

KING CITY UNITED CHURCH

*A Vibrant, Caring, Christian Family
Proclaiming the Good News of God's Love
Through Jesus Christ!*

October 17, 2021
Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost
(* Please rise as you are able)**
(Words in **Bold** said by all)

... WITH OPEN DOORS ...

Prelude: ***"Day by Day"*** **T. Kendall**

Welcome, Life & Work with King City UC

The Lighting of the Worship Candle

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; those who follow me will not walk in darkness." This candle reminds us of the presence of Christ in our midst.

Thanks be to God.

Call to Worship

Arise, shine; open your eyes and look around.

God's light shines into every corner of our lives.

We worship with our prayers, our songs and our lives.

God's light shines into every corner of our lives.

Awaken us, our God, to the new dawn!

God's light shines into every corner of our lives.

Let us worship God!

*****Hymn: *"O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"* #326 VU**

**O for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of God's grace.**

**Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears,
'tis life and health and peace.**

**He speaks, and listening to his voice,
new life the dead receive,
the mournful broken hearts rejoice,
the humble poor believe.**

**Hear him, you deaf, you voiceless ones,
new tongues again employ;
you blind, behold your Saviour comes,
and leap, you lame, for joy!**

**My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honours of your name.**

Opening Prayer

Illuminating God, let there be light. Open our minds to ponder, our hearts to wonder, our lips to praise, our lives to serve. In this time of worship, teach us your ways, fill us with joy to overflowing, inspire our voices to sing and encourage us to go out into your world as beacons of your love, lights to the world reflecting your goodness.

Yet as we ask, we tremble. We affirm and we confess that Jesus Christ is the Light of the World, but how hard it is to recognise ourselves as well as the light of the world and children of light. It seems like bragging. It seems so undeserved. In our heart of hearts, we know that though we no longer walk in darkness we still lurk in shadows. We keep secrets and are wary of exposure. But you do not see as we see. You see beyond even the appearance of our inner hearts. You see the centre of our souls and in your seeing our hearts are inflamed. Help us to see ourselves as you see us and thereby to see the world as you see the world. This prayer we pray for the sake of your world and in Jesus' name. Amen.

Words of Grace

Listen to these beloved words: "The Lord is my shepherd." Be persuaded that no matter what valleys you walk through, no matter what shadows you find yourself in, no matter what darkness threatens to overwhelm you, the Good Shepherd is with you leading you by his own light for he is also the Light of the World. This is good news. It is God's doing.

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: A 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.***

... WITH OPEN MINDS ...

Ministry of Music:

Prayer for Illumination

Let us pray: O God, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear what you are saying to us today. Amen.

Scripture Readings

Ephesians 5: 8-14 (page 194, NT)

The first reading is from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians, chapter 5, verses 8 to 14. This passage is about darkness and light. It reflects an ancient understanding that nonbelievers not only walk in darkness, they are darkness.

For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light – for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

Mark 10: 46-52 (page 47, NT)

The Gospel reading for today is according to Mark, chapter 10, verses 46 to 52. This is the story of the healing of a blind man who not only receives his sight but is enabled to follow Jesus on the way. Listen of the good news.

They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you." So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said to him, "My teacher, let me see again." Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

These are the words of life, which in faith become the Living Word!

Thanks be to God.

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 in 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 Child in All of Us

*****Hymn: "Jesus Bids Us Shine"**

#585 VU

**Jesus bids us shine with a pure, clear light,
like a little candle burning in the night.
In this world is darkness, so let us shine,
you in your small corner, and I in mine.**

**Jesus bids us shine first of all for him;
well he sees and knows it if our light grows dim:
Jesus walks beside us to help us shine,
you in your small corner, and I in mine.**

**Jesus bids us shine, then, for all around;
many kinds of darkness in the world are found:
sin, and want and sorrow; so we must shine,
you in your small corner, and I in mine.**

Sermon "Seeing Things"

The Rev. Bruce J. Roffey

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

*****Offertory Hymn: "We Give Thee But Thine Own" #543 VU, vs 1**

**We give thee but thine own
whate'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine alone,
a trust, O God, from thee.**

... WITH FAITH OPEN TO THE WEEK AHEAD ...

Pastoral Prayers of the People

God whose light can pierce even the darkest closets, you have sent Christ as the Light of the World to illuminate our souls and to enlighten our minds, allowing us to learn what is pleasing in your sight. The Spirit brings to our remembrance that which Christ has revealed to us and shines your light again and again into our corners of misunderstanding and confusion. We offer now our prayers for inspiration.

As you lead us on paths of righteousness, give us such clarity of vision that we might discern your path from the multitude of other attractive ways that confuse us. The issues and concerns that confront us call us to action, but the way is not clear. Simple solutions are precisely that, simple. Give us that special vision which sees what others cannot see and what we cannot see by ourselves. And when we are afraid to act, infuse us with courage to proceed. And when we fail, comfort us with the rod and staff of your presence.

Generous God, in this world of abundance there is more to eat than there is need. Yet need flourishes in a flourishing world, because some have too much and some have none at all. May we take what you give us as our daily bread and share it with others to nourish them. And never let us forget that we live not by bread alone but by your Word. So may we share also of our faith that those who hunger and thirst within may find the sustenance of your sustaining grace and those who hurt may find the wholeness of your healing touch. May we lift to their lips the cup of hope, which holds the promise of new life in Christ.

We are persuaded, O God, that your goodness and mercy will abide with us our whole lives and that we shall dwell in your house forever. May this truth be a light shining in the darkness of bereavement for all those who grieve the loss of loved ones.

As we continue our journey of faith, may each of us look to the example of our forebears who lived that faith and may we follow their example and the example of Christ, the pioneer of our faith. Thus throughout life and unto death may we transverse the valley and mountain tops always joyous and radiant, overpowered by your wonders, refreshed by your

Spirit and confident in the Shepherd who leads and protects us, even Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us how to pray by saying,

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. 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: "A Light is Gleaming"**

#82 VU

Refrain:

**A light is gleaming, spreading its arms
throughout the night, living in the light.
Come share its gladness,
God's radiant love is burning bright,
living in the light.**

**When light comes pouring into the darkest place,
it hurts our eyes to see the glow.
sometimes a word of hope reminds us of our fears,
our memories and tears. *Refrain***

**When night is round us and every shadow grows,
a star is there to light our way.
It tells a story of Jesus who came near to say:
"God's light will every stay." *Refrain***

**And Jesus showed us a brighter path to walk.
He showed us things we hadn't seen.
Now we, like Jesus can help creation shine,
and this will be a sign: *Refrain***

**So let us live in the brightness God has giv'n,
and let us rise to see the dawn.
We trust that God is here asparkle and ablaze,
- warming all our days. *Refrain***

*****Commissioning / Benediction**

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light.

Thanks be to God!

Go then into the world to live as children of light.

We go together seeking the fruit of the light in all that is good and right and true.

May God bless you and keep you. May God's face shine upon you and be gracious to you. May God look upon you with kindness and give you peace. May God bless each one of you. May God bless us all.

Amen.

*****Extinguishing of the Christ Candle**

Christ has been with us sharing the light of life.

He says to us, "You are the light of the world. Let your light shine."

We go forth taking with us the light of Christ in our hearts, and we promise to let it shine in the world through our good works, to the glory of God. Amen.

Postlude: *Meditation on "Hanover"*

W. Croft

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Visitation Worship

Rev. Andrew Lee is offering pastoral visitation with proper physical distancing with a short worship service. He will visit your driveway or backyard and share stories, scriptures, hymns, and prayers. He will be available on Tuesdays in October 2021. If you are comfortable and interested, please contact the church office.

Choir practice will resume on Thursday at 7 p.m. All government protocols will be followed including social distancing. New members are welcome to join.

Volunteers for Worship - Pulpit Assistants, and Offering Counters for all dates in 2021. Call the office if you can help.

Book Club - The York Pines Book Club resumed their monthly Zoom meetings. You are welcome to join the club: please contact York Pines United Church at 905-727-8118.

Upcoming dates and books:

Oct. 27, 2021 – ***Braiding Sweetgrass*** by Robin W. Kimmerer

Facilitator: Ted Anderson

Nov. 24, 2021 – ***Indians on Vacation*** by Thomas King

Facilitator: Brenda Walker

Offering - Thank you for sending your offerings to the church. Your offerings support the ministry of the church and have been much appreciated.

Minute for Mission

Emmanuel didn't want to just feed the children—he wanted to make sure they could one day feed themselves.

Have you ever stood in front of the pantry at 6 p.m. looking for dinner inspiration? For some of us, figuring out what to make for dinner is stressful. The truth is that if our family mealtime dilemma is wondering what to make, we are fortunate. We're fortunate because we aren't asking, "Will we eat?"

1 in 9 people around the world go to bed hungry each night.

191,000,000 children under 5 years old are malnourished.

As a young child living in Kenya, Emmanuel Baya went to bed hungry more nights than he can count. Sadly, his parents died when he was a young child, and he worked hard just to survive. That's why his heart stirred when he saw children under the cashew trees near his property. He knew they were too busy looking for food to go to school.

"Most of the children who did not go to school were orphans. It saddened my heart so much that I decided to help," he explains.

In 2008, Emmanuel opened the Magarini Children Centre. Today, over 287 children receive warm, healthy meals and education there. But Emmanuel decided he didn't want to just feed the children—he wanted to make sure they could one day feed themselves.

So, he enrolled in the Asian Rural Institute (ARI), which your Mission & Service gifts support. There, he learned organic farming techniques. Long story short, he opened a demonstration farm next to the Children Centre. It's now a learning hub for seven surrounding communities.

"This is my definition of love," he says.

Isn't Emmanuel's story amazing? And isn't it amazing that you have a part in it? Please make a gift through Mission & Service this World Food Day.

Your gifts will help feed, educate, and advocate for the most vulnerable at home and around the world.

Your support makes a life-changing difference through extraordinary leaders like Emmanuel, whose lives define love every day.



Emmanuel Baya teaches organic farming techniques to children in his care.

Credit: Emmanuel Baya

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