

KING CITY UNITED CHURCH

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

October 3, 2021

Worldwide Communion Sunday
(* Please rise as you are able)**
(Words in **Bold** said by all)

... WITH OPEN DOORS ...

Prelude: "Children of the Heavenly Father"

E. Broughton

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 (based on 2 Timothy 1)

God welcomes us to worship on this new day.

It is a day of new hopes and fresh opportunities!

Let us leave behind our fears and doubts and offer our prayers to God.

**God calls us each by name and welcomes us as Christ
welcomes the children.**

*****Hymn: "In Christ There Is No East or West"**

#606 VU

**1 In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north,
but one great family of love
throughout the whole wide earth.**

**2 In him shall true hearts everywhere
their high communion find;
his service is the golden cord
close binding humankind.**

**3 Join hands, then, people of the faith,
whate'er your race may be;
all children of the living God
are surely kin to me.**

**4 In Christ now meet both east and west,
in him meet south and north;
all Christ-like souls are one in him
throughout the whole wide earth.**

Opening Prayer

How important you are to us, our God. The whole world is your family; everyone in it from the greatest to the least is your child, everyone equal in your sight. You have no favourites, though you are partial to the poor and vulnerable. How important these people here today are to us, and our other sisters and brothers of this congregation of the faithful. We are a family in faith. How important is our extended family, the worldwide church. Together we witness to you and to your love expressed in Jesus Christ our Lord, for whom we get our name Christian, and to whom we pledge our allegiance.

Today we are aware that across the globe in more churches and denominations than we can count, congregations gather at our Lord's table. Though we understand it differently and phrase our theology with different words and concepts we come to the same table, eat of the same body, drink of the same blood. Forgive us when we forget that and think that some are left out because of how they think. Forgive us for not working hard enough at unity with each other.

Forgive us for letting differences get in the way of mission and ministry. Forgive us for the suffering some experience because we are too busy with trivial things to help them. Forgive us when we are more a stumbling block to others driving them away from the Christian faith by our words and our deeds which betray our faith. Forgive us in the name of Jesus, whose body we are and who taught us 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.

Words of Grace (based on Psalm 124)

The people of old always knew whom they could trust. If God had not been on our side, the Psalmist wrote, we would have been destroyed, but our help is in the name of our God who made heaven and earth. Be assured that God is on your side. You will not be overwhelmed, swept away, swallowed up by the raging waters of your sins. Like a bird released from the snare you are free of your sins. Thanks be to God.

Our sins are forgiven! God has freed us! 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

"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:

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

Thanks be to God.

Sermon "This Is a Serious Matter!"

Rev. Bruce Roffey

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

*****Offertory Hymn:**

"All Who Hunger"

#460 VU

- 1 All who hunger, gather gladly, holy manna is our bread.
Come from wilderness and wandering. Here, in truth, we
will be fed.
You that yearn for days of fullness, all around us is our food.
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is
good.**

- 2 All who hunger, never strangers; seeker, be a welcome
guest.
Come from restlessness and roaming. Here, in joy, we keep
the feast.
We that once were lost and scattered in communion's love
have stood.
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is
good.**

3 All who hunger, sing together,, Jesus Christ is living bread. Come from loneliness and longing. Here, in peace, we have been led.

Blest are those who from this table live their lives in gratitude.

Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

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

Invitation to the Table

People of faith, welcome now to this table of blessing!

We seek to be fed and nurtured!

People of faith, bring your doubts and fears and leave them here at this table!

Christ meets us here and accepts each one of us just as we are!

With all Christians everywhere we are invited to satisfy our hunger and deepen our faith.

Thanks be to God!

Communion Prayers

God the Creator, from the beginning you created us for you and for each other making us one family of earth with you as our parent and we as your children. You gave us each other joining us in circles of nurture, couples and families, friends and teams, congregations and communities, for common good and for individual fulfillment. We give you thanks.

Christ the Redeemer, through you God has reconciled us to Godself and to each other when we have broken the bonds between us. You have searched for us when we have wandered away, taught us understanding when we were confused, healed us when we were

wounded and forgiven us when we sinned and wounded others. You have reconciled us with God and healed our broken community. We give you thanks.

Holy Spirit the Sustainer, through you we have felt God's parental presence and have learned of Jesus and experienced the Christ in our lives. Through you our spirits have been united with each other's and with Christians all over the world throughout history, in every time and every place. We give you thanks.

This day we remember the night before Jesus' trial when he gathered his friends and united with them at table in the communion of his body and blood. He took bread made from the scattered grains of creation, thanked you and gave it to his friends saying, "Take, eat, this is my body broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup crushed from the fruit of the earth and gave it to them saying, "Drink. This is my blood, the blood of God's promise to you. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Holy Spirit, touch us and these gifts of bread and wine that they may be for us the body and blood of Christ and as we eat and drink make us one with Christ and one with each other. May our lives from here on be effective signs of God's encompassing love. This prayer we offer to you, creative and unifying God, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, and in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Breaking the Bread and Filling the Cup

Sharing of the Bread and Wine

Pastoral Prayers of the People

Father, Son and Holy Spirit, Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, one God in unity and community, we thank you for this meal and for the nourishment it provides for our hungry and thirsty souls. It renews us for today and for tomorrow. It makes us whole filling the emptiness and mending the brokenness. It unites us with you and with each other. Send us, no, lead us forth from this place to fulfil your

will for us. Open our eyes to see as you see, to see people as they are full of goodness and beauty, to see their pain and lack of wholeness when they have been hurt. Move our legs and feet to go to them, to meet Christ who is already there and to meet their need that cries out. Open our arms to envelop the needy in love that is ours from you to share, and use what we offer to bring solace.

Lead us to more, though. Lead us to make changes in our society that will prevent the weak, the marginalized and disenfranchised from being further and will prevent the creation of victims, changes that will bring justice, equality and abundance for all.

We pray on this worldwide communion Sunday for your church that we of all denominations might join together in a cause greater than we can comprehend. Open our eyes to see beyond differences to our mutual faith in Christ, and our mutual commitment to his ministry. Urge us to put away old animosities in favour of new alliances, and use us all as witnesses in the world to you and the relationship you desire to have with your people. Thus may we be good news and not bad, and may we be steps up for others and not stumbling blocks.

All this we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*****Hymn: *"Sent Forth by God's Blessing"* #481 VU**

- 1 Sent forth by God's blessing,
our true faith confessing,
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.
The supper is ended, O now be extended
the fruits of this service in all who believe.
The seed of Christ's teaching, receptive souls reaching,
shall blossom in action for God and for all.

God's grace did invite us,
God's love shall unite us
to work for your kingdom and answer its call.**
- 2 With praise and thanksgiving
to God ever living,
the tasks of our everyday life we will face.**

**Our faith ever sharing,
in love ever caring,
embracing God's children of each tribe and race.
With your feast you feed us,
with your light now lead us;
unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living
with praise and thanksgiving
give honour to Christ and the name that we bear.**

*****Commissioning / Benediction**

God, who saved us, called us with a holy calling.

God, who saved us, has equipped us for our holy calling.

Go then into the world accompanied by each other, joining Christians all over the world, to fulfill your holy calling.

We know whom we believe. We go confidently, trusting that God in Christ will take care of us.

May the Lord be with your Spirit. Grace to you.

May the Lord be with your Spirit. Grace to you.

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: "Blessed Assurance"

J. Knapp

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are pleased to **welcome back** Rev. Bruce Roffey to the pulpit who 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. Next week we welcome Rev. Andrew Lee back from vacation.

Last Thursday we celebrated the life of Fred Beaton. Our **thoughts and prayers** are with Betty, David and Nancy and their families.

Our thoughts and prayers are also with Alma Feindell for the loss of her brother, Archie.

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 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.

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 to kcuc@bellnet.ca

The next York Pines **Book Club** will discuss "Braiding Sweetgrass" by Robin Wall Kimmer on October 27th. 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.

King City United Church

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Rosemary (De Silva) Karunaratne, Organist & Choir Director

Lew McLeod, Custodian

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