

**Stouffville United Church**  
34 Church Street, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 1E3  
[www.stouffvilleuc.ca](http://www.stouffvilleuc.ca)  
March 05, 2023  
Second 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**

L: We come this day hoping to encounter Christ.

P: We come with burdens and questions that only He can answer.

L: May we open our hearts to Him.

P: May our lives be healed and strengthened for service. AMEN.

**Hymn: 120 VU - O Jesus I Have Promised**

**Prayer of Approach and Confession**

Lord, we are such stubborn people. We want to know all the answers. We find it hard to place our trust even in your Son. When Jesus proclaims that we can have a new life, we want to know how this is possible. How can we get rid of the old burdens and difficulties and start over again? Wouldn't it be just like climbing back into the womb to make a fresh start? How we have misunderstood what Jesus has said. New life is possible. We can place our trust in God's healing care. Forgive us, and help us, gracious Lord. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. 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**

**Offertory**

**Offertory Prayer (unison)**

God of unwavering love, you have held nothing back in your love for us, not even your Son. How we marvel at that kind of love, and how we long to reflect a portion of that devotion back to you. As we dedicate our offerings to you, lead us away from our tendency to hold back and worry that there will not be enough. Help us to live as the people of love and abundance you have called us to be. In Christ we pray. Amen. ([John 3:1-17](#))

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture: Philippians 4:10-13**

**Hymn: 142 VU - Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross**

Sermon **"The Secret to Contentment"**

*Philippians Series 8: "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: 28 MV - God of the Bible**

**Blessing**

**Closing Response**

**Music Postlude**