

Stouffville United Church
34 Church Street, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 1E3
www.stouffvilleuc.ca

Sunday October 6, 2024,
World Wide Communion Sunday and
Commissioning of Church Council

Music Prelude

Introit (from Psalm 121) [KJV]: Written by D. Mehdizadeh and Sung by D. Archer
"The Lord is thy keeper:
the Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand.
The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night."

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 "Believe For It"

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: In the midst of struggle and strife, God is with us.

P: Praise be to God for God's steadfast presence.

L: Even though many things in life hurt and disappoint us, God is with us.

P: We seek God's mercy and grace to heal our wounded souls.

L: Come, bring your needs and wants to God, for God will hear your cries and restore your souls.

P: Praise be to God for mercy, peace, and hope. AMEN.

Hymn: Holy Holy Holy Lord God Almighty

Prayer of Approach and Confession

Merciful Lord, you know that we are stubborn and willful. We believe that we know the right way to do everything and to heal all the troubles of the world. We resort to extraordinary means to provide healing only to find that we have not placed our trust in your redeeming love. Our efforts fall far short of the goal of reconciliation. Forgive us our stubbornness and arrogance. Heal our wounded souls and restore hope and compassion to our relationships with you and with each other. Lift us up and cause us to serve you by serving others in this world. 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: "Once and For All"****Offertory Doxology****Offertory Prayer** (Unison)

God of grace and mercy, as we bring our gifts before you today, we remember your infinite love that welcomes everyone, especially the vulnerable and the overlooked. Just as Jesus embraced the little children, we bring our offerings, hoping to reflect our dedication to living out your kingdom's values. Help us to see and meet the needs around us with open hearts and willing hands, extending your grace and compassion to all. Bless these gifts and use them to further your work in our community and beyond, so everyone may know and feel your love. Amen. (Mark 10:2-16)

Commissioning of Council Members

L: There are diverse gifts;

P: but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

L: There are different ways of serving God:

P: but it is the same Lord who is served.

L: God works through people in different ways:

P: but it is the same God

L: whose purpose is achieved through them all.

**P: Each one of us is given a gift by the Spirit:
and there is no gift without its corresponding service.**

Based on I Corinthians 12:4

Minister: I present to you these members of the Church Council

Minister: Will you do all you can to help them in carrying out this important work?

All Yes, we will.

Minister: Will you, the Church Council Members and Elected Representatives, carry out your duties faithfully and do all in your powers to support the ministry and mission of God's Church in Stouffville?

Church Councillors and elected Representatives: **Yes, with God's help, we will.**

Minister: Will you, the congregation of Stouffville United do all you can to support the members of the Church Council to build up the Body of Christ in this place and to further the Kingdom of God in the world?

All: Yes, with God's help, we will.

Minister: Let us pray

**All: Almighty God,
by whose grace alone we are
accepted and called to your service; strengthen and guide our
Church Councillors and
Elected Representatives and**

each one of us by your Holy Spirit, that in all our work you will make us worthy of your calling: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Chorus "You Say"

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture: Joshua 4:1-24

Hymn: the Lord Bless you and Keep you

Video

**Sermon: "The Importance of Memories"
5th in Series on Joshua**

Sacrament of Communion: "Every Time I Think of You"

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: The Lord Bless You and Keep
Blessing and Closing Response
Music Postlude**