Stouffville United Church

34 Church Street, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 1E3

www.stouffvilleuc.ca

Sunday March 3, 2024

Third Sunday of Lent

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 Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

10,000 Reasons

Lighting the Christ Candle

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

P: Amen

Call to Worship

L: Lord, come to us today and heal our wounds.

P: Be in our hearts and our spirits, we pray.

L: Give us courage to put aside selfishness in our hearts.

P: Heal our spirits and help us to follow you. AMEN.

Hymn: #368 Holy Spirit, Truth Divine (v1-4)

Prayer of Approach and Confession

Patient Lord, we have cluttered the "temples" of our lives with so much unnecessary things that they have blocked out your healing words of hope and mercy. We have been keenly aware of our economic situation and have spent much time and energy worrying about these things. Forgive us when we have been so preoccupied with these things that we have not listened to your words and followed your ways. Clear away our fears and frustrations. Give us clean hearts and spirits. Help us to be confident in your mercy and transformational love. These things we offer in the name of Jesus, the Christ. 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 Mighty Fortress Is Our God

A Time Of Silence:

Offertory

Offertory Doxology

Offertory Prayer (Unison)

Generous God, all we have comes from you and has been given to us as stewards that we might live and love as your beloved children. As we bring our gifts this morning, we realize what a small portion they are compared to what you have given to us. As we have sought ways to fund church ministry without raising our level of sacrifice, forgive us. If there have been times when we unconsciously favored reaching those with more assets to give and overlooked those who live and struggle with little, forgive us. Guide us in the path of repentance. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen. (John 2:13-22)

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture: James 1:16-27

Hymn: #371 Open My Eyes, That I May See

Video Clip

Sermon: "Pressure Point – On Not Being Deceived" Ninth in Series on the 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: #378 Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart

Blessing

Closing Response

Music Postlude