

Jordan Station United Church est. 1859

May 17, 2020 – 6th Sunday of Easter
Liturgical Colour – White

**Speaking Our Truth: Worship for International Day Against
Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia**

Theme: Don't Be Afraid; God's Love is Strong!

Order of Service – See Below for the Full Service

Gathering for Worship

Prelude: Prayer for Unity (composed by Kevin Keil)

Welcome & Land Acknowledgement

Lighting of the Christ Candle

"As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship - Being intentional about entering into Worship

Opening Music: I am the Light of the World (Voices United #87, verses 2 & 4)

Children's Time:

"God's Love" – Sarah Foster experiments with science!

The Word of God:

Prayer of Illumination

1st Lesson: 1 Peter 3:13-22

Special Music: Here I Am to Worship

Gospel: John 14:15-21

Sermon: "Don't fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, God is love!"

Sermon Hymn: Called by Earth and Sky (More Voices #135)

Our Response to God's Word:

Announcements

Offering

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Closing our Worship & Going Forth in God's Name

Closing Song: O Beautiful Gaia (More Voices #41)

Benediction and Commissioning

Postlude: A Choral Irish Blessing (written by Nicholas Palmer)

Jordan Station United Church

Sunday, May 17, 2020

6th Sunday of Easter

Full Worship Service

Speaking Our Truth: Worship for International Day Against
Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia

Gathering for Worship

Prelude: Prayer for Unity (composed by Kevin Keil)

Welcome & Land Acknowledgement

We begin our Worship by acknowledging and honouring the land upon which we gather today as the historic and traditional territory of First Nations peoples. In particular, we recognize and thank the Anishnabe, Ojibwe/Chippewa, Haudenosaunee, and the Neutral Nation (Attawandaron) for their stewardship of these lands over millennia.

Lighting of the Christ Candle – Join us by lighting your own candle at home

There was once someone who said such amazing things and did such wonderful things that people just had to ask him who he was. One time when they asked him who he was, he said . . . "As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

Opening Prayer

We know, God, that we who have gathered here are a part of the family. But we also know that the family is much bigger still. There are people we don't understand, there are people we disagree with, there are people we don't like, there are people who don't like us. Challenge us, God, to expand our vision of family, until we see all of creation as one big family. Amen.

Call to Worship – Being Intentional about entering into Worship

One: Do not let your hearts be troubled...

All: Easy for you to say, you are not going through what we are going through.

One: It is true, I don't know what you are going through, but neither do you know my pain.

All: There are no easy answers, but perhaps in our worship together, we can work toward understanding,

One: and in the process we can bear each other's burdens. Amen

Opening Music: I am the Light of the World (Voices United #87, verses 2 & 4)

Chorus

'I am the light of the world!
You people come and follow me!
If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery
of what you were meant to do and be.

Verse 2

To find the lost and lonely one,
to heal the broken soul with love,
to feed the hungry children with warmth
and good food,
to feel the earth below, the sky above!

Chorus

'I am the light of the world!
You people come and follow me!'

If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery
of what you were meant to do and be.

Verse 4

To bring hope to every task you do,
to dance at a baby's new birth,
to make music in an old person's heart,
and sing to the colours of the earth!

Chorus

'I am the light of the world!
You people come and follow me!'
If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery
of what you were meant to do and be.

Children's Time:

"God's Love" – Sarah Foster experiments with science!

The Word of God:

Prayer of Illumination

Let us pray... Lord Jesus Christ, stay with us, we pray, in every part of our journey, no matter how full of doubt or fear we may be today. Through your scriptures, we pray that you will open our eyes. Help us see you as our risen Lord in all your beauty, and in all your loving power. Amen.

1st Lesson: 1 Peter 3:13-22

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you-- not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Special Music: Here I Am to Worship (CCLI song #3266032, CCLI license #830169)

Verse 1

Light of the world
You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes let me see
Beauty that made
This heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You

Chorus

So here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
And You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy

Altogether wonderful to me

Verse 2

King of all days
Oh so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above
Humbly You came
To the earth You created
All for love's sake became poor

Chorus

So here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
And You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy

Bridge

And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross
And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross

Gospel: John 14:15-21

Jesus said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

One: For the word of God in scripture,
For the word of God among us,
For the word of God within us;

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon: *"Don't fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, God is love!"*

(Rev. Anita's sermon available online on the Tuesday following the service)

www.jordanstationunitedchurch.org/sermons

Sermon Hymn: Called by Earth and Sky (More Voices #135)

Chorus

Called by earth and sky,
promise of hope held high.
This is our sacred living trust,
treasure of life sanctified,
called by earth and sky.

Verse 1

Precious these waters, endless seas,
deep ocean's dream,
waters of healing, rivers of rain,
the wash of love again.

Verse 2

Precious this gift, the air we breathe;
wind born and free.
Breath of the Spirit, blow through this place,
our gathering and our grace.

Chorus

Called by earth and sky,
promise of hope held high.
This is our sacred living trust,
treasure of life sanctified,
called by earth and sky.

Verse 3

Precious these mountains, ancient sands;
vast fragile land.
Seeds of our waking, rooted and strong,
Creation's faithful song.

Verse 4

Precious the fire that lights our way,
bright dawning day.
Fire of passion, sorrows undone,
our faith and justice one.

Chorus

Called by earth and sky,
promise of hope held high.
This is our sacred living trust,
treasure of life sanctified,
called by earth and sky.

Our Response to God's Word:**Life and Work of Jordan Station United Church - Announcements**

Friends, although our Church building is closed, our Programming and Worship continues. We are hosting many things on Facebook Live, via Zoom and on our You Tube Channel so follow us and subscribe to our channel and help us spread the word so that all can stay connected to our church family.

Services & Programs this Week:

No Ukuladies & Gytars this week - We will resume on Monday May 25

No Storytime this week - We will resume on Monday May 25

Creative Spirit with Carolyn Campbell Tuesdays @ 10:00 am

Contact Carolyn @ creativespiritministry@gmail.com for Zoom details

Choir Chat & Singalong Virtual Gathering

Joyce invites all Choir Members to an on-line virtual gathering!

When: Thursdays @ 2:00pm via Zoom

Contact Joyce at jerb.19@icloud.com for details!

All videos will be posted and stored on our BRAND NEW YOUTUBE CHANNEL so they can be viewed at any time. Don't forget to subscribe!

Offering Invitation & Prayers

We are grateful for the many gifts of time, talent and treasure that are continually being offered by our Church Members and friends. May they continue to make a difference in the world to those living on the margins.

Offering: 4 ways to give

- 1 – Donate Online: www.JordanStationUnitedChurch.org
- 2 – Drop off a cheque in our NEW mailbox at the Church. (side entrance on Bridgeport)
- 3 – Mail a cheque. Consider weekly post-dated cheques.
- 4 – Join PAR – email Wayne (waynegibson2@hotmail.com) for details.

Prayers of the People

Creator, we come to you with both the joys and the sorrows of our hearts.
We are grateful for the gift of life and the joy that it can bring.
For families and friends who love us.
For allies who stick up for us,
even when we cannot risk sticking up for ourselves.
For the great diversity you have created in our world.
We pray for those who suffer from discrimination
because of their gender identity or sexual orientation.
Who worry about their employment or who cannot find a job.
For those who must hide who they are to find housing.
For those who are not safe on our streets.
For those who do not feel safe in their place of worship.
Help us to end homophobia, transphobia, and biphobia,
and all forms of discrimination and hate.
Show us the way to make this world a better place for all.

*(a prayer by Ruth Wood, from the worship service "Speaking Our Truth"
for the International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia)*

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray the words that Jesus taught us. . .
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,
And 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,
the power and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

Closing our Worship & Going Forth in God's Name

Closing Song: O Beautiful Gaia (More Voices #41)

Chorus

O beautiful Gaia, O Gaia, calling us home.
O beautiful Gaia, calling us on.

Verse 1

Soil yielding its harvest,
O Gaia, calling us home.
Soil yielding its harvest,
calling us on.

Verse 2

Waves crashing on granite,
O Gaia, calling us home.
Waves crashing on granite,
calling us on.

Chorus

O beautiful Gaia, O Gaia, calling us home.
O beautiful Gaia, calling us on.

Verse 3

Pine bending in windstorm,
O Gaia, calling us home.
Pine bending in windstorm,
calling us on.

Verse 4

Loon nesting in marshland,
O Gaia, calling us home.
Loon nesting in marshland,
calling us on.

Chorus

O beautiful Gaia, O Gaia, calling us home.
O beautiful Gaia, calling us on.

Benediction and Commissioning: *video message by Rev. Anita*

Postlude: A Choral Irish Blessing (written by Nicholas Palmer)

May the road rise up to meet you
May the wind be always at your back
May the sun shine warm upon your face
And the rain fall soft upon your fields.

And until we meet again
And until we meet again
May good Lord hold you,
In the palm of His hand