

Stouffville United Church
34 Church Street, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 1E3
www.stouffvilleuc.ca
Sunday August 13, 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: Sunshine and celebration! Rain and remembrance! All are part of the richness of God's mercy and love for us!

P: God has blessed us in so many ways!

L: Welcome this day to a celebration of these blessings!

P: Thank you. We are glad to be here!

L: Lord, open our hearts and spirits to your love

P: Bring us safely through the trials and tribulations of life, for we ask this in Jesus' name. AMEN

Hymn:

Prayer of Approach and Confession

As the summer days move rapidly toward the busyness of autumn, our attention is drawn forward. We begin to think about all that is coming; children preparing for the new school year; young people off to service, work or university; return to regular work schedules, preparations for retirement. There are so many things looming on our horizons that our focus is placed on them. Be with us, loving God. Remind us to place our focus on Jesus, who calls us to trust in his mercy and care. Keep the needs of others in our hearts and minds; needs for healing, for comfort, for friendship. Help us to reach out to them and offer our gifts and service in your name. And when we fail to do so because of our fears, frustrations or resentments. Remind us of your forgiving grace freely offered to us. 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)

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture: Esther 6

Hymn:

Sermon **"A Slice of Humble Pie"**

Seventh 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:

Blessing

Closing Response

Music Postlude