

Stouffville United Church
34 Church Street, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 1E3
www.stouffvilleuc.ca
Sunday November 19, 2023
170th Anniversary

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

Chorus: Oceans

Lighting the Christ Candle

Call to Worship

L: We lift our eyes to the Lord.

P: God created the heavens and the earth

L: We raise our voices in songs and speech

P: We raise our voices in prayer and praise.

L: Lord, hear our prayers, accept our praise on this our Anniversary Sunday.

P: Lord, open our hearts to receive your blessings. AMEN.

Hymn: Holy Holy Holy, Lord God Almighty

Reader 1 Brian Carr

Prayer of Approach and Confession

O Lord. We have heard the stories of our past how you continually pour gifts and blessings into our lives. We are grateful for the strength and vision that brought us from Stouffville United's beginnings until now. And yet we fear that this gift you have given us might disappear or not be worthy of acclaim. We confess that we have not always recognized the talents we have been given. We find it easier to belittle the gifts than to honor the Giver. As Jesus reminded his listeners to honor the Giver of the gifts by using them to create something better, for healing, for hope in the world; remind us that the message of Jesus is truly pertinent to us today. Forgive us when we have treated it as a nice story. Help us to take the gifts you have given us, to develop them, and use them in ways which will offer healing and hope and honour those who in our 170 year history in Stouffville did the same. In Jesus' blessed Name, we pray. 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: God Gave Us The Music

A Time Of Silence:

Offertory

Offertory Doxology Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow

Offertory Prayer (Unison)

There are no limits to the gifts you have given us, gracious Lord. Now we return thanks to you for these gifts and we bring these token to you, asking for your blessing on givers and gifts. Help these gifts and givers to be your witnesses throughout the world. AMEN.

Reader 2 Cindy Duncan

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture: *Isaiah 61:1-8*

Reader 3 Lisa Harvey

Hymn: Jesus Thou Joy of Loving hearts

Sermon: "Honouring the Past, Embracing the Future"

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: God will take Care of You

Blessing

Closing Response

Music Postlude