

**YORK UNITED MINISTRIES  
SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 19, 2021  
AT NEW HOPE UNITED CHURCH  
CREATION TIME 2<sup>1</sup>**

**WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

**Prelude: "I Can Feel You Near Me God" (P. Mayberry)**

**Solo: Faith Archer**

**Words of Welcome – Thom Stenson**

**Life and work of our Church - Thom Stenson**

**Lighting the Christ Candle – Mariann Gordon**

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness." This candle reminds us of the presence of Jesus Christ among us.

**Call to Worship – Mariann Gordon**

Our merciful God, maker of us all,  
pleads the cause of the poor and afflicted.  
Open our hearts to demonstrate God's grace  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**\*Opening Hymn: "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" (#670 VU)**

**Precious Lord, take my hand,  
lead me on, let me stand,  
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;  
through the storm, through the night,  
lead me on to the light:  
take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.**

**When my way grows drear,  
precious Lord, linger near,  
when my life is almost gone,  
hear my cry, hear my call,  
hold my hand lest I fall:  
take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.**

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<sup>1</sup> **Bold** print indicates a congregational response. \*please stand if able.

**When the darkness appears,  
and the night draws near,  
and the day is past and gone,  
at the river I stand,  
guide my feet, hold my hand:  
take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.**

**Opening Prayer – Mariann Gordon**

God of the first and the last, give us strength of mind, that we might walk the path of obedience and discipleship without wasting our time thinking about who is more important. Instead, guide our thoughts and our emotions that we may be like children, totally dependent on you, welcoming all with hospitality and love. In the name of Jesus we pray.

**Amen.**

**Call to Confession – Mariann Gordon**

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. We have sinned before God. Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Prayer of Confession – Mariann Gordon**

God of wisdom, forgive our foolishness. We desire what we do not need and corrupt our relationships with envy. You urge us to gentleness, but we stir up conflict. Give us your grace, that we may harvest righteousness and peace, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Teacher, we pray. Amen.

**Words of Assurance – Mariann Gordon**

Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain, but the people who fear the Lord are to be praised. Hear the good news! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and we can live in peace.

**Thanks be to God.**

**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: "Sunshine On My Shoulders " (J. Denver)  
(Denis Belton)**

**WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD**

**Prayer for Illumination - Dahlia Buchanan**

Your Word is our wisdom; it gives us insight, strength, and courage. Open our hearts and our minds on this day, that we might receive what you want to give. Speak, Lord! Your people listen! **Amen.**

**Scripture Reading – Dahlia Buchanan**

**Romans 10:16-17**

<sup>16</sup> But not all have obeyed the good news; for Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our message?" <sup>17</sup> So faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.

**James 2:14-17,22 – Dahlia Buchanan**

<sup>14</sup> What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? <sup>15</sup> If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, <sup>16</sup> and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs,

what is the good of that? <sup>17</sup> So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.  
<sup>22</sup> You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was brought to completion by the works.

This is the Witness of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**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 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: "Lived Faith - Spencer Stone" Rev. Andrew K. Lee(V-Clip)**

**Music for Silent Reflection:**

### **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

**The Offering of our Gifts and Ourselves – Mariann Gordon**

**Invitation:** We have been made capable of being good stewards of what God has given us. Let us, with gratitude in our hearts, give from what has been given to us, by grace.

**\*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*):**

**Our great Gardener, we are like trees planted by streams of water that yield their fruit in season and prosper in you. We are grateful for all that you have provided, and we dedicate our first fruits to you and to the work of your church, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

**The Prayers of the People – Mariann Gordon**

God of understanding, through the Word read and proclaimed, and through your Word incarnate, Jesus Christ, you give us the direction we need and show us that there is nowhere else to go but to you with our joys and our concerns. We pray for our world that too often follows the advice of wickedness that leads to war, to violence, to conflict between ethnicities, to fear. We pray for the women in this world who, as payment for their devotion and love as capable wives, daughters, sisters, girlfriends, mothers, receive rejection, abuse, heartbreak, and hate. We pray for relationships that are broken by conflicts and dispute, by murder and deceit, and that cannot find a way back to restoration and healing. We pray for our children of York United Ministries and beyond, who have been called first in God's heart and kingdom. Bless our next generation to succeed our faith tradition. We believe in you, God of justice and mercy, and we ask, trusting in your power, to heal the wounded hearts, to restore the brokenness of the world, and to lead us to everlasting peace.

**Amen.**

**The Lord's Prayer: (#959 VU)**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
Your kingdom come, your will be done  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive  
those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil  
for the kingdom, the power and the glory  
are yours now and forever.**

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

**\*Closing Hymn: "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace" (#684 VU)**

**Make me a channel of your peace:  
where there is hatred, let me bring your love;  
where there is injury, your healing power,  
and where there's doubt, true faith in you:**

**Make me a channel of your peace:  
where there's despair in life, let me bring hope;  
where there is darkness, only light;**

**and where there's sadness, ever joy.**

**O Spirit, grant that I may never seek  
so much to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood as to understand,  
to be loved as to love with all my soul.**

**Make me a channel of your peace.**

**It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
in giving to all that we receive,  
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.**

### **Blessing and Sending Forth - Rev. Lee (Video-clip)**

Brothers, sisters, and friends. We have the word of God in our heart. Do not be ignorant to the profound voice from your heart. God invites you to work together to serve the bigger and deeper purpose although we are still in ambiguity. Therefore, have courage, bear God's Words, and boldly serve God throughout our life. God appoints you as an agent and delegation towards your family and your world. May the grace of Jesus Christ, the Providence of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you and your family, now and forever. Amen.

### **Postlude**



## **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.

### **Next Worship Service**

Next week's YUM worship service will take place at King City United Church on September 26<sup>th</sup>. Please RSVP your plans to attend by leaving a message on the church phone (905-833-5181) or email at [kcuc@bellnet.ca](mailto:kcuc@bellnet.ca).

## **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 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.

## **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).

## **Rev. Lee's vacation**

Rev. Lee will be on vacation from September 3rd to October 2<sup>nd</sup>. He will be taking his BMOQ in Quebec and is going to preach for the worship service on Oct. 3.

## **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 Ongario (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 York Pines Book Club will resume with monthly meetings on Zoom beginning on Wednesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> to discuss "Where the Crawdads Sing" by Delia Owens. 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. Next month we will discuss "Braiding Sweetgrass" by Robin Wall Kimmerer on October 27<sup>th</sup>.

## Worship Schedule (*Italic - working*)

|                     | <b>September 26</b>     | <b>October 3</b>                      | <b>October 10</b>               | <b>September 17</b>                                |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Preacher            | <b>Rick Mckinley</b>    | <b>Rev. Lee<br/>Rev. Roffey</b>       | <b>Rev. Lee<br/>Rev. Roffey</b> | <b>Rev. Lee<br/>Rev. Roffey</b>                    |
| Location            | King City               |                                       |                                 |  |
| Announcements       | <i>Sheryl Sinka</i>     |                                       |                                 |  |
| Scripture Reading   | <i>Maria Ongaro</i>     |                                       |                                 |  |
| Choir               | <i>John Kell</i>        |                                       |                                 |  |
| Music Director      | Rosemary<br>Karunaratne |                                       |                                 |  |
| Church              | <b>Creation Time 3</b>  | <b>Creation Time 4</b>                | <b>Creation Time 5</b>          | <b>Twenty-First<br/>Sunday after<br/>Pentecost</b> |
| UCC/YUM<br>Calendar |                         | <b>World<br/>Communion<br/>Sunday</b> | <b>Thanksgiving<br/>Sunday</b>  | <b>World Food<br/>Sunday</b>                       |
| Liturgical Color    | <b>Green</b>            | <b>Green</b>                          | <b>Green</b>                    | <b>Red</b>   |

### Minute for Mission

**“The church is alive and vibrant, and it’s worth investing in.”**

There’s a saying: “You can’t understand another person’s experience until you’ve walked a mile in their shoes.” Today, there are 2,900 active and aspiring ministry personnel in The United Church of Canada, and you have travelled alongside them in their journey. Your gifts through Mission & Service support ministry students every step of the way by helping with education costs and providing financial support.

The Rev. Jason Meyers, a new ordinand, didn’t grow up in the church. “It was through a series of events that happened in my life, through brokenness and suffering and having the person of Jesus influence how my life was unfolding, that ministry became an option,” he explains.



Credit: The United Church of Canada

After his son was born, Jason couldn't ignore the call to ministry he had felt for some time. "After Isaiah was baptized, our minister asked me to write Isaiah a letter that he would read when Isaiah is confirmed as a teenager. I started to write things like 'Isaiah, I want you to follow your dreams and follow what God is calling you to do in your life.' I realized that I wasn't doing that in my own life." The day after writing the letter to his son, Jason walked to a theological college to learn more about ministry education.

A few years later, Jason was heading off on another walk, this time to his ordination ceremony. The journey started at Emmanuel College in Toronto and ended in Barrie, Ontario, a two-week, 225-kilometre-long spiritual pilgrimage. As he walked, Jason reflected on his journey with God and prepared himself spiritually for ordination and ministry.

That was in 2019. Since then, what has surprised Jason most about ministry is his expanding capacity to love. "I thought that when my kids were born, that was kind of the size my heart would be, but I've come to love the church, the people, and the vocation of ministry more deeply than I ever imagined. I'm so thankful that Jesus reached into my life and invited me on this journey with him," he says.

And what would Jason say to those whose generosity has supported his journey to ordination through Mission & Service? "I'd say it's worth it. The church is alive and vibrant, and it's worth investing in. The leaders are working hard and are bringing the best of themselves into the ministry, into the church, and into the world."

Please give a gift through Mission & Service. Through your gifts, you show you care about quality ministry leadership. Thanks to your generosity, love is there, training and supporting leaders every step of the way.