

Stouffville United Church
34 Church Street, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 1E3
www.stouffvilleuc.ca
May 2, 2021

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Music Prelude

Welcome

Acknowledgement of the Land

We are gathered on the treaty territory of the Huron Wendat, Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe people and their ancestors. May we honour their history, spirituality, culture and teachings and uphold our responsibilities as treaty partners.

Announcements

Lighting the Christ Candle:

The images our Bible uses to reveal the fullness of Jesus' grace often cause us to ponder. They can be large: "I am the light of the world." They can be outside the range of our experience: "I am the good shepherd."

Today we hear an image offered that is close to all of us: vine and branch, sun and soil, fruit and pruning.

We light this candle acknowledging Jesus, the true vine.
(Written by Bill Perry, Havelock-Trent River Pastoral Charge, Havelock, Ont., Gathering L/E 2021, page 42. Used with permission.)

Call to Worship:

Good morning!

It's a beautiful Sunday morning,
and we have gathered for worship.

We are grateful for the gift of this new day,
and for the gift of this time together,
that we might bring God the offering of our lives,
and be strengthened by God's friendship and presence.

May this time be a blessing to us.

Come, and let us worship God.

(Written by Bob Root, Peterborough, Ont., Gathering L/E 2017, page 39. Used with permission.)

Hymn: Christ is Made the Sure Foundation [VU 325, Vs. 1,2,4]

Prayer of Confession:

God of Love, God of Jesus, the true vine,

we are a work in progress:

water us and feed our hungry souls,

so that we may be a productive branch.

Bring us the light we need to bear fruit.

We are a branch of the one vine, of Jesus.

Bend us, shape us, and prune us,

for we would wither without you.

Make us stronger in our faithfulness

for your son has taught us to love

and shaped us by this love,

a love that is warm and true.

We thank you for your presence

that is intertwined in our faithfulness,

the faithfulness of disciples of the true vine, Jesus.

Amen.

(Written by Roxanne Williams, Gaetz Memorial United Church, Red Deer, Alta.,
Gathering L/E 2021, page 45. Used with permission.)

Words of Assurance

Candle Lighting

A time of silence

Music Ministry

A time of silence

Offering

Offertory Prayer

John 15: 1-8

Sermon: "The Gnarly Old Vine"

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn: We Have This Ministry

[VU 510]

Blessing

Music Postlude

*Thank you for worshipping with us, whether in person or on line.
We look forward to joining with you again next week!*