

## **Stouffville United Church**

34 Church Street, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 1E3

www.stouffvilleuc.ca

September 4, 2022

### **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: Sweep over us again, O God. Cleanse and purify us that we may serve you.

**P: Open our hearts to hear your healing words of love.**

L: Let us be the people of your beloved Creation.

**P: Let us worship you in spirit and truth, in compassion and love. AMEN.**

### **Hymn: VU 389 - God is Here**

### **Prayer of Approach and Confession: (unison)**

**Lord God of all Creation we come to you from our storm-tossed lives to seek your peace; we come to you with our questions and uncertainties, our worries and anxieties, we come to you from our joy and our happiness – each emotion a kaleidoscope of our feeling in life's changing patterns. More than all of that we come to you because of what you have done for us in the love of Christ who bought our freedom by his sacrifice on the Cross and showed us new life in his resurrection life. We bless you for the love which has no dimension of length, breadth or height, coming as it does from the perfection of your being. We come to you knowing that sometimes we have received your grace in vain. We have not relied on your word or wisdom; we have not shown any concern or compassion when we should have; we have not loved our neighbor as we love ourselves. We have remained silent when we should have spoken and spoken when we should have been silent. Forgive us O Lord, and restore us to right relations.**

### **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**

## **Offertory**

### **Offertory Prayer (unison)**

**O Lord, our Rock and Redeemer, the cost of discipleship seems just and reasonable as we bow our heads in prayer. Yet, when we think about the economic pressures in our lives – the mortgage, car payments, school supplies, health care, college tuition, and credit card debt – giving money is a challenge. We strive to grow in generosity so that our giving is a reflection of our desire to be in a covenant relationship with you. In your holy name, Lord Jesus we pray. Amen. Luke 14:25-33**

## **Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture: Nehemiah 1:1-10**

**Hymn: VU 842 - Unto the Hills**

### **Sermon "The Power of One"**

*Series: Nehemiah: Reclaiming, Restoring, Rebuilding*

## **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: VU 422 - God Be With You Till We Meet Again**

## **Blessing**

**Closing Response** (VU 967)

**Music Postlude**

