

**Stouffville United Church**  
34 Church Street, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 1E3  
[www.stouffvilleuc.ca](http://www.stouffvilleuc.ca)  
February 26, 2023  
First Sunday of Lent

**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 the Christ Candle**

**Call to Worship (Psalm 32)**

Happy are those whose sins are forgiven.

**Happy are those whose sins are cast away.**

Rejoice in the Lord! Be glad!

**Sing out! Shout for joy!**

Rejoice in the Lord!

**Rejoice! Amen!**

**Hymn: 112 VU - O God How We Have Wandered**

**Prayer of Approach and Confession (Genesis 2, 3; Psalm 32; Matthew 4) (Unison)**

Lord our God, we are constantly bombarded with temptations and enticements.

When we yield, when we fail, who will help us? You, Lord, have come to our aid.

You teach us, counsel us, and guide us in the ways we should go.

Help us admit our sins and accept our imperfections. Why is that simple act so difficult for us?

Why do we hesitate, knowing that you stand ready to wash away our guilt?

You are the sanctuary where distress cannot reach us. In your steadfast love, forgive us.

In your healing caress, cleanse us. In your Holy Spirit, restore us.

In the name of our Savior even Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

**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) (Matthew 4)

In the hour of his temptation, when Jesus hungered, he knew from where his sustenance came: "One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." Lord, from the abundance of your grace, your word has provided all that we need.

All that we have is yours. Receive the offering of our hands and the gratitude of our hearts.

In the name of our Savior we pray. Amen.

### **Prayer for Illumination**

Scripture: Philippians 4:1-13

### **Hymn: 664 VU - What A Friend We Have in Jesus**

Sermon "**I Can Do It...**"

*Philippians Series 7: "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: 94 MV - Love Knocks and Waits**

### **Blessing**

### **Closing Response**

### **Music Postlude**