

**Stouffville United Church**  
34 Church Street, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 1E3  
www.stouffvilleuc.ca  
June 20, 2021

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost  
Indigenous Day of Prayer  
Father's Day

## **Music Prelude**

## **Welcome**

### **Acknowledgement of the Land**

The land on which this building sits is land that has been walked on, hunted on, and lived on for thousands of years. It is the Traditional land of the Huron Wendat, Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe people, and it is with humility and respect that we give thanks that we are here, in the space where we are in touch with Creator who made it and who made us. May our worship honour the relationships that are celebrated and invited here, and may we always remember the story of this land, the people who live here, and the call to live with respect and thanksgiving.

(Written by Peter Chynoweth, while in Yellowknife, N.W.T., Gathering Pentecost 1 2021, page 37. Used with permission.)

## **Announcements**

### **Lighting the Christ Candle:**

On a sunny summer morning  
or on a dreary winter day,  
when our faith is shining brightly  
or when it's barely there,  
we pause to light the Christ candle  
for we know that Christ is always with us.

(Written by Fern Gibbard, for Osoyoos United Church, Osoyoos, B.C., Gathering Pentecost 1 2018, page 32. Used with permission.)

### **Call to Worship**

Let us give thanks to our Creator  
for the Creator is always with us.

**God is with us in the call of a loon  
and in the flight of an eagle.**

Our Creator is with us in the changing of the seasons.

**God is with us when we gather together  
and when we are alone.**

Our Creator is with us in our giftedness  
and in our search for new understandings of ourselves,  
new visions of our communities.

**Let us give thanks to God, our Creator.**

(A prayer from The Dancing Sun (United Church of Canada/Anglican Church of Canada), alt. for Aboriginal Sunday from <https://united-church.ca/prayers/let-us-give-thanks-our-creator> for use on Indigenous Day of Prayer)

**Hymn:** Come and Find the Quiet Centre

[VU 374]

**Prayers for use on Indigenous Day of Prayer 2021**

O God, we come together as a human family, blessed to be alive, blessed to be on this land, blessed to have neighbours as diverse as your creation. You surround us with air we breathe, water we drink, all manner of living plants and animals that delight us and sustain us. Thank you, Creator, for all you provide. We take a moment in silence to ponder the blessings you give us—of family, friends, places to call home, the food we eat, the web of life in which we with all creatures live, move, and have our being. Hear us as we give thanks...

**O God, we thank you for Indigenous neighbours and friends this day. And yet we lament, too. We lament that historic and contemporary racism continues to mar our relations. We lament the church's role as beneficiaries of an economic and governance system that privileges settler peoples at the expense of the First Peoples of this land. We lament apathy in the face of the need for change, change that recognizes the sovereignty of the First Peoples and recognizes at long last, in ways that make a difference, the sacredness of the land and the need for all of us to walk humbly upon it.**

O God, for the witness of strength, caring, and love of Indigenous peoples, and for the struggle for what is just and right, open our hearts this day. Encourage us to listen more, speak less, participate in the movements for change that will bring us together in good and respectful ways. Encourage us to make friends, get to know someone's story, and share our stories too, without fear, for in Christ we know we are all kin,

relatives, with you and with each other and with all living and non-living things.

**All this, as well as the prayers of our hearts, O God, we lift up to you. Hear our celebrations as we claim anew our kinship with you and with all our relations. Hear our laments, and grow our hearts full of compassion for self and other as we leave this place to be a better friend and neighbour to all. We pray in the name of Creator, who is Mother and Father of us all. Amen.**

(© 2021 The United Church of Canada/L'Église Unie du Canada. Licensed under Creative Commons Attribution Non-commercial Share Alike Licence. To view a copy of this licence, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/2.5/ca>. Any copy must include this notice.)

**A time of silence**

**Music Ministry**

**A time of silence**

**Offering**

**Offertory Prayer**

**Psalm 133**

[VU 856]

**Mark 4:35-41**

**Sermon:** "Have You No Faith?"

**Prayers of the People**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Hymn:** Blest Be the Tie that Binds

[VU 602]

**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!*