

Stouffville United Church
34 Church Street, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 1E3
www.stouffvilleuc.ca
Sunday September 24, 2023

Music Prelude Bach chorales

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: Open your hearts to God's loving mercy.

P: Lord, come into our hearts this day.

L: Having received God's mercy, bring that love to others.

P: Lord, be with us as we reach out to others in compassion.

L: Feel your spirits filled with the goodness of God.

P: Lord, we thank you for the many blessings which you pour into our lives.

AMEN.

Hymn: 'Great is thy Faithfulness' #288

Prayer of Approach and Confession

Lord, lift us up, and reside in our hearts today. Help us to listen closely for your word to us. Remind us that you are always with us, throughout all of our lives. Give us confidence in your presence, so that we may go into your world ready to witness to your love through our works and our deeds.

Yet, even as we pray for this we know you know how fickle we are, O Lord. We proclaim your presence with us and then we behave in ways which run counter from your word. We get caught up in our own needs and whine about the injustices we feel in our lives. Help us to place our trust in your mercy and your compassionate love. Forgive us when we stray from your ways and wander into paths of self-pity and self-destruction. Lift us from the deep morass and put us back on track. Give us confidence in your presence and your direction throughout our lives, for we ask these things 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: 'Comfort O Lord'

A Time Of Silence

Offertory 'If you will Trust in God to guide you' **#286 v.1**

Offertory Prayer

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture: 1 Samuel 19:1-24

Hymn: : #119 v.1& 2 'When we are tempted to deny your Son'

Sermon "**Houston we have a Problem**"
Fourth in the Series on the Life of David

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: #112 ' O God, how we have Wandered'

Blessing

Closing Response Amen #974

Music Postlude