

Stouffville United Church
34 Church Street, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 1E3
www.stouffvilleuc.ca
June 27, 2021

Rev. Elizabeth's Last Sunday

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

Celebration of Graduates

Lighting the Christ Candle:

As we light this Christ candle, may it remind us of the ways in which Christ walks with us along the path we take as Stouffville United Church. Help us to trust in the constancy and abundance of this presence in our lives!

Call to Worship:

Today we celebrate Rev. Elizabeth's ministry amongst us.

We give thanks for her faith, her love and her time with us.

Today we celebrate the continuing unfolding of God's ministry in this church and in this community. We look forward with optimism and renewed hope that God is leading us forward as surely as God has led us in the past.

Today we come to worship God who is our Comforter, our Hope, the One in whom we trust.

Hymn: Come In, Come In and Sit Down [VU 395, Vs 1,2,4]

Rev. Elizabeth's Prayer of Confession:

Loving God, as always, I try to follow your word and your leading. Sometimes I hit the mark right on. Sometimes I've failed miserably but you always pick me up and dust me off to try again. I try to keep open to the nudging of the Spirit as you show me the way forward. When life happens with its challenges and complexity, and I begin to doubt myself, you invariably send me someone or some sign that you are with me, and you restore me. I couldn't imagine my life without you, loving God, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Words of Assurance by the Congregation:

Elizabeth, you are loved by God. You are a child of God. Be made new in God's love and forgiveness. And go out into this world, blessed and made whole in this promise.

Solo

A time of silence

Offering

Offertory Prayer

Poem: She is a Minister *read by Elizabeth Carr*

Scripture: Philippians 4:4-9

Reflection: Our Story

Hymn: Be Thou My Vision [VU 642, Vs 1,2,3,5]

Music Ministry: Choir Anthem –A Blessing of Music

Saying Goodbye with the Return of Symbols of Ministry

Prayers of the People:

There comes a time in the life of a congregation where a new chapter begins in its life story. Today marks the end of the chapter titled, 'Rev. Elizabeth's Time with Us.' Tomorrow starts a new chapter, with all the hope and beautiful thoughts for wonderful ministry waiting to be written on that page. This

congregation, and its leadership team, have all they need to make this future happen – with integrity, commitment and excitement. Give to this church family your love and blessing and see them through to an amazing future of vital ministry and loving relationships. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn: God Be With You Till We Meet Again [VU 422, Vs. 1,2,4]

Presentation of a Parting Gift

Memories Presentation of Photos

Blessing

Closing Song: Sent Out In Jesus' Name [MV 212]

Music Postlude