

Stouffville United Church
34 Church Street, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 1E3
www.stouffvilleuc.ca
Sunday April 28, 2024
Fifth Sunday of Easter

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

Lighting the Christ Candle

L: We light this candle in celebration of the one who brings us all together. There is something about this Jesus that draws us, compels us and unites us across any other social divisions we may imagine. In Christ we all are drawn to the light of Christ.

P: In Christ, we all belong and are beloved.

Call to Worship (Psalm 22, 1 John 4)

As the weak realize their strength;
as the poor eat and are satisfied,

God's love abides in us.

As the stranger finds a friend;
as the family offers forgiveness,

God's love abides in us.

As the ends of the earth know of Christ's grace,
God's love abides in us.

Hymn: O Day Of God, Draw Nigh (VU #688)

Prayer of Approach and Confession

Lord God of steadfast love, we praise you for your love poured out in creation, in the glorious diversity of creatures, in the splendour of the heavens and the fertility of the earth. We praise you for your love poured out in Jesus, in healing and teaching, in signs and wonders, in his humility and obedience, in his death and rising again. We praise you for your love poured out in the Spirit, inspiring and guiding, giving words and understanding. We know you as the God of grace, love, and hope: We confess we have failed to love You with all our heart, soul, and mind, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. We have ignored Your commands, we stray from Your way. We follow idols of our own making. Have mercy on us, O Lord, and forgive us. Through Your grace, love, and hope, restore and transform us. Help us to serve You faithfully and give honor to Your holy name. We pray through Christ our Lord. 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: The Heavens Are Declaring

A Time Of Silence:

Mission and Service Stories: "Making a Home for Refugees"

Offertory:

Offertory Doxology

Offertory Prayer (Unison)

Gracious God, as we offer our gifts today, we reflect on the wisdom in the words from John's gospel. In this imagery, we recognize our role as branches, connected to you, the source of our strength and vitality. Help us stay rooted in your love, producing fruit that brings glory to your name. May these gifts signify our commitment to abide in your teachings and work joyfully in response to your love. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen. ([John 15:1-8](#))

Chorus

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture: James 2:1-13

Hymn: Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive (VU#364)

Video Clip

Sermon: The Judgment of Judging 14th in the Series on 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: Spirit, Open My Heart (MV#79)

Blessing

Closing Response

Music Postlude