

Stouffville United Church
34 Church Street, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 1E3
www.stouffvilleuc.ca
April 30 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 the Christ Candle

Call to Worship

(Psalm 124, James 5)

L: If it had not been God who was on our side,

P: the troubles of our world would have swallowed us whole.

L: If it had not been God who was on our side,

P: the sorrows of our times would have swept us away.

L: Are any among us suffering?

P: Come and pray.

L: Are any among us cheerful?

P: Come sing songs of praise.

L: Are any among us sick?

P: Come and ask for healing.

L: Our help is in our God,

P: the One who made heaven and earth.

L: Call upon God, creator and rescuer.

P: God is on our side.

Hymn: VU 315 - Holy Holy Holy

Prayer of Approach and Confession

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)

(Esther 7 & 9, Psalm 124, Mark 9) Lord God, we can never match your generosity. When we are in need, you are at our side, present to us even in our darkest moments. You rescue us from harm. Make us into a people who celebrate your goodness, drawing others into the celebration of your many blessings. Receive our offerings, even if they are as small as a drink for someone who thirsts. Transform them into the mystery of your reign here and now on earth, in the name of Jesus, your greatest gift, Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture: Esther 1

Hymn: MV 79 - Spirit Open My Heart

Sermon "**Don't Get Tripped Up...**"
Series on Esther: "For Such a Time as This"

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 289 - It Only Takes a Spark

Blessing

Closing Response

Music Postlude