

Stouffville United Church
34 Church Street, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 1E3
www.stouffvilleuc.ca
April 10, 2022
Palm Sunday

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 of the Christ Candle

In the Spirit of Christ Who calls us to be the Church and to Celebrate God's presence; we light the Christ candle to symbolize Christ in our midst.

The Christ Candle is lit

Response: *Jesus Christ the Light of the World*

Call to Worship

L: Hosanna! Blessed is the He who comes in the name of the Lord!

P: Hosanna! Rejoice for the Lord is in our midst.

L: He comes with joy and hope.

P: He comes to set us free from fear.

L: Hosanna!

P: Hosanna! Glory to God in the Highest Heaven. AMEN.

Hymn: Hosanna, Loud Hosanna VU#123

Prayer of Approach and Confession: (unison)

Loving God, On this day, Your Son entered the rebellious city that later rejected Him: we confess that our wills are as rebellious as Jerusalem's. Our faith is often more show than substance. Our hearts are in need of cleansing. Have mercy on us, Son of David, Savior of our lives. Help us to lay at Your feet all we have and all we are, trusting You to forgive, to heal, and to receive us as Your own. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Words of Assurance:

God was in Christ reconciling the world unto himself, not counting our trespasses against us. Therefore be assured and believe your sins are forgiven.

Music Ministry:

A time of silence

Children Worship (in lower auditorium)

Offertory

Offertory Prayer (unison)

The crowds offered you their coats to walk on,
they waved palm branches, honouring your presence.
Today we honour you, Lord,
with our tithes and offerings.
We lay these gifts before you,
humble tokens of our love,
a public display of affection for our King of kings, to be used for your honour glory and
praise.
Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture: Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

Mark 11:1-26

Hymn: Seek Ye First VU #356

Sermon: "The Purpose Driven Life"

Sacrament of Communion

We are the Easter people come to worship, released from tombs of pain and doubt and fear and death into the freedom of this new day, and its promise of hope fulfilled. We are the Easter people, emerging into the brightness of faith, blinking, questioning, wondering, hoping. Come to us, into the garden of our lives, and touch all that is barren, and wasted and dried with your healing hand. Forgive our half-lived lives, our broken promises, and our failed kindness. Call to us by our name, that we might turn from all that limits and burdens us, and lift us up into forgiveness and freedom. Open the gateways of our hearts and minds, and call us out into your world to be embraced by your unfailing and renewing mercy. Today, in silence, prayer and song, may we encounter Jesus and his grace. For we are the Easter people, and Alleluia is our song. Through Jesus Christ our risen Lord. Amen (Taken from the Book of Common Order of the Church of Scotland)

Invitation

The Great Thanksgiving

Christ is risen! **He is risen indeed!**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Hallelujah, thanks and praise, ever-living God, worker of wonders, maker of miracles, author of all life and giver of life eternal! Out of chaos and fear you bring beauty and hope. Out of despair and death you create courage and new life. And so, with the risen Christ, who makes all things new by the power of his resurrection, we join in the song of a new day, to give you praise:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

We do what Jesus did the night before he died. He took bread, gave thanks, broke the bread, and give it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat; remember me." Then he took the cup, and said, "Take, drink; remember."

Loving God, we rejoice in the gift of your grace, remembering Christ's life and death, proclaiming his resurrection, waiting in hope for his coming again. Grant that in praise and thanksgiving, we may so offer ourselves to you that our lives may proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We pray, God of Love, send your Holy Spirit upon us and what we do here, that we, and these gifts, touched by your Spirit, may be signs of life and love to each other, and to all the world.

Breaking the Bread and Filling the Cup

Sharing the Bread and Cup

The gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Communion Instructions: We will eat the wafer first. Remove the top film cover from the communion cup to find the wafer. On a cue from the leader, we will eat the wafer. We will repeat the same process with the cup.

Prayer after Communion:

Risen Christ, you have once again welcomed us to your table, and we have shared a feast with you. Your hospitality overwhelms us. Would that we were so generous with your holy love! We can only thank you, and worship and praise you, and head out from this place eager to do your will. Hallelujah!

Amen! (Written by Kate Gregory, while at Belwood-Metz Pastoral Charge, Belwood, Ont., Gathering L/E 2020, page 50. Used with permission.)

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

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 Forever and ever. Amen

Hymn: All Glory, Laud and Honour VU #122**Blessing****Closing Response** (VU 967)**Music Postlude**