

**YORK UNITED MINISTRIES  
SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 26, 2021  
AT KING CITY UNITED CHURCH  
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST<sup>1</sup>**

**WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

**Prelude: "Prelude in A"**

**F. Chopin**

**Words of Welcome**

**Life and work of our Church**

**Lighting the Christ Candle**

**Call to Worship:**

The Lord is Holy and Mighty over all Creation!  
The Lord speaks and summons all the earth to listen!  
The heavens proclaim the justice of the Lord!  
God will gather all His people and show them grace!

**\*Opening Hymn: "O Jesus, I have promised" #120 VU**

- 1 O Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;  
remain for ever near me, my Saviour and my friend:  
I shall not fear the journey if you are by my side,  
nor wander from the pathway if you will be my guide.**
  - 2 O let me feel you near me: the world is ever near;  
I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear;  
my foes are ever near me, around me and within;  
but, Jesus, then draw nearer and shield my soul from sin.**
  - 3 O let me hear you speaking in accents clear and still,  
above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will;  
O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control;  
now speak, and make me listen, O guardian of my soul.**
  - 4 O Jesus, you have promised to all who follow you,  
that where you are in glory your servant shall be too.  
And Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;  
O give me grace to follow, my Saviour and my friend.**
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### **Opening Prayer:**

**Great God, giver of the harvest, Source of Creation and growth, we turn to you in the midst Of the work of gathering in your bounty, in the Midst of enjoying the beauty of this special and Colourful season, to offer thanks for our many Blessings. Make this hour of worship a special Blessing, we pray, and touch us deeply with your Presence as we stand together in your love, your Mercy, and your grace. Amen.**

### **Prayer of Confession:**

**Our God, lovingly you search for us.  
Relentlessly you reach out to us,  
Inviting us to follow.  
Forgive us for the times we have chosen to hear  
Other voices and accept other invitations.  
Forgive us for the effort and time we have spent  
In following other paths.  
May we hear with newness of spirit,  
'Come and follow me.' Amen.**

### **Assurance of Pardon:**

The Good News is that God is completely committed to us. God will always be here offering us grace, strength, and love in great abundance.  
**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

### **Response: "Lord, Prepare Me to Be a Sanctuary" (#18 MV)**

**Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,  
pure and holy tried and true;  
with thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.**

### **\*Affirmation of Faith: New Creed**

**We are not alone, we live in God's world.  
We believe in God:  
who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus,  
the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others by the Spirit.  
We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:  
to celebrate God's presence,  
to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.  
In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us. We are not alone.  
Thanks be to God.**

**Ministry of Music:            "Holy is the Lord"            S. Holcomb**

**WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD**

**Prayer for Illumination:**

Lord, Open our hearts to your Word,  
that we may gratefully receive your blessings,  
Your energy, your spirit, and your love as disciples for you.  
We ask this in Jesus' name.

**Amen.**

**Scripture Reading**

**Psalm 124**

A Song of Ascents. Of David. If it had not been the Lord who was on our side —let Israel now say—if it had not been the Lord who was on our side, when our enemies attacked us, then they would have swallowed us up alive, when their anger was kindled against us; then the flood would have swept us away, the torrent would have gone over us; then over us would have gone the raging waters. Blessed be the Lord, who has not given us as prey to their teeth. We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowlers; the snare is broken, and we have escaped. Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

**Mark 9: 38-50**

John said to him, 'Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.' But Jesus said, 'Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterwards to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to

drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward. 'If any of you put a stumbling-block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell.' And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

'For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.'

**Response: "Spirit of Life" (#381 VU)**

**Spirit of Life, come unto me.**

**Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion**

**Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;**

**Move on the hand giving life the shape of justice.**

**Roots hold me close, wings set me free;**

**Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.**

**Time for the Children in All of Us**

**Reflection: 'We Are The Salt Of The Earth'**

**Rick McKinley**

**Music for Silent Reflection**

**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

**The Offering of our Gifts and Ourselves**

**Invitation:**

**\*Doxology: "In Gratitude and Humble Trust"**

**#544 VU**

**In gratitude and humble trust**

**we bring our best today**

**to serve your cause and share your love**

**with all along life's way.**

**O God, who gave yourself to us**

**in Jesus Christ, your Son,**

**teach us to give ourselves each day**

**until life's work is done.**

**\*Offertory Prayer (in unison):**

**We give you a portion of all you have so generously given us,  
Lord.**

**Even as we give, our hearts seek you and your blessing. Take us  
and take these gifts, and cause us and them to become  
blessings for many others. We ask this in love, and in Jesus  
name. Amen**

**The 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.**

**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, and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

**WE GO FORTH TO LOVE AS CHRISTIANS IN THE WORLD**

**\*Closing Hymn: "All hail the power of Jesus' name" #334 VU**

**1 All hail the power of Jesus' name!**

**Let angels prostrate fall;  
bring forth the royal diadem,**

*Refrain:* **and crown him, crown him, crown him,  
crown him Lord of all.**

**2 O seed of Israel's chosen race  
now ransomed from the fall,  
hail him who saves you by his grace *Refrain***

**3 Crown him, you martyrs of your God,  
who from his altar call;  
praise him whose way of pain you trod, *Refrain***

**4 Let every tongue and every tribe,  
responsive to the call,  
to him all majesty ascribe** *Refrain*

**5 O that, with all the sacred throng,  
we at his feet may fall,  
join in the everlasting song,** *Refrain*

## **Blessing and Sending Forth**

**Postlude: "Minuet 1 in B Flat"**

**J.S. Bach**



## **York United Ministries Announcements**

### **Worship Service**

We are pleased to announce that effective **October 3<sup>rd</sup>**, Rev. Bruce Roffey will be returning to work in a limited capacity. This will enable all three churches to hold in-person worship services on a weekly basis. We will start the rotation with Rev. Lee at New Hope and York Pines on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, and Rev. Bruce will be at King City. **To allow for travel time, New Hope's worship service will begin at 9:30 and York Pines at 11:00.** King City will continue to worship at 10:00 am.

### **Visitation Worship**

Rev. Andrew Lee is offering pastoral visitation (with proper physical distancing) with a short worship service. This visitation will be resumed when he comes back from the training on October 5<sup>th</sup>. He will visit your driveway or backyard and share stories, scriptures, hymns, and prayers. If you are comfortable and interested, please contact your church office or Rev. Lee.

### **Offering**

Thank you for sending your offerings to the churches. Your offerings support the ministry of the church and have been much appreciated. Please mail a cheque to your church directly, or make an e-transfer: [kcuc@bellnet.ca](mailto:kcuc@bellnet.ca); [yorkpinesuc@gmail.com](mailto:yorkpinesuc@gmail.com); [newhopeunited@bellnet.ca](mailto:newhopeunited@bellnet.ca).

## King City Guide Program

Sharon, who runs the girl guide program in King is looking to find a place where they can camp for a weekend as part of their character building exercise. Please reach out to Maria Ongaro (289-221-4864) if you have a place that they could use, or if you would like more information, and she will pass your information along to Sharon.

## Book Club

The next York Pines Book Club will discuss "Braiding Sweetgrass" by Robin Wall Kimmerer on October 27<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to join the club please contact York Pines United church at 905-727-8118. We would be delighted to have new members.

## Worship Schedule (*Italic - working*)

	<b>September 26</b>	<b>October 3</b>	<b>October 10</b>	<b>October 17</b>
Preacher	<b>Rick McKinley @ KCUC</b>	<b>Rev. Roffey @ KCUC</b> --- <b>Rev. Lee @ YPUC &amp; NHUC</b>	<b>Rev. Lee @ KCUC</b> --- <b>Rev. Roffey @ YPUC &amp; NHUC</b>	<b>Rev. Roffey @ KCUC</b> --- <b>Rev. Lee @ YPUC &amp; NHUC</b>
Announcements	<i>Sheryl Sinka</i>			
Scripture Reading	<i>Maria Ongaro</i>			
Choir	<i>John Kell</i>			
Music Director	Rosemary Karunaratne			
Church	<b>Creation Time 3</b>	<b>Creation Time 4</b>	<b>Creation Time 5</b>	<b>Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost</b>
UCC/YUM Calendar		<b>World Communion Sunday</b>	<b>Thanksgiving Sunday</b>	<b>World Food Sunday</b>
Liturgical Color	<b>Green</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Red</b>

## Minute for Mission

“We commit to this work not alone but with God.”

Wondering what more you can do to become anti-racist in your local communities? You aren't alone.

It's one of the questions Adele Halliday, the United Church's Anti-Racism and Equity Lead, is asked a lot. *40 Days of Engagement on Anti-Racism*, a new cutting-edge program set to run from October 12 through November 26, is one of the ways Halliday is answering.

“I took the question to heart, mulled it over with colleagues, and an idea was born to invite the whole church to intentionally reflect on a range of racial justice issues in creative ways for a specific period of time together,” she says.

Each day for 40 days, heart-expanding reflections on anti-racism themes written by contributors from across the church will be shared on the United Church's website. These free reflections geared for individuals and small groups will also come with activities for children and families, prayers, and practical ways to take action in local communities.

What does Halliday hope the impact of the program will be?

“I'm hoping there will be engagement with advocacy, personal transformation, and continued commitment to work to become actively anti-racist not just for 40 days but over the long haul,” says Halliday. “We commit to this work not alone but with God. Ultimately, I hope 40 Days of Engagement on Anti-Racism will draw church members into a deeper understanding of God's vision for a just world and how they can live it out.”

Your [Mission & Service](#) gifts help support the development of awakening education and learning resources like 40 Days. Because of your generosity, the whole of the church will be blessed with practical ways to live into God's call to become anti-racist. And in turn, our world will become a more just and equitable place for all. Thank you.

