



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

Scripture Reader: Mal and Bethan Wallace

June 19, 2022

Father's Day / Pride Sunday

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude

Call to Worship

We come together as God's people, ready to open our ears and listen for God's voice.

We come to sing and serve, live and love, as God reaches out to us with new ways of being God's people.

May we be guided on a path of healing and wholeness that our lives be transformed by God's Spirit.

Let us open our eyes and our hearts to the mystery being revealed.

Amen.

Opening Hymn

Let Us Build a House

MV 1

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace;
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

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

Creator, as we light this candle, may it remind us of your sacred fire. May the smoke from this flame carry our prayers to you as we gather this day.

Your great heart beats within us like the beat of the drum.

Light candle here

With all creation, we gather before you to sing and offer you praise.

Opening Prayer

Holy One, in whose name we gather and go forth: remind us of our calling and your power, invested in us by your Spirit long ago. Engage with us that we may know we are not alone.

Guide us on your path and help us to be your church in this time and place, that your love may be known here and now. Amen.

Hymn

Draw The Circle Wide

MV 145

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.

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

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.

Let our hearts touch far horizons,
so encompass great and small;
let our loving know no borders,
faithful to God's call.

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.

Let the dreams we dream be larger,
than we've ever dreamed before;
let the dream of Christ be in us,
open every door.

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.

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Psalm 43

Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and the cunning rescue me, O God.

You, O God, are my strength; why have you rejected me? Why do I go mourning, oppressed by the foe?

O send forth your light and your truth; they will guide me on. They will bring me to your holy mountain, to the place where you dwell.

And I will come to the altar of God, to God, my joy and gladness. To you will I give thanks on the harp, O God, my God.

Why are you cast down, my soul; why groan within me? Hope in God; I will praise him yet again, my saving presence and my God.

Galatians 3:23-29 NRSV

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed.

Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be reckoned as righteous by faith.

But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian,
for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith.

As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

There is no longer Jew or Greek; there is no longer slave or free; there is no longer male and female, for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.

And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring heirs according to the promise.

The word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God

Guest Musician: Beth Moore Sunrise and Sunset

Sermon Heirs to the Promise

Hymn **Love, Who Made Me In Your Likeness** **VU 565**

Love, who made me in your likeness,
to your image forming me;
Love, who showed such gentle kindness
when I fell, restoring me:
Love, I give myself to be
one with you, eternally.

Love, to whom my life was precious,
long before I came to birth;
Love, for ever human with us,
born to share our life on earth:
Love, I give myself to be
one with you, eternally.

Love, my Life, my Truth, my Splendour,
living Spirit, Mighty Word;
Love, by whose full self-surrender
my heart's wholeness is restored:
Love, I give myself to be
one with you, eternally.

Love, whose yoke is laid upon me,
liberating life and mind;
Love, whose grace has overcome me,
here is freedom, unconfined:
Love, I give myself to be one with you, eternally.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Life & Work of the Church

Offering

How privileged we are that the creator, God, asks us to help bring life and hope, peace and justice, into reality. Our offerings are received with thanks.

Prayers of the People

Gracious God, today we want to say thank you for all the wonderful things that lift our spirits up...

Music and song, sun and rain, family and friends, community relationships. Help us to remember those who lift us up, especially we think of Fathers who play an important role in our lives. We are thankful for the gift of being together and the love we share ...

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

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

Lord's Prayer SING

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

A Place At The Table

For everyone born, a place at the table,
for everyone born, clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,
for everyone born, a star over head.

And God will delight
when we are creators of justice and joy,
Yes, God will delight
when we are creators of justice, justice, and joy.

For everyone born, a place at the table,
revising the roles, deciding to share,
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power,
for everyone born, a system that's fair.

And God will delight
when we are creators of justice and joy,
Yes, God will delight
when we are creators of justice,
justice, and joy.

For young and for old, a place at the table,
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled,
for young and for old, the right to belong.

And God will delight
when we are creators of justice and joy,
Yes, God will delight
when we are creators of justice,
justice, and joy.

For everyone born, a place at the table,
to live without fear, and simply to be,
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship,
for everyone born, the right to be free.

And God will delight
when we are creators of justice and joy,
Yes, God will delight
when we are creators of justice,
justice, and joy
Justice and joy.

Benediction & Commissioning

The world is waiting for a message of love and new life; go and proclaim God's love with all that you have.

We go, knowing we are not alone, God goes with us! Amen.

Postlude

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**Additional Lectionary
Year C –Father's Day
Sunday, June 19, 2022**

Psalm 42

New Revised Standard Version

¹ As a deer longs for flowing streams,
so my soul longs for you, O God.

² My soul thirsts for God,
for the living God.

When shall I come and behold
the face of God?

³ My tears have been my food
day and night,
while people say to me continually,
“Where is your God?”

⁴ These things I remember,
as I pour out my soul:
how I went with the throng,^[a]
and led them in procession to the house of God,
with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving,
a multitude keeping festival.

⁵ Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,
my help ⁶ and my God.

My soul is cast down within me;
therefore I remember you
from the land of Jordan and of Hermon,
from Mount Mizar.

⁷ Deep calls to deep
at the thunder of your cataracts;
all your waves and your billows
have gone over me.

⁸ By day the LORD commands his steadfast love,
and at night his song is with me,
a prayer to the God of my life.

⁹ I say to God, my rock,
“Why have you forgotten me?”

Why must I walk about mournfully
because the enemy oppresses me?”
¹⁰ As with a deadly wound in my body,
my adversaries taunt me,
while they say to me continually,
“Where is your God?”

¹¹ Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,
my help and my God.

Luke 8:26-39

New Revised Standard Version

²⁶ Then they arrived at the country of the Gerasenes,^[a] which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷ As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn^[b] no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. ²⁸ When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, “What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me”—²⁹ for Jesus^[c] had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) ³⁰ Jesus then asked him, “What is your name?” He said, “Legion”; for many demons had entered him. ³¹ They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

³² Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons^[d] begged Jesus^[e] to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. ³³ Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

³⁴ When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. ³⁵ Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. ³⁶ Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. ³⁷ Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes^[f] asked Jesus^[g] to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. ³⁸ The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus^[h] sent him away, saying, ³⁹ “Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.” So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.