

Stouffville United Church
34 Church Street, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 1E3
www.stouffvilleuc.ca
March 19, 2023
Fourth 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

Young At Heart: Let it Be

Call to Worship

L: Once you lived in darkness.

P: Now the light of God has shone upon us.

L: Find what is pleasing to God and follow God's ways.

P: The acts of darkness are left behind as we journey to God's light.

L: Thanks be to God who gives us the light.

P: Open our eyes and our hearts to receive your light of salvation. AMEN.

Hymn: This is Gods Wondrous World - VU 296

Prayer of Approach and Confession

Lord God of great mercy and love, we come to you this day seeking restoration of our sight. Clear away our blindness, and give us a new vision of all that we can accomplish in your name. Give us strength and confidence to truly witness to your abiding love and faithfulness We have chosen at times to hide in darkness in order to avoid reaching out and risking acceptance. We are afraid of the light, and yet we crave it. In your light, there is healing and hope, restoration and transformation. Forgive our lack of faith and our fearfulness, O Lord. Give us courage to reach out to the light and accept its healing rays. May our lives be transformed by your mercy, for we pray 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.

Baptism

Music Ministry:

A time of silence

Offertory

Offertory Prayer (unison)

Generous God, you tenderly care for each person you have created. You miraculously restore people to health and shine light into the lives of those who are discouraged. Guide us so that we will not regard others according to outward appearances but seek to find your love in their hearts. We dedicate our offerings and ourselves to contribute to the work of your kingdom on earth until Christ returns in glory. Amen. ([1 Samuel 16:1-13](#))

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture: Matthew 26: 6-13

Hymn: In The Bulb There Is A Flower - VU 703

Sermon **"Create a Legacy that Lasts"**
Easter Series 1: "Once and for All"

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 114 - Forty Days and Forty Nights

Blessing

Closing Response

Music Postlude