

KING CITY UNITED CHURCH

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

November 14, 2021
Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
(* Please rise as you are able)**
(Words in **Bold** said by all)

... WITH OPEN DOORS ...

Prelude: **"Moonlight Sonata"** **L Beethoven**

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 (from *Celebrate God's Presence*, 10F001, pg. 22)

God's Spirit calls to our spirits,

inviting us to worship.

God's Spirit calls to our spirits,

inviting us by love.

God's Spirit calls to our spirits,

calling us by name,

calling us to grow in faith,

calling us to be made new.

Come and let us worship God.

*****Hymn: "O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts" #472 VU**

**O Jesus, joy of loving hearts,
the fount of life, the light of all
from every bliss that earth imparts
we turn, unfilled, to hear your call.**

**Your truth unchanged has ever stood;
you plead with all to call on you,
to those who seek you, you are good,
to those who find you, life is new.**

**We taste your everliving bread,
and long to feast upon you still;
we drink of you, the fountainhead,
our thirsting souls from you we fill.**

**O Jesus, ever with us stay;
make all our moments calm and bright;
chase the bleak night of sin away;
shed o'er the world your holy light.**

Opening Prayer

We come, O God, turning from the distractions of the world to focus our attention upon you. We come from the tensions of the world seeking relief and renewal. We come from the burdens of the world asking that you lift them from us if only for a moment. Yet the heaviest burdens we bear are self-inflicted. We bear the burdens of our sins, of those things we did but shouldn't have, of those things we neglected but should have done. Our sin weighs us down. Our hands are at our side when they should be reaching out to others. Our knees are shaky when we should be standing firm. Through Christ's intercession lift the burden from us, and help us to walk in freedom and in strength. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ the pioneer of our faith. Amen.

Words of Grace (based on Hebrews 12: 2 and 1 John 2: 1,2)

We look to Jesus, pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross. So, "if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the God, Jesus Christ the righteous releasing us from our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world."

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: "Prayers" E Wiebe

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

Isaiah 5: 1-7 (page 634, OT)

The first Scripture Lesson is from the Hebrew Scriptures, the fifth chapter of Isaiah, verses 1 to 7. It comes from the early ministry of Isaiah during which the people were caught up in a spiritual and political crisis: their affluence and indifference have led to injustice, corrupt leadership and the worship of foreign gods. The people have stopped trusting in

God. The reading is in the form of a compelling ballad about a vineyard. Listen for the word of God.

Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes.

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes?

And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

Hebrews 11: 29 – 12: 2 (pages 226, NT)

The second Scripture Lesson is from the letter to the Hebrews reading verses from Chapter 11 and the beginning of Chapter 12.

Hebrews is a letter intent on encouraging a church that had grown stagnant. In chapter 11, the author provides a kind of historical timeline of some of the great people of the Bible and tells how their faith sustained them, guided them and directed their lives. Today's reading is the last part of that list, which he ends with the question, "Need I go on?" These people persevered in faith against great odds simply because they knew God was with them. They didn't even know the Messiah! How much more then should we, who have met Christ, "hang in there" and not lose hope. The culmination of the list is Jesus and the admonition to keep focused on him. Jesus didn't give up. He understood that even when things were unbearable, God would sustain him. Listen for the word of God.

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the

walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets--who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented--of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

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: "For All the Saints"**

#705 VU, vss. 1,2,5,6

**For all the saints, who from their labours rest,
all who by faith before the world confessed,
your name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Hallelujah, hallelujah!**

**You were their rock, their fortress, and their might:
you were their captain in the well-fought fight;
you, in the darkness drear, their one true light.
Hallelujah, hallelujah!**

**But lo! there breaks a yet more glorious day
the saints triumphant rise in bright array:
as God to glory calls them all away.
Hallelujah, hallelujah!**

**From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:
Hallelujah, hallelujah!**

Sermon "What Are You Doing for the Rest of Your Life?"

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

Exciting and daring God, what an adventure you call us to: turning the world upside down, bringing your justice to fruition, living better lives, freeing the world from what holds it captive. You call us to partnership

with Jesus Christ. You equip us with your own Spirit of powerful love. You accompany us, no, you lead us forward never looking back. We want adventure. We want meaning and purpose in our lives. We want to live by a set of values that are eternal and lasting and trustworthy. Make us daring. Encourage us. Embolden us to undertake so great a calling.

We know, O God, that we not special in talent or ability or capacity. We are ordinary. Yet we do have talents, abilities, and capacities, more than we comprehend or appreciate. Use us each one to further your work by employing what we have and are to your purposes. And surprise us by taking us down roads towards goals and accomplishments that we never imagined possible for us.

The world is waiting for us, compassionate God. The world with its overwhelming needs, with its insatiable appetites, with its gaping emptiness. The challenge is daunting. Yet we are thankful that we are not alone. You are with us always. What we do is through you and we thank you for the opportunities you present and the possibilities you provide.

God of infinite concern, we pray for those whose spirits are crushed by the weight of their afflictions. Some cry that there can be no God so great is their anguish. Draw near to them in their time of trial and deliver them from the abyss of despair. Help us to be for them a source of support and encouragement, so that they may once more trust your promises. Let us hear in their cries our own call to be by their side.

God of justice, we pray for those who are victims of injustice. Of course, we think of those in far off lands out of our sight and mostly out of our influence. But we think particularly of those in our own country, in our own sphere of experience, who are within our sight but too often also out of our perception. Open our eyes to see their circumstances, our minds to comprehend the difficulties and our wills to effect change. Reach out our hands to help individuals and reach out our minds to help systems which hurt people to be changed.

For ourselves we pray as well, that through caring for the world and its injured we are also caring for ourselves entering into the joy of Christ and becoming people who are truly happy, fulfilled and satisfied.

This we pray in the name of Jesus the Christ, through whose humanity we learned what it means to be human and through whose divine spirit that has become a possibility. Amen.

Now hear us as we pray the prayer he taught us to pray together,

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: *"O Day of God, Draw Nigh"***

#688 VU

**O day of God, draw nigh
in beauty and in power,
come with your timeless judgement now
to match our present hour.**

**Bring to our troubled minds,
uncertain and afraid,
the quiet of a steadfast faith,
calm of a call obeyed.**

**Bring justice to our land,
that all may dwell secure,
and finely build for days to come
foundations that endure.**

**Bring to our world of strife
your sovereign word of peace,
that war may haunt the earth no more
and desolation cease.**

**O day of God, draw nigh
as at creation's birth;
let there be light again, and set
your judgements in the earth.**

*****Commissioning / Benediction**

Go forth into the rest of your life making it count. Live with faith, fully experiencing the love of God and expressing that love to others.

May the grace of God attend you,
The love of God surround you,
The Holy Spirit keep you.

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: "Ballade Pour Adeline"

P Senneville

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastoral Visitation - Rev. Andrew Lee is offering pastoral visitation in the winter season. He will bring stories, scriptures, hymns, and prayers. If you are comfortable and interested, please contact your church office or Rev. Lee.

Choir practice has resumed on Thursdays 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.

Offering - Thank you for sending your offerings to the church. 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

Ukulele Gathering for Christmas Carols - YUM will offer 3 Ukulele lessons for Christmas Carols in November - December. The gatherings will be both virtual and actual formats. Contact Rev. Lee (416-999-5615 or leeky3@mcmaster.ca) for free registration by Nov.14.

Time - 3 times, TBN

Location - King City United Church Chapel Room

Registration - Free

The format of the lesson will be both online and onsite. A few free quality ukuleles are available and will be distributed on a first come first served basis.

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.

Nov. 24, 2021 – Indians on Vacation by Thomas King
Facilitator: Brenda Walker

On-line Auction

Our on-line auction will launch on November 24th (6:00 pm) and close on December 6th (8:30 pm). Stay tuned for further details.

Frozen Meals

New Hope UC has a selection of frozen dishes still available for sale. If interested, speak to either Linda Davis or Michelle Hunt for details.

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).

Minute for Mission

“Without the support that I regularly get here, I don’t know where I’d be.”

According to the Canadian Mental Health Association, one in five Canadians experience mental health problems. Your Mission & Service gifts help.

In his own words, Chance shares how the mental health support he received through the Bissell Centre—an organization supported through your Mission & Service gifts—helped him change his life.

“My name is Chance. I’m 25 years old and live at Hope Terrace, a permanent supportive home that is run by the Bissell Centre. I have Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder—a type of brain injury with no cure—so I need help with things like coping with my emotions, keeping appointments, and cooking.

“Before I moved into the Hope Terrace residence, life was frustrating and stressful. I used to live at my grandmother’s house, along with my mom and four other family members. When everyone was home it was chaos, which made it even harder to manage my emotions—even happy emotions were too much at times.

“Mom and I knew I needed help, but we didn’t have money and we didn’t know where to start. So, a few years ago, I tagged along with my friend to

Bissell Centre's Easter meal. He was getting help from Bissell and seemed to like it enough. Maybe I could get help too?

"It was at that very meal that I first heard about Bissell's mental health resources and the Hope Terrace house.

"When I was invited to move into Hope Terrace a few months later, Mom and I both agreed it would be a good decision. I finally felt some hope. Maybe life doesn't have to be so hard all the time? Maybe I could have a better life?

"The staff here help me with the things that overwhelm me most—like budgeting, cooking, and dealing with my emotions. They are awesome! They're really good, kind people—they're my family.

"Without the support that I regularly get here, I don't know where I'd be."



Thank you for your generosity through Mission & Service.

Chance at home in Hope Terrace

Credit: Bissell Centre

King City United Church

Rev. Andrew Lee, Minister

Cell: 416-999-5615

Rev. Bruce Roffey, Minister

kcucmin@bellnet.ca

Cell: 647-500-9138

Kristen Doyle, Office Administrator

kcuc@bellnet.ca 905-833-5181

Church Office Hours: Tues., Wed. and Thurs. 1 – 5:30 pm

Rosemary (De Silva) Karunaratne, Organist & Choir Director

Lew McLeod, Custodian

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