

Stouffville United Church
34 Church Street, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 1E3
www.stouffvilleuc.ca
January 29, 2023

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 (*Micah 6, Psalm 15, Matthew 5, 1 Corinthians 1*)

People of God, who do you come to worship?

We come to worship the one true God.

How will you worship?

**Not with words alone, but by living lives
of justice and love.**

Come, you who belong to God.

Come, you who are foolish in the eyes of the world.

**Come and abide in God's tent and in God's heart,
now and forever.**

Hymn: 223 VU - Eternal Unchanging We Sing

Prayer of Approach and Confession: (unison) (*Micah 6, Psalm 15, Matthew 5, 1 Corinthians 1*)

Far too often, O God,

we desire to look wise

in the eyes of the world.

We have not spoken truth with our hearts.

We have said and done hurtful things to our friends.

**We have forgotten our true identity,
wandering into ways that are not yours.**

**We have lost the path of true worship,
focusing on form and words rather than deeds.**

We have forgotten what true discipleship is.

And because of this, you have a quarrel with us.

**Forgive us and help us live into becoming
the people you have created and called us to be:**

**people of justice and love and truth
and humility, and yes, even foolishness.**

May we be fools for Christ,

**embracing our true identity,
even in the face of the world's scorn and derision.**

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 you are forgiven.

Music Ministry:

A time of silence

Minute For Mission

Offertory

Offertory Prayer (unison) (*Micah 6, Matthew 5*)

O God,
you bless us in so many areas of our lives—
in places we often fail to recognize as blessing.
Help us have eyes to see and hearts to understand
the depth of your love and blessing.
Today, we give out of that blessedness,
dedicating ourselves to lives of justice and love,
giving all that we are and all that we have
to bring about your beloved community,
here and now. Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture: Philippians 1:12-26

Hymn: 48 MV - I Can Feel You Near Me God

Sermon "**Joy and Woe**"

Philippians Series 3: "Finding Joy Right Where You Are"

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: 684 VU - Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

Blessing

Closing Response

Music Postlude