sing loudly. Today is a day to shout loud hosannas and celebrate. In music we offer praise, and in reflection, we find God's message for us.

Passing the Peace

We take this moment to share some peace with our neighbours; with a handshake, a bow, a wave or a nod to remind us of the light that is in each of us, and that we are called to reconciliation and community.

Let us greet those around you, saying:

Peace be with you.

And also with you.

Life and Work of the Church

Hymn

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

VU 664

1 What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry
everything to God in prayer.

2 Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged;
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful,
who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness;
take it to the Lord in prayer.

3 Are we weak and heavy laden,
cumbered with a load of care?
Christ the Saviour is our refuge;
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do our friends despise, forsake us?
Are we tempted to despair?

Jesus' strength will shield our weakness,
and we'll find new courage there.

RECEIVING GOD'S WORD

Scripture

Matthew 9:35-10:8

New International Version

³⁵ Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. ³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. ³⁸ Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

¹⁰ Jesus called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out impure spirits and to heal every disease and sickness.

² These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon (who is called Peter) and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; ³ Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; ⁴ Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

⁵ These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Do not go among the Gentiles or enter any town of the Samaritans. ⁶ Go rather to the lost sheep of Israel. ⁷ As you go, proclaim this message: 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' ⁸ Heal the sick, raise the dead, drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give.

¹⁹ I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below.

²⁰ The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to red
before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord.

²¹ And everyone who calls on the name of God will be saved.'

⁹ "Do not get any gold or silver or copper to take with you in your belts— ¹⁰ no bag for the journey or extra shirt or sandals or a staff, for the worker is worth his keep. ¹¹ Whatever town or village you enter, search there for some worthy person and stay at their house until you leave. ¹² As you enter the home, give it your greeting. ¹³ If the home is deserving, let your peace rest on it; if it is not, let your peace return to you. ¹⁴ If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, leave that home or town and shake the dust off your feet.

²² You will be hated by some because of me, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved. ²³ When you are persecuted in one place, flee to another. Truly I tell you, you will not finish going through the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

The Word of God for the People of God.
Thanks be to God.

Hymn

Teach Me God to Wonder

VU 299

1 Teach me, God, to wonder, teach me, God, to see;
let your world of beauty capture me.
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.
Praise to you be given, love for you be lived,
life be celebrated, joy you give.

3 Let me, God, be ready, let me be awake,
in your world of loving my place take.
Praise to you be given, love for you be lived,
life be celebrated, joy you give.

4 Teach me, God, to know you, hear you when you speak,
see you in my neighbour when we meet.
Praise to you be given, love for you be lived,
life be celebrated, joy you give.

CANADIAN SONGS

Song

Put Your Hand in the Hand

Put your hand in the hand of the man who stilled the water
Put your hand in the hand of the man who calmed the sea
Take a look at yourself, and you can look at others differently
By puttin' your hand in the hand of the man from Galilee

Every time I look into the Holy Book, I want to tremble
When I read about the part where a carpenter cleared the temple
For the buyers and the sellers were no different fellas
than what I profess to be
And it causes me shame to know
I'm not the person I should be

Put your hand in the hand of the man who stilled the water
Put your hand in the hand of the man who calmed the sea
Take a look at yourself, and you can look at others differently
By puttin' your hand in the hand of the man from Galilee

Mama taught me how to pray
Before I reached the age of seven
And when I'm down on my knees, that's when I'm close to heaven
But I'm feeling kinda guilty
'Bout the number of times we do what we must do
But He showed me enough of what it takes to get you through

Put your hand in the hand
Of the man who stilled the water
Put your hand in the hand of the man who calmed the sea
Take a look at yourself, and you can look at others differently
By puttin' your hand in the hand of the man from Galilee
(repeat chorus)

Hymn

So Send I You

So send I you, by grace made strong to triumph
O'er hosts of hell, o'er darkness, death, and sin,
My name to bear, and in that name to conquer-
So send I you, my victory to win.

So send I you, to take to souls in bondage
The word of truth that sets the captive free,
To break the bonds of sin, to loose death's fetters-
So send I you, to bring the lost to me.

So send I you, my strength to know in weakness,
My joy in grief, my perfect peace in pain,
To prove My power, My grace, My promised presence-
So send I you, eternal fruit to gain.

So send I you, to bear My cross with patience,
And then one day with joy to lay it down,
To hear My voice, "well done, My faithful servant-
Come, share My throne, My kingdom, and My crown!"

"As the Father hath sent Me, so send I you."

Song

O Siem

O Siem, we are all family
O Siem, we're all the same
O Siem, the fires of freedom
Dance in the burning flame
(repeat)

1 Siem o siyeya
All people rich and poor
Siem o siyeya
Those who do and do not know
Siem o siyeya
Take the hand of one close by
Siem o siyeya
Of those who know because they try
And watch the walls come tumbling down

O Siem, we are all family
O Siem. we're all the same
O Siem, the fires of freedom
Dance in the burning flame

2 Siem o siyeya
All people of the world
Siem o siyeya
It's time to make the turn
Siem o siyeya
A chance to share your heart
Siem o siyeya
To make a brand new start
And watch the walls come tumbling down

O Siem, we are all family
O Siem. we're all the same
O Siem, the fires of freedom
Dance in the burning flame

Fires burn in silence
Hearts in anger bleed
Wheel of change is turning
For the one who's truly in need
To see the walls come humbling down

O Siem, we are all family
O Siem. we're all the same
O Siem, the fires of freedom
Dance in the burning flame
(repeat)

Reflection

Song

Walk Hand In Hand With Me

Walk hand in hand with me
Through all eternity
Have faith, believe in me
Give me your hand

Love is a symphony
Of perfect harmony
When people such as we
Walk hand in hand

Be not afraid
For I am with you all the while
So lift your head up high
And look toward the sky

Walk hand in hand with me
This is our destiny
No greater love could be
Give me your hand
Walk with me

Be not afraid
For I am with you all the while
So lift your head up high
And look toward the sky

Walk hand in hand with me
This is our destiny
No greater love could be
Walk hand in hand
Walk with me

Offering

As we gather here, we recognize that we are truly blessed;
to live in this wondrous Creation,
to have family and friends and neighbours that we can depend upon.
As we have been blessed,
in turn we share a portion of that blessing with others,
so that the warmth and light of love will spread to everyone.
Praise to you be given, love for you be lived,
life be celebrated, joy you give.
Amen.

Prayers of the People

Creator God,
because you make all that draws forth our praise
and the forms in which to express it,
we thank you.

Because you make artists of us all,
awakening courage to look again at what is taken for granted,
grace to share these insights with others,
and the vision to reveal the future already in being,
we thank you.

Because you form your Word among us,
and in your great work embrace all human experience,
even death itself, inspiring our resurrection song,
we thank you.

We now take a moment to remember those, both in our church family and elsewhere, who we keep in our prayers today...

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

Creator in Heaven

Creator, in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your dominion come, your will be done
on earth, as in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread
and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors,
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil,
For you reign eternally,
in power, and in glory,
For ever and ever, Amen.

Hymn

There's a Voice in the Wilderness Calling

VU 18

1 There's a voice in the wilderness crying,
a call from the ways untrod:
prepare in the desert a highway,
a highway for our God!
The valleys shall be exalted,
the lofty hills brought low;
make straight all the crooked places
where God, our God, may go!

2 O Zion, that bringest good tidings,
get thee up to the heights and sing!
Proclaim to a desolate people
the coming of their King.
Like the flowers of the field they perish,
like grass our works decay;
the power and pomp of nations
shall pass, like a dream, away.

3 But the word of our God endureth,
whose arm is ever strong;
God stands in the midst of nations,
and soon will right the wrong.
God shall feed the flock like a shepherd,
the lambs so gently hold;
to pastures of peace will lead them,
and bring them safe to fold.

4 There's a voice in the wilderness crying,
a call from the ways untrod:
prepare in the desert a highway,
a highway for our God!
The valleys shall be exalted,
the lofty hills brought low;
make straight all the crooked places
where God, our God, may go!

BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

Bread for the Journey

What song best tells the story of a place, person, or moment that has shaped who you are today?

Closing Hymn

Hymn to Freedom

When every heart joins every heart
and together yearns for liberty,
That's when we'll be free.
When every hand joins every hand
and together molds our destiny,
That's when we'll be free.

Any hour any day, the time soon will come
when we will live in dignity,
That's when we'll be free.
When everyone joins in our song

and together singing harmony,
That's when we'll be free

When every heart joins every heart
and together yearns for liberty,
That's when we'll be free.

When every hand joins every hand
and together molds our destiny,
That's when we'll be free.

Any hour any day, the time soon will come
when we will live in dignity,
That's when we'll be free.

When everyone joins in our song
and together singing harmony,
That's when we'll be free
We'll be free

Benediction

We have been called to use our gifts to build a better world.
As we leave here today, help us to not only focus on how to develop our creativity,
but also to seek the wisdom to use our skills to help others
and for the building up of the people we serve.
In the name of Christ and through the Holy Spirit we pray, Amen.

Choral Response

Dance with the Spirit

MV 156

Dance with the Spirit early in the mornin',
walk with the Spirit throughout the long day.
Work and hope for the new life a-bornin',
listen to the Spirit to show you the way.

Dance with the Spirit early in the mornin',
move with the Spirit throughout the long day.
Work and hope for the new life a-bornin',
listen to the Spirit to show you the way.

Dance with the Spirit early in the mornin',
sing with the Spirit throughout the long day.
Work and hope for the new life a-bornin',
listen to the Spirit to show you the way.

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