

**York United Ministries
Sunday, August 22, 2021
at York Pines United Church
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

*Please stand, if able

We Gather as God's People

Prelude: Choral Prelude

F. Zachau

Words of Welcome

Life and Work of Our Church

Acknowledgement of the Land

By now we know fully that we gather in the territory of the Ojibway peoples of the Mississaugas of the Credit. We support and accept the principles of Truth and Reconciliation. We acknowledge Anishinabe stewardship to Mother Earth as we worship, listen, learn, share, and heal together, with mutual respect.

Lighting of the Christ Candle

"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life."

Call to Worship:

The Lord redeems the life of his servants.

Thanks be to God!

No one who takes refuge in him will be condemned.

Praise the Lord!

***Opening Hymn: "Creating God, Your Fingers Trace" VU 265**

- 1 Creating God, your fingers trace
the bold designs of farthest space;
let sun and moon and stars and light
and what lies hidden praise your might.**
- 2 Sustaining God, your hands uphold
earth's mysteries known or yet untold;
let waters fragile blend with air,
enabling life, proclaim your care.**
- 3 Redeeming God, your arms embrace
all now despised for creed or race;
let peace, descending like a dove,
make known on earth your healing love.**

**4 In dwelling God, your gospel claims
one family with a billion names;
let every life be touched by grace
until we praise you face to face.**

Opening Prayer

Living God, your Son Jesus Christ has the words of eternal life.
Grant that we may come to him in faith, follow him in this world, and abide with him
forever in the world to come; for he dwells with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,
forever and ever. Amen.

Call to Confession

Because God is near to the brokenhearted, let us consider how we have lived,
confessing our sins and trusting in God's mercy to save.

Prayer of Confession

God of our redemption, we confess that we have not been sincere friends and
faithful disciples. We have not served you with sincere hearts and easily forgotten
the grace of your salvation. We have forsaken you, the living God, and have chosen
to follow the lifeless idols of worldly power and wealth. We have not found the right
words and deeds to deliver your Word to our descendants. We also confess our sins
towards nature. Due to human greed and the lack of wisdom and knowledge, we
now witness the drastic suffering of Creation.

Forgive us our sin, O God, and the sins of the world. Lead us to be the living
exemplar of Your Word to our family and our society. Lead us to heartfelt
repentance so that we may honour you with our lips and serve you with our lives;
through our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news. Christ himself is the Word that offers eternal life to all who
receive him. This proves his love for us. Christ is with you when you confess your
sins and pursue heavenly glory on the earth. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are
consoled and encouraged.

Thanks be to God.

Response: "Lord, Prepare Me to Be a Sanctuary" MV 18

**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: God Himself is With Us

R.J. Hughes

We Listen for the Word of God

Prayer for Illumination

Lord Jesus Christ, as we hear the reading of Holy Scripture,
speak to us your words of spirit and life.

Amen.

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 6:10-20

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power.

¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹² For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

¹³ Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. ¹⁴ Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. ¹⁵ As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. ¹⁸ Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. ¹⁹ Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make

known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

One: This is the witness of Jesus Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

Response: "Spirit of Life" VU 381

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: "Spiritual Fight" Rev. Andrew K. Lee

Music for Silent Reflection: Liebster Jesu G. Walther

We Respond to God's Word

The Offering of our Gifts and Ourselves

Invitation:

Let all who revere the Lord, who desire to serve the Lord in sincerity and in faithfulness, bring their gifts with joyful hearts.

***Doxology: In Gratitude and Humble Trust VU 544**

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):**

Almighty God,

we dedicate ourselves to serve you,

for you alone are our God.

Accept, O God, the centre of our heart we offer,

and the offering of our lives, a fragrant offering;
through Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit. 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: "Fight the Good Fight" VU 674

- 1 Fight the good fight with all your might;
Christ is your strength and Christ your right;
lay hold on life, and it shall be
your joy and crown eternally.
- 2 Run the straight race through God's good grace;
lift up your eyes, and seek Christ's face.
Life with its path before us lies;
Christ is the way, and Christ the prize.
- 3 Cast care aside, lean on your guide;
God's boundless mercy will provide;
trust, and the trusting soul shall prove
Christ is its life, and Christ its love.
- 4 Faint not, nor fear, God's arms are near;
God changes not and you are dear.
Only believe, and Christ shall be
your all in all eternally.

Blessing and Sending Forth

Postlude:

O My Soul

G. Bohm



York United Ministries Announcements

Worship Service

Our churches are now open for the Sunday worship services. We (YUM) gathered for the worship services on Sunday at 10 a.m. York Pines UC hosted on-site worship service today using public health guidelines. For those who cannot come to church, the sermon recording is provided at:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCL772mvVOna2VqaLmkQsNw?view>

[as=subscriber](#). You may subscribe to the channel and turn on notifications in order to be informed automatically, or check out the church webpages or Facebook pages. You may click “LIKE” button or leave your comments on the online services to encourage each other.

Next Worship Service

The next Sunday worship service will take place at New Hope UC on August 29th. The guest speaker is Dr.Rev. Bill Fritz.

YAYA - YTB Q-Box Series

Q-Box Series are being updated. YAYA people, please check the YUM YouTube channel.

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 from October 5th. 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.

Frozen Meal Fundraiser

The Frozen Meal Menu for September and a covering letter have been distributed. Please note that this will be your last opportunity to stock up for the winter months.

Quilt Group

The Quilt group from New Hope has resumed the gathering in-person on Wednesday. If you want to join, please contact the New Hope office (905-738-6446).

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; yorkpinesuc@gmail.com; newhopeunited@bellnet.ca.

YUM Calendar (August-September)

August 25 Quilt Group (New Hope UC)
August 22 King City UC council meeting
September 5 In-person worship at King City UC

Navy Bike Ride 2021

Rev. Lee is still inviting YUM congregation members, adherents, and their friends to join and support his unit, HMCS YORK by bike riding. Participation is easy: Create your account of *Race Roaster* and just log your date and kms cycled to the website. Click this link and register "<http://raceroster.com/events/2021/36550/navy-bike-ride-2021/register?team=306513>" and choose "I am riding for others" and fill out your home address for your possible order of cycling jersey if needed. By clicking the link above, you will automatically be part of the HMCS YORK team with Rev. Lee. He is shown as Lt(N) KUN YOUNG LEE in the list along with your name. The event starts June 12 and runs through to August 29. Support HMCS YORK. The donation is optional. If you don't want to donate, click the "clear donation" button on the right upper side of the donation page. 100% of your donation will go to Royal Canadian Navy HMCS YORK.

Worship Schedule (*Italic - working*)

	August 22	August 29
Preacher	Rev. Andrew Lee	Dr. Rev. Bill Fritz
Location	York Pines	New Hope
Announcements	Christine Gunter	<i>Thom Stenson</i>
Scripture Reading	Suzanne Svadjian	<i>Chloe Lee</i>
Choir	Brenda Walker, Christine Gunter, Deb Carpenter	<i>Faith Archer</i>
Music Director	Ted Anderson	Sunny Rakovac
Church	Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost	Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost
Liturgical Color	Red	Red

Minute for Mission by Mission & Service

Practising conservation agriculture produces thriving crops

It's not easy being a trailblazer no matter where you live. Barari was the first farmer in her small Ethiopian village to practise conservation agriculture, a method of reducing tilling and using intercropping and mulching to improve the success of crops.

Barari remembers the way the other farmers in her village laughed at her when she began to farm differently. "It is a waste of time," they said. "It will never work." Fast forward three seasons: Barari's crops are overflowing. She beams with pride as she talks glowingly about her thriving crops, inviting visitors to taste her fava beans. Barari's method of farming is so successful that she is able to feed her growing family of six. In fact, she has so much produce that she sells the extra to buy school supplies for her children.

Barari learned these life-saving farming skills through a Canadian Foodgrains Bank program called Scaling-Up Conservation Agriculture in East Africa.

The program is important because most of the African continent's soil is poor quality compared to other parts of the world. In many areas the soil is so eroded that it is no longer productive. Conservation agriculture is key to improving the soil, which in turn saves lives.



The United Church works in partnership with agencies that coordinate life-changing agricultural projects across the globe. Your generosity helps farmers feed their families and community.

If Mission & Service giving is already a regular part of your life, thank you so much! If you have not given, please help save and transform lives, inspire meaning and purpose, and build a better world through Mission & Service.

Barari was the first farmer in her village to practise conservation agriculture.
Credit: Emma Taylor Published On: July 26, 2021