

Stouffville United Church
34 Church Street N., Stouffville, Ontario L4A 1E3
www.stouffvilleuc.ca
Sunday May 5, 2024
Sixth 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: How Beautiful

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

L: Sing to the Lord a new song, a song of hope and rejoicing!

P: Praise God for wonderful acts of mercy and kindness!

L: God has remembered God's faithful ones.

P: God has poured blessing upon blessing upon us!

L: Praise the Lord, all the earth, shout your praise!

P: Rejoice, for God is truly with Us. AMEN.

Hymn: 701 What Does The Lord Require Of You

Prayer of Approach and Confession

As this wonderful season Easter draws to a close, Lord; hope springs anew in our hearts. As the earth is being refreshed by the warmth of spring, so we have been refreshed and made new by the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. And we want to stay in this euphoria forever. But you have called us to go into the valley, to those who need to hear of your love and to feel your caring presence. In his words of hope, Jesus prepared his disciples to be witnesses. We have heard these words before, but far too often, we have turned our backs to this message. We don't quite believe that we are capable of actually living our whole lives in your love. So we act in ways that are often neglectful and hurtful of others. We take more time pampering ourselves than we do helping other people. It is easier to justify our selfish desires than it is to witness to your transforming love. Stop us in our tracks, O Lord. Turn us around. Help us to face our weakness and your forgiving grace. Heal us of our sins, and place us again on the paths of peace. We ask this 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: Benediction

A Time Of Silence:

Offertory:

Offertory Doxology

Offertory Prayer (Unison)

God of joy, we offer our gifts this day, as we reflect on the wisdom of your Word. Jesus urges us to hold onto him, to stay connected to his example, presence, and the fulfillment he brings. He reveals that our joy finds completeness when it is woven into his divine joy. Help us abide in him through love, obeying his commandment to love one another. In acts of service, healing, and selfless generosity, may our joy be sustained, a shared and everlasting gift from the source of all joy. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen. ([John 15:9-17](#))

Chorus: In My Wrestling, And In My Doubts

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture: James 2:8-19

Hymn: 76 If I Have Been The Source Of Pain (MV)

Video Clip

Sermon: The Brutality of Life and the Quality of Mercy 15th 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: 232 Joyful, Joyful We Adore You

Blessing

Closing Response

Music Postlude