

Stouffville United Church
34 Church Street, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 1E3
www.stouffvilleuc.ca
Sunday January 7, 2024

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

'In My Wrestling, And In My Doubts' (small group)

Lighting the Christ Candle

L: We Light this Candle as a symbol of the Light of Christ which that pierces the darkness and shines on each one of us.

P: Amen

Call to Worship

L: God is with us always and calls us each by name.

P: When we pass through difficulties and stress,

L: God is with us and calls us by name.

P: When we are discouraged and feel lost and alone,

L: God is with us and calls us by name, and heals us.

P: Blessed be God who knows us and calls us by name. AMEN.

Hymn: How Firm a Foundation (VU # 660)

Prayer of Approach and Confession

O Lord, as we enter yet another new year, we are grateful that we are sheltered by Your grace and mercy. Renew in us a desire to seek Your will anew. We confess, O God, that we are attracted to false gods and easy answers in life. We are vulnerable to temptations that could damage us in ways that are not obvious. Forgive us that sin that draws us like moths to a flame. Restore us and fill us with godly resolve. In Jesus' 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:

A Time Of Silence:

Offertory:

Offertory Doxology

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 tokens to you, asking for your blessing on givers and gifts. Help these gifts and givers to be your witnesses throughout the world. AMEN.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture: James 1:1-12

Hymn: Be Thou My Vision (VU#642)

Sermon: Pressure Point – Hard Times

Series on Book of James: "Pressure Points"

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: Great is Thy Faithfulness (VU #288)

Blessing

Closing Response

Music Postlude