



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2020

TRINITY UNITED CHURCH

November 15, 2020
Children's Sunday

PRELUDE: "Hymn of Promise" and Here I Am Lord" arr. by John Carter
"Hear I Am, Lord" arr. by Janet Linker

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

INTROIT: "What Does the Lord Require of You" Jim Strathdee

WELCOME; LIFE AND ACTION OF THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP¹ AND OPENING PRAYER

People of God, attune your senses to what is around you and discover the glory of God.

We notice God everywhere we turn; in the sky, in the world around us, and in the people we meet.

People of God, praise God for goodness toward all things and all people.

Everywhere we are aware of the renewed cycle of God caring for us; In the rising of the sun and in the cycles of the moon, stars and seasons.

People of God, come, together let us praise God.

◆ **OPENING HYMN: VU509²** "I, The Lord of Sea & Sky"

I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?
Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain,
I have wept for love of them; they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send? R

I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame,

I will set a feast for them; my hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send? R

AFFIRMING MINUTE

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 25: 14-30

ANTHEM: "Do Justice" Gary Kent Walth
(narrator: Dave Freeman)

PSALM 123 (VU847)

Refrain: "To you, O God, our eyes we raise until your mercy
we may praise."

To you I lift up my eyes,
to you who are enthroned in the heavens.
As the eyes of servants look to their master's hands,
as the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,
so our eyes look to you, O God,
as we wait till you show us your favour. R

We have had more than enough of contempt.
**Too long we have suffered the scorn of the wealthy,
and the contempt of the arrogant. R**

SOLO: "Draw Me Close To You" Kelly Carpenter
(Bob Grandy, with Karla Buckborough and Glynnis Hilton-Devitt)

TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

REFLECTION: "*Disasters*" Joe Rees

◆ **HYMN: MV144**³ "Like a Healing Stream"

Like a healing stream in a barren desert,
Spirit water bringing life to dusty earth,
God is trickling through our lives as in a dream unfolding,
promising revival and rebirth... like a healing stream.

Like a gentle rain on a thirsty garden,
Spirit water come to nourish tiny seed,
God is bubbling through the soil to coax a new creation,
yearning for an end to want and need... like a gentle rain.

Like a river strong with a restless current,
Spirit water rushing on to distant shore,
God is carving out a channel in a new direction,
calling for an end to hate and war... like a river strong.

Like a mighty sea reaching far horizons,
Spirit water with a love both deep and wide,
God is working in our hearts to shape a new tomorrow:
God will always challenge and provide! Like a mighty sea,
like a river strong, like a gentle rain, like a healing stream.

DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING

PASTORAL PRAYER LORD'S PRAYER

◆ CLOSING HYMN: (tune: VU331) ⁴ "O God We Yearn for Safety"

O God, we yearn for safety; We long to be secure.
Yet faithful, loving service is what you value more.
You give us what is needed; You love, forgive and save.
Then, sending us to serve you, you call us to be brave.

You give to some ten talents — to others, two or three;
To some you give one blessing to manage faithfully.
For you, O Lord, are loving and don't demand success;
You daily call your people to lives of faithfulness.

You give your church the gospel — Good news for us to share.
You give us great compassion for neighbors everywhere.
You give us skills to serve you and loving work to do.
We're blest to be a blessing, and called to risk for you.

O God, it seems much safer to live from day to day,
Protecting what you lend us and hiding it away.
Yet all these gifts can't flourish when hidden in the ground;
When we are brave to share them your blessings will abound.

SENDING FORTH

SUNG BLESSING: VU416 V.1 "Forth in Your Name, O Christ"

Forth in your name, O Christ, we go,
our daily labour to pursue,
you, only you, resolved to know
in all we think, or speak, or do.

POSTLUDE: "Quodlibet" from Suite Antique David Kidwell

Leading in worship today are Jane Darling, Robert Grandy, Minister of Music;
Worship Leader; Peter Darling; Guest Speaker Joe Rees; COVID Choir this week is
Glynnis Hilton-Devitt, Karla Buckborough, Barb Diceman, Margaret Marris, Dave
Freeman and Peter Darling. Our sound operator is Mark Legon.

Credits:

¹ Page 25 Written by Jeanne Wilson Gathering for Pentecost 2, 2020.

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TODAY'S MUSIC

Today we have musical selections illustrating the four appointed readings for this Sunday – Judges 4:1-7; Psalm 123; 1 Thessalonians; and Matthew 25:14-30.

PRELUDE: Two piano selections open the service – both by the prolific American composer John Carter (b. 1930), long time church musician and teacher, having over 60 collections of published piano volumes. From his collection *Today's Hymns and Songs for Piano* I've chosen his setting of "Hymn of Promise" and "Hear I Am, Lord". The former started out as a choral anthem. It became so popular that its composer, Natalie Sleeth (1930-1992) made a hymn version of it. In this song, illustrating 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11, "she expressed how life moves into death, death gives way to eternity, and ultimate victory comes for those whose doubt has evolved into belief" – a quote from fellow composer and organist R.G. Huff. Judges 4:1-7 will be illustrated by Dan Schutte's popular hymn "Here I Am, Lord", which we will also be singing today. Carter's arrangement is a sustained and expressive one, with the tune always present. I'll then move to the organ for one more setting of Schutte's hymn – this one by the American organist Janet Linker, an Ohio-based composer. Her setting features an echo effect on a solo stop.

CHORAL MUSIC: "What Does the Lord Require of You" is a folk-style hymn, which can be sung as a round, written by Jim Strathdee in 1986. Based on Micah 6:6-8, it is also suitable when Matthew 25:14-30 is read. Using more text from the prophecies of Micah, the reduced Chancel Choir will sing "Do Justice" by Gary Kent Walth. Carried by the simplicity of the music and the message (using a narrator for two proclamations), the revealing text from Micah earnestly instructs us, several times in the anthem, to do justice, love mercy, and show kindness. Finally, Psalm 123 will be illustrated by the solo "Draw Me Close to You" written by Kelly Carpenter. In this psalm, the writer is looking to God for help. In Carpenter's song there is a plea to help the author be closer to God. This contemporary worship song may sound hollow to some, and even secular, but to others it is a song of love to God. God's desire is to always bring us back to God's side when we fall short or when we fail God or ourselves.

POSTLUDE: David Kidwell, the composer of *Suite Antique* hails from New England where he is Minister of Music at Edwards Church in Northampton, Massachusetts. The third movement, entitled "Quodlibet" was inspired by baroque-era composers who used that term for a piece in which several tunes were combined in a light-hearted and spirited manner. Kidwell uses several original tunes in this piece, one of which sounds remarkably like the opening of the hymn "Here I Am, Lord". So, with that small

connection to a hymn, today's postlude is just a joyous piece to usher us out into the world to "do justice, love mercy, show kindness and walk humbly with our God."

OFFERING

Your donations are appreciated and used carefully to further Christ's work in the community. 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. Just go to Trinity's web page <http://trinitypeterborough.com> and click on the "Donate Now" button located at the upper right hand side of the page. Canada Helps will issue you a tax receipt in Trinity's name. Cheques may also be placed in the secure mailbox located beside our main door under the covered portico. If you would prefer to make your payments using PAR, (pre-authorized remittance) please contact the church office and they will make the arrangements. We are also able to accept e-transfers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERVICE VIDEO

The video and Order of Service of this service will be posted on our website on Monday each week.

ADVENT MISSIVE

It hardly seems possible but Advent is just two weeks away. We would like to have the Advent Missive ready for distribution on Sunday, November 29 which is Advent I. For this edition we are interested in hearing what your plans are in this most unusual of years. What are you doing to make it meaningful? Please send us your stories – are you making your Christmas gifts this year, making your own Christmas cards, trying your hand at new recipes, making a special advent calendar for a grandchild or joining with your neighbours to sing carols in the neighbourhood? Let us know your plans. All submissions should be into the church office or the editor Pat Marett no later than Friday, November 20.



REQUEST

Until we begin using the Simcoe Street door for Sunday worship, we would like to request that those of you who are able use the municipal lot and walk around to the Reid Street door. This ensures that those who are unable to walk that distance will be assured a spot in the Trinity parking lot. Thank you.

HELPING THE COMMUNITY

Local agencies are facing huge challenges this year as they try to adapt their Christmas donation programs. Demand has increased as well as the cost of providing the programs. This is particularly true of the Salvation Army Christmas Hamper Program. This year they have moved to gift cards rather than the hampers but they are still accepting food donations for their cupboards. In addition to food there is a great need for toys. All new toys should be unwrapped and while consideration is give to children of all ages, there is a shortage of gifts for the 12-16 age group. Gift cards for teens are always welcome. For further information please call 705-742-4391.

TRINITY KIDS ONLINE

Hey kids. Check out Trinity Kids Online by visiting our website at trinitypeterborough.com/home/trinitykidsonline. We have crafts and projects available for you online. New this week will be a craft video showing you how to make a Christmas poinsettia from pumpkin seeds. Rianna will lead you step by step through the project. Kits with the supplies you need are available in church today and in the church office during the week. Have fun!

MITTEN TREE

Due to pandemic protocols in the church we will not be putting the mitten tree up this year, however we will still accept donations of mittens. These will be distributed to various agencies throughout Peterborough.

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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