



## **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:** Vicky Kennedy

**June 13, 2021**



**WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

### **Prelude**

### **Call to Worship**

Let us remember what God has done.

***God created the world from no-thing.***

Let us remember what God has done.

***God created every animal, plant, bird and fish:  
even the black flies.***

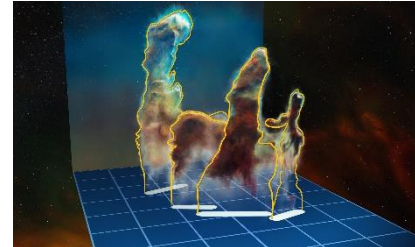
Let us remember what God has done.

***God created us and gave us understanding and  
compassion.***

Let us remember what God asks us to do.

***God calls us to discern who we are in creation and how we relate to it.***

***Let us live in harmony with the world around us knowing that all God has created is  
good. Let us worship God together.***



### **Response**

### **Deep In Our Hearts**

**MV 154**

Words © 1995 John Wesley Oldham  
Music © 1996 Ron Klusmeier

*Deep in our hearts there is a common vision;  
deep in our hearts there is a common song;  
deep in our hearts there is a common story,  
telling Creation that we are one.*

*Deep in our hearts there is a common purpose;  
deep in our hearts there is a common goal;  
deep in our hearts there is a sacred message,*

*justice and peace in harmony.*

*Deep in our hearts there is a common longing;  
deep in our hearts there is a common theme;  
deep in our hearts there is a common current,  
flowing to freedom like a stream.*

*Deep in our hearts there is a common vision;  
deep in our hearts there is a common song;  
deep in our hearts there is a common story,  
telling Creation that we are one.*

## 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

### I See a New Heaven

Words and Music: © 1979 Carolyn McDade

VU 713

*I see a new heaven. I see a new earth  
as the old one will pass away,  
where the fountain of life flows  
and without price goes  
to all people who abide in the land.*

*There, there on the banks of a river bright and free,  
yielding her fruit, firm in her root,  
the Tree of Life will be.*

*I see a new heaven. I see a new earth  
as the old one will pass away,  
where the fountain of life flows  
and without price goes  
to all people who abide in the land.*

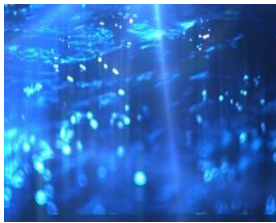
*There, there where the darkness brings visions from above.  
There where the night, bearing new light,  
reveals the promise of love.*

*I see a new heaven. I see a new earth  
as the old one will pass away,  
where the fountain of life flows  
and without price goes  
to all people who abide in the land.*

*There, there where we work with the love of healing hands.  
Labour we must, true to our trust  
to build a promised new land.*

*I see a new heaven. I see a new earth  
as the old one will pass away,  
where the fountain of life flows  
and without price goes  
to all people who abide in the land.*

## Prayer for Grace



*Eternal God, your Spirit moved on the waters and there was light; your first creation. You walked in the garden calling to us to be in relationship with you. We turned away. Yet your Spirit moved on the water of our baptism and again, there was light in our hearts. May your light shine on us today as we remember your creation and our place within it. Amen*

## WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

## And Now For Something Completely Different

### Prayer for the United Church of Canada



*God in whom we live and move  
and have our being:*

*From sea to sea to sea we gather in prayer;  
from generation to generation we sing;  
on this 96<sup>th</sup> anniversary we give thanks for your care guidance and correction.  
In this heritage of trust we pray for this United Church and for faithful living on  
this land,*

*Our Source of Life, Living Word, and Bonding Love. Amen.*



Mission & Service: Transforming Lives 96 Years On  
Make the Most of Mission Service

## Hymn

## Creator God You Gave Us Life

MV 27

Words and Music: © 2004 Judith Snowdon

*Creator God you gave us life,  
your image formed within our souls,  
yet through the mist of time and space,  
we search for that which makes us whole.*

*Through hands that paint majestic skies,  
and voices chanting melody,  
with words that reach beyond the page,  
we comprehend your mystery.*

*In ev'ry flow'r and ev'ry tree,  
we see your great diversity,  
yet greater still we see your love,  
expressed in our humanity.*

*When with our hearts, our hands our minds,  
we share our gifts with all the world,  
our spirits soar beyond the veil,  
to touch the very face of God.*

### **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*

### **Genesis 2: 5-25**

#### **The Message**

<sup>5-7</sup> At the time GOD made Earth and Heaven, before any grasses or shrubs had sprouted from the ground—GOD hadn't yet sent rain on Earth, nor was there anyone around to work the ground (the whole Earth was watered by underground springs)—GOD formed Man out of dirt from the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life. The Man came alive—a living soul!

<sup>8-9</sup> Then GOD planted a garden in Eden, in the east. He put the Man he had just made in it. GOD made all kinds of trees grow from the ground, trees beautiful to look at and good to eat. The Tree-of-Life was in the middle of the garden, also the Tree-of-Knowledge-of-Good-and-Evil.

<sup>10-14</sup> A river flows out of Eden to water the garden and from there divides into four rivers. The first is named Pishon; it flows through Havilah where there is gold. The gold of this land is good. The land is also known for a sweet-scented resin and the onyx stone. The second river is named Gihon; it flows through the land of Cush. The third river is named Hiddekel and flows east of Assyria. The fourth river is the Euphrates.

<sup>15</sup> GOD took the Man and set him down in the Garden of Eden to work the ground and keep it in order.

<sup>16-17</sup> GOD commanded the Man, “You can eat from any tree in the garden, except from the Tree-of-Knowledge-of-Good-and-Evil. Don’t eat from it. The moment you eat from that tree, you’re dead.”

<sup>18-20</sup> GOD said, “It’s not good for the Man to be alone; I’ll make him a helper, a companion.” So GOD formed from the dirt of the ground all the animals of the field and all the birds of the air. He brought them to the Man to see what he would name them. Whatever the Man called each living creature that was its name. The Man named the cattle, named the birds of the air, named the wild animals; but he didn’t find a suitable companion.

<sup>21-22</sup> GOD put the Man into a deep sleep. As he slept he removed one of his ribs and replaced it with flesh. GOD then used the rib that he had taken from the Man to make Woman and presented her to the Man.

<sup>23-25</sup> The Man said,  
“Finally! Bone of my bone, flesh of my flesh!  
Name her Woman for she was made from Man.”

Therefore a man leaves his father and mother and embraces his wife. They become one flesh. The two of them, the Man and his Wife, were naked, but they felt no shame.

## **Mark 4:26-34**

**New Revised Standard Version**

<sup>26</sup> Jesus also said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, <sup>27</sup>and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. <sup>28</sup>The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. <sup>29</sup>But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.”

<sup>30</sup> He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? <sup>31</sup>It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; <sup>32</sup>yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

<sup>33</sup> With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; <sup>34</sup>he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

This is the Gospel message for us to consider today.

*Thanks be to God*

## **Sermon**

## **God Shuffled His Feet**



## Hymn

## Breathe on Me, Breath of God

VU 382

Words: Edwin Hatch  
Music: Robert Jackson

*Breathe on me, breath of God, fill me with life anew,  
that I may love what you do love, and do what you would do.*

*Breathe on me, breath of God, until my heart is pure,  
until my will is one with yours, to do and to endure.*

*Breathe on me, breath of God, till I am wholly thine,  
until this earthly part of me glows with thy fire divine.*

*Breathe on me, breath of God: so shall I never die,  
but live with you the perfect life of your eternity.*

### WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

## Offering



## 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.*

### BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

## Closing Hymn

## One More Step Along the World I Go

VU 639

Words and Music: Sydney Carter  
© 1971 Stainer & Bell Ltd.

*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.*

*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**



**Postlude**

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## Other Resources for Today

Call to Worship Image – *Pillars of Creation*  
[The Pillars of Creation Revealed in 3D | ESO](#)

Explanation of United Church of Canada Crest  
[United Church Crest | The United Church of Canada \(united-church.ca\)](#)

*Prayer for the United Church of Canada* - Catherine MacLean, 2008. © The United Church of Canada.  
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God Shuffled His Feet – Crash Test Dummies  
[\(10\) Crash Test Dummies - God Shuffled His Feet \(Official Video\) - YouTube](#)

## Other Lectionary Readings

### Ezekiel 17:22-24

### New Revised Standard Version

<sup>22</sup> Thus says the Lord GOD:

I myself will take a sprig  
from the lofty top of a cedar;  
I will set it out.

I will break off a tender one  
from the topmost of its young twigs;

I myself will plant it  
on a high and lofty mountain.

<sup>23</sup> On the mountain height of Israel  
I will plant it,  
in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit,  
and become a noble cedar.

Under it every kind of bird will live;  
in the shade of its branches will nest  
winged creatures of every kind.

<sup>24</sup> All the trees of the field shall know  
that I am the LORD.

I bring low the high tree,  
I make high the low tree;

I dry up the green tree  
and make the dry tree flourish.

I the LORD have spoken;  
I will accomplish it.

### Psalms 92:1-4, 12-15

### New Revised Standard Version

<sup>1</sup> It is good to give thanks to the LORD,  
to sing praises to your name, O Most High;

<sup>2</sup> to declare your steadfast love in the morning,  
and your faithfulness by night,

<sup>3</sup> to the music of the lute and the harp,



to the melody of the lyre.

<sup>4</sup>For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work;  
at the works of your hands I sing for joy.

<sup>12</sup>The righteous flourish like the palm tree,  
and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

<sup>13</sup>They are planted in the house of the LORD;  
they flourish in the courts of our God.

<sup>14</sup>In old age they still produce fruit;  
they are always green and full of sap,

<sup>15</sup>showing that the LORD is upright;  
he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.

## **2 Corinthians 5:6-17**

## **New Revised Standard Version**

<sup>6</sup>So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—<sup>7</sup>for we walk by faith, not by sight. <sup>8</sup>Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. <sup>9</sup>So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. <sup>10</sup>For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil. <sup>11</sup>Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. <sup>12</sup>We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. <sup>13</sup>For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you.

<sup>14</sup>For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. <sup>15</sup>And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. <sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view;<sup>[a]</sup> even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view,<sup>[b]</sup> we know him no longer in that way.

<sup>17</sup>So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!