

**Stouffville United Church**  
34 Church Street, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 1E3  
www.stouffvilleuc.ca  
**October 2, 2022**  
**World Day of Communion**

**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: How shall we sing the Lord's song in a land of suffering?

**P: We shall sing of courage and the strength of the Lord.**

L: How shall we sing the Lord's song when we feel so lonely?

**P: We shall sing of unity and faithfulness, of reconciliation and hope.**

L: Come, let us sing the Lord's song this day.

**P: Let us praise God in all our ways forever. AMEN.**

**Hymn: 477 VU - I Come With Joy**

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

Lord, throughout the world today, Christians are sharing in the sacrament of Holy Communion. We come together with a bountiful table set in the midst of struggle and strife. Help us to receive the elements of bread and wine for the nourishment of our souls and for the strengthening of our witness to your love for us. Yet, as we do so we sometimes find ourselves experiencing frustration rather than love. We hoard your gifts and only grudgingly share our bounty with others. We find ways to turn our backs on you, claiming that other things are more important than our faith. And then in the midst of struggle and strife, we come back to you, awash in tears and sorrow. Heal us from our selfishness and our apathy.

**Words of Assurance:**

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

## **Music Ministry:**

### **A time of silence**

### **Offertory**

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

Gracious and giving God, we bring our tithes and offerings to you this day and pray as we give them that you will kindle in us a deeper faith and a stronger commitment. We acknowledge that some of us have found our way back to you on our own; others of us have lived into a faith that surrounded us from the time we were born, lived out in parents, grandparents, siblings, and spouses. However, this faith found its way into our hearts or into our DNA, help us to kindle it to flame, that the world might be set on fire with your love and compassion. In Christ, we pray. Amen. (2 Timothy 1:1-14)

### **Prayer for Illumination**

#### **Scripture: Nehemiah 4**

#### **Hymn: 371 VU - Open My Eyes**

#### **Sermon "In the Face of Opposition"**

*Series: Nehemiah: Reclaiming, Restoring, Rebuilding*

### **Sacrament of Holy Communion**

### **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: 481 VU - Sent Forth By Gods Blessing**

### **Blessing**

#### **Closing Response** (MV#209 Go Make a Difference)

### **Music Postlude**