

**Stouffville United Church**  
34 Church Street, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 1E3  
[www.stouffvilleuc.ca](http://www.stouffvilleuc.ca)  
Sunday June 18, 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**

L: Raise your voices in response to God's goodness.

**P: We praise you, O Lord, for all the blessings you have given us.**

L: Lift your hearts in sweet surrender to God's mercy.

**P: We thank you, O Lord, for hearing the prayers of our hearts.**

L: God is good; Praise be to God!

**P: The love and mercy of God never fails.. AMEN.**

**Hymn: 291 VU - All Things Bright and Beautiful**

**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**

**Offertory**

**Offertory Prayer (unison)**

Esther called for prayer and fasting for God's guidance, and the disciples prayed for the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost; so too do we prayer for the movement of your Holy Spirit to hold up your church! We are struggling through tough times in our churches; we need to be renewed again and filled with your power. Reach inside us and open hearts wide that we might give the full measure of our devotion. As you revived the saints who came before us, revive us to go out and welcome the forgotten, heal the sick, speak the words of comfort and hope to the discouraged. In the holy name of Christ, we pray. Amen. (Matt 9:35-10:8 (9-23))

## **Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture:** Esther 4

**Hymn: 341 VU - Fairest Lord Jesus**

Sermon **"Why Opportunities are Missed"**

*Fifth in the 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: 424 VU - May the God of Hope**

### **Blessing**

### **Closing Response**

### **Music Postlude**