BELLS CORNERS UNITED CHURCH

Reign of Christ / Children & Youth Sunday

All-Ages Worship Service November 20, 2022 – 10 am

*Indicates stand as able

* The live service will be broadcasted and recorded on YouTube, check your email for the link. The audio recording of the live service should be available by phone Monday afternoon at 613-820-8104

Announcement Slides

Gathering Music: Music Team

*Opening Hymn: This is the Day - More Voices #122

(Words & Music: Bruce Harding, 2003; French trans. David Fines, 2005)

1 This is the day that God has made;

we will rejoice and be glad!

This is the day that God has made;

we will rejoice and be glad!

Singing hallelu, (3x) We will rejoice and be glad!

Singing hallelu, (3x) We will rejoice and be glad!

2 Voici le jour que Dieu a fait;

nous le vivrons dans la joie.

Voici le jour que Dieu a fait;

nous le vivrons dans la joie.

Chantant Al-le-lu! (3x); nous le vivrons dans la joie.

Chantant Al-le-lu! (3x); nous le vivrons dans la joie.

Lighting of Christ Candle: Acolytes: Amelia & Georgia Baynes

We light this Christ candle reminding us that the spirit of Jesus reigns in our hearts. We long for God's love to come to our world, to break through and reign over us with compassion, justice, kindness and peace.

The light of Christ shines on!

Welcome & Centering for Worship: Rev. Kim Vidal

Good morning! I welcome and greet you in the name of Jesus Christ who reigns in our hearts forever! Today we are celebrating our children and youth at BCUC as we commemorate the United Nation's declaration of the rights of children. A warm welcome to all who are visiting us today for the first time. Join us for fellowship & coffee after the service in the main hall. *Highlight some announcements*.

Friends, in the quiet of this moment, in the stillness of our hearts, I now invite you to centre yourself in the presence of God who calls us to seek justice, love kindness and walk humbly with God. Let us gather in worship.

Call to Gather: (Responsively) Samantha Jones

(Selina Mullin, Gathering, Pentecost 2 2021, p30. Used with permission)

All are welcome in this place, all are welcome in God's space.
Young and old and in between, short and tall, large and lean.
Those who are lonely, tired, and hurting, or giggling, smiling, or practically bursting. Each as we are, wonderfully made, we join in God's house together, today.

Opening Prayer: (In unison) Inara Wightman

(Jim McKean, Gathering Pentecost 2 2021, p33. Used with permission.)

Strong and Tender One,
We approach you today,
filled with childlike wonder
and a willingness to express ourselves
beyond our comfort level.
Open us so we may soar beyond
the comfort of the present.
Move us into your presence,
more and more, day by day. Amen.

Movements: Wendy Morrell

Special Music: You Are Welcome Here - Burrows Bell Canto - director: Erin Berard

Time for the Young at Heart: Erin Berard

Prayer of Jesus / The Lord's Prayer:

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

Thy kin-dom 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 kin-dom, the power and the glory,

Forever and ever, Amen.

* Song: "I've Got Peace in my Fingers" (Susan Salidor)

Prayer for Illumination: (Unison) Readers: Noah & Nicholas Berard

Holy God, you are the Storyteller,

you are the Word.

Bless the reading.

Bless the listening.

Bless the sharing.

Bless the love in Christ's name. Amen.

Scripture Reading: Micah 6:6-8 (The Voice)

⁶ What should I bring into the presence of the Eternal One to pay homage to the God Most High? Should I come into His presence with burnt offerings, with year-old calves to sacrifice?

Would the Eternal be pleased by thousands of *sacrificial* rams, by ten thousand *swollen* rivers of *sweet olive* oil?

Should I offer my oldest *son* for my wrongdoing, the child of my body to cover the sins of my life?

⁸ No. He has told you, mortals, what is good *in His sight*.

What else does the Eternal ask of you

But to live justly and to love kindness and to walk with your True God in all humility?

Hear what the Prophet Micah is saying to all of us. We listen and we respond with action.

Ministry of Music: Give Me Oil - Songs for a Gospel People #130

Interactive Sermon: "The Micah 6:8 Challenge!" Rev. Kim Vidal

Sung Response: What Does the Lord Require - Voices United #701

(Words & Music: Jim Strathdee, 1986)

What does the Lord require of you? What does the Lord require of you?

Justice, kindness, walk humbly with your God.

To seek justice, and love kindness, And walk humbly with your God.

Prayers of the People: Rev. Kim Vidal, Katrina & Heidi TeGrotenhuis

Let us gather our hearts in prayer.

God of all ages, may we honour your presence in the promise of the chilly morning, in the dancing brightness of the sun, in the music of our spirits, in the laughter and joy of all.

We are grateful for our youth and children whose voices we hear and whose presence we celebrate. We are thankful for our young adults and elders whose wisdom and faithfulness move us to acts of kindness and love.

We are struck in awe before the great mystery of I Am who calls us to take heart.

We are powerfully moved by a deep concern for our world and our care for one another.

May ours be a faith that is more than words and ideals.

May ours be a faith of vitality and compassion.

(Silence)

We lament that there are many people especially youth and children in the world who are burdened by hunger and pain, by sorrow and anxiety, by violence and loss.

May they find comfort and peace, and may their burdens be lifted from them by our actions as peacemakers and doers of justice and kindness. For we are the body of Christ on earth. (Silence)

May we find it in ourselves today to work toward a better world. May we make use of that energy to take part in the lifting of burdens. May our gratitude find expression in the care of others, both near and far. May we find ways to live and grow on the margins.

May we leave behind us a trail of encouragement and hope; to make all things new: to restore peace where there has been hatred, to reduce tension where there has been anger, to rekindle friendship where there has been enmity, to relieve suffering where there has been violence and to recreate a community; for the good of the people and for the peace of the world.

These we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who loves everyone, young and old alike, and who brings us to God's reign Amen.

Musical Offering: Amen is Where We Begin – Choplin BCUC Choir

Invitation to Offer: Rev. Kim Vidal

We have all been given gifts, each one unique to God's vision of what we can do in the world. These gifts have been entrusted to us to further the building of God's kin-dom. Our time of offering is one opportunity to share our gifts of time, talents and resources.

We are not passing the offering plates this morning as we continue to follow health protocols, but you will find those plates on the table in the narthex. There are many additional ways you can financially support the work of the church – through PAR, by dropping into the office or using the mail slot by the kitchen door, or by e-transfer. Thank you for your continued love and support of Bells Corners United Church.

Offertory Hymn: What Can I Do? - More Voices #191

What can I do? What can I bring?

What can I say? What can I sing?

I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.

I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.

*Offertory Prayer: (Unison)

This offering has the power to help others.

This offering demonstrates our love for those in need.

This offering reflects your love, O God.

Bless these gifts and the givers,

we pray, in Jesus' name. Amen

*Closing Hymn: Be Kind to One Another

Tune: Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864 ("The Church's One Foundation")

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Be kind to one another, be tender-hearted too —

forgiving one another, as Christ has pardoned you.

Refrain from any gossip, for gossip is a sin.

Be open to new friendships, and welcome people in.

Be kind in all your speaking and hear what others say.

Be open to Christ's teaching, and in all matters, pray.

Be gentle, loving, faithful and keep a humble mind.

Remember what is truthful. In everything be kind.

Be kind within your circle, but look past what you see;

Be kind to those in trouble — the poor, the refugee.

The world is filled with violence; write letters, call out sin!

Don't ever sit in silence and let the evil win.

O God of love, you've taught us. You've shown us what to do:

Be just, commit to kindness, walk humbly here with you.

Your Spirit gives us courage to truly live this way.

May love become our message; may kindness win the day.

*Sending Forth: (Responsively) Rev. Kim Vidal

People of God, step forward into the world in which we live.

We will keep our hearts steadfast on the priorities to which God guides us: to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly.

Go forth with confidence in the name of

God the Lover,

Jesus Christ, the Beloved

and the Holy Spirit who is Love. Amen!

*Sung Blessing – Let There be Peace on Earth (Miller/Jackson)

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God our creator, children all are we
Let us walk with each other, in perfect harmony
Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now,
With every step I take let this be my solemn vow.
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me