

**TRINITY UNITED CHURCH
PETERBOROUGH, ONTARIO**

**We acknowledge that we meet and live
on the traditional territories of the
Mississauga Anishinaabe People.**

**We give thanks for their care for the land
over thousands of years and
for their deep spirituality and
honouring of the Creator and the creation.**

**May we live with respect in God's creation
and in harmony with our neighbours.**



MAY 9, 2021

TRINITY UNITED CHURCH
May 9, 2021
CHRISTIAN FAMILY SUNDAY

*Welcome to all. May this time of worship touch our hearts and minds
and offer hope and promise for the days to come*

PRELUDE: "God's Time is Best" J.S. Bach
(Sinfonia from Cantata #106)
"God's Own Time" Richard Gieseke
(Trinity Covid Choir)
"Down Ampney" William Bates

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

WELCOME
LIFE and ACTION of the COMMUNITY OF FAITH

HYMN: VU226¹ "For the Beauty of the Earth"

For the beauty of the earth,
for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies,

Refrain: God of all, to you we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the beauty of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower,
sun and moon, and stars of light, R

For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild, R

For each perfect gift sublime
to our race so freely given,
graces human and divine,
flowers of earth and buds of heaven. R

CALL TO WORSHIP

THE WISDOM OF YOUTH:

Testimony of Three Anonymous Children

EPISTLE READING: 1 Corinthians 13: 1-8

REFLECTION A: "Beyond Our Comfort Zone"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

WORD OF GRACE

ANTHEM: MV94² "Love Knocks and Waits"

GOSPEL READING: John 15: 9-17

REFLECTION B: "Oh, So Worth It!"

VIDEO³: "A Place in the Choir"

Celtic Thunder

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH⁴

We believe in God
who was there
at the secret, quiet moments of conception,
when the 'self' that is in each of us
was created,
and a thousand other possibilities
turned away.

We believe in God
who sang a murmuring song to us
in the nurturing closeness of the womb;
who watched with joy
as we grew and moved and became strong
and aware and ready for birth

We believe in God who called us
on that first great journey into light,
who breathed into us the breath of life;
who speaks to us through our parents,
our children, our friends, our enemies.

We believe in God
who does not leave us
even in our darkness
when we have lost the way home.
God calls us again and again
to new adventures,
new stairs to climb,

new questions to ask,
new people to love.

Our God is in bread and sunshine
and parties,
and most beautifully in our children.

HYMN: VU556⁵ “Would You Bless Our Homes and Families”

Would you bless our homes and families,
Source of life who calls us here;
in our world of stress and tension
teach us love that conquers fear.
Help us learn to love each other
with a love that constant stays;
teach us when we face our troubles,
love's expressed in many ways.

When our way is undemanding,
let us use the time that's ours
to delight in simple pleasures,
sharing joys in gentle hours.
When our way is anxious walking
and a heavy path we plod,
teach us trust in one another
and in you, our gracious God.

From the homes in which we're nurtured,
with the love that shapes us there,
teach us, God, to claim as family
every one whose life we share.
And through all that life may offer,
may we in your love remain;
may the love we share in families
be alive to praise your name.

Let us reach beyond the boundaries
of our daily thought and care
till the family you have chosen
spills its love out everywhere.
Help us learn to love each other
with a love that constant stays;
teach us when we face our troubles
love's expressed in many ways.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Prelude and Fugue on Bb+, BWV 560 J.S. Bach

Leading in worship today are Rev. Joanna MacQuarrie; Robert Grandy, Minister of Music; Covid Choir; Joe Rees, Worship Leader; Lyn Braun, Derreck and Ann Siddell, Readers; Chris and Dave Freeman, duet and Dave Freeman, Technical Production.

Credits:

¹ Text: Folliot S, Pierpont, 1835-1917. Music: David Evans. Used by permission Oxford University Press. With permission *Voices United*.

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³ Used with permission from Celtic Thunder

⁴ Adapted from “The Rights of the Child” service in Dorothy McRae-McMahon (ed), Echoes of our Journey, 1993, JBCE, Melbourne, 144-145.

⁵ Tune: © 1977, Ron Klusmeier (admin. Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188) Words © 1977 Walter Farquharson (admin. Hope Publishing Company) Reprinted under One License A-726544

.FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Praying with Television Shows:

A Spiritual Practice for the Whole Family

Families or a Group of Friends or Co-workers are invited to watch a television programme together. They can choose any programme: comedy, drama, action, children's programme, etc.

When the programme ends, turn off the TV and talk about:

1. In the show we have just watched, was there any suffering? Who was hurt? Who did the hurting?
2. Were there any elements of healing?
3. Does anything like that ever happen in this home/group/workplace?
4. If so, how does it start? How is it resolved?
5. What would Jesus say or do about such a situation?

You might wish to finish your discussion with prayer such as this:

Holy Presence at the Heart of all Life,

Thank you for this time we've shared, for the situations we saw in the show and the discussions they encouraged. With gratitude for safe places to explore faith and life, we continue to ponder just how your divine Spirit is at work within and among us, offering insights, guidance and encouragement for transformation. Amen

Adapted from Simpson, Anne (ed), Nothing But Ideas: On Lent, Easter, Pentecost, c. 1988, APTBT, Perth, Australia, p. 7

TODAY'S ORGAN MUSIC

Preludes: Bach's Cantata #106, "God's Time Is the Best Time", was written in the early 1700's and its opening "Sinfonia" is one of the most admired of his compositions, and according to the world-renowned conductor John Eliot Gardiner, "twenty of the most heart-rending bars in all his works" - music that is meant to combat death. This organ arrangement was made by Arthur Wildman, a noted arranger of classical music for pipe and electronic organs.

American composer Richard Gieseke fashioned an easy unison anthem titled "God's Own Time", based on Acts 17: 28.

God's own time is the best of all. For in him we live, for in him we move. For in him we have our being. In him we die at the moment that he will choose. So teach us, Lord, to number our days, and incline our hearts to wisdom.

The text to the well-known hymn "Come Down, O Love Divine" is a 15th century Italian example of a pre-Reformation hymn of praise and devotion. English composer Ralph Vaughan Williams' tune is perfectly suited to the introspective character of the text. American composer William H. Bates used Vaughan Williams' tune in one of his "Four Preludes on English Hymn Tunes". The light descending opening passages, perfectly depicting the title of the hymn, are heard in varied form throughout the work.

Postlude: Returning to the music of Bach, you will hear his "Little" Prelude and Fugue in B Flat Major. Like today's prelude, it is assumed this work, the last of his Eight Little Preludes and Fugues was also written in the early 1700's. There are however scholars who ascribe these works to one of Bach's pupils. Regardless of their authorship, they have stood the test of time and because of their relatively short playing time, are often heard in church services. This one in B Flat opens with rapid sixteenth-note passages on the manuals, followed by a solo pedal line. The opening figures return, bringing the Prelude to a conclusion. The Fugue opens on a quieter registration, with a jaunty little theme, full of wide leaps. A gradual crescendo and a return of the wide melodic leaps signals the end of the Fugue.

Trinity United Church
360 Reid Street
Peterborough, ON K9H 7G6
Telephone: 705-743-3301
Email: trinitychurch@cogeco.net
Minister: trinityminister@cogeco.net
Confidential Pastoral Care: 705-874-8603
Website: www.trinitypeterborough.com

OFFERING

Your donations are appreciated and used carefully to further Christ's work in the world. In these weeks, when gatherings are not possible, please make donations to Trinity UC and to the Mission and Service Fund of the United Church of Canada by using Canada Helps, a Canadian not-for-profit organization. Cheques may also be placed in the secure mailbox located beside our main door under the covered portico.

For the duration of the 'Stay-at-Home' order, the office will remain closed. However the Minister and office staff are working from home and may still be reached at the above email addresses.

