

Stouffville United Church
34 Church Street, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 1E3
September 28, 2025
Orange Shirt Sunday

Music Prelude

Welcome

Acknowledgement of the Land

The land on which we meet today is sacred land and has been the site of human activity for thousands of years. 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, working continuously towards greater respect and understanding.

Announcements

Chorus "Living Hope"

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

Sing aloud to God our strength,
shout for joy to our God.

Come in joy and delight.

Come to be present to God and to one another.

We come to worship and to share in confidence

God's love and in mutual affection with each other

Hymn: I Feel the Winds of God Today 625 VU

Prayer of Approach

We come to participate in God's grace and mercy together.

Right here is a place of belonging,
all God's people.

**For all that we have been able to receive
we are truly thankful,**

You have offered us the hospitality of your love, we are wrapped up,
embraced and surrounded by grace.

You have promised to never leave us nor forsake us
and we are grateful.

**For all that we have been able to receive
we are truly thankful,**

You are faithful to us and have given us confidence and assurance about the consistency of your care of us.

The same gracious care which was, is, and will be, shown to us in the past, the present and the future.

We can rely on you to send people into our lives to lead us forward in our faith, people who sustain us and teach us in our turn, to nurture others.

**For all that we have been able to receive
we are truly thankful,**

May we also be generous
and kind with one another in sharing your I.
May we be humble and hospitable to others,
for you have included even us in your love.

**For all that we have been able to receive we are truly thankful,
AMEN**

Anthem: Peace Like a River

Mission Stories

Offertory:

Offertory Doxology

Offertory Prayer (Unison)

Gracious God in our offering today we bring our prayers, our time, our talents, and our gifts. We offer our donations and our tithes. We ask your blessing on all we bring, that they might further the ministry in this place. Amen

Scripture:

James 2:1-10

Warning against Partiality

2 My brothers and sisters, do not claim the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ of glory while showing partiality. ² For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, ³ and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here in a good place, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit by my footstool," ⁴ have you not made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵ Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? ⁶ But you have dishonored the poor person. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into the courts? ⁷ Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

⁸ If you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you do well. ⁹ But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰ For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it

John 12:20-26

Some Greeks Wish to See Jesus

²⁰ Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks.²¹ They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." ²² Philip went and told Andrew, then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³ Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴ Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain, but if it dies it bears much fruit. ²⁵ Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life.²⁶ Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

The Word of the Lord

Hymn: On Eagle's Wings VU 808 (Psalm 91)

Sermon: A Faithful Welcome

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: #606 In Christ there is No East or West

Blessing

Closing Response

Music Postlude