

BELLS CORNERS UNITED CHURCH
STEWARDSHIP 2 October 22, 2022 – 10 am

Stewardship Theme: “Celebrate our Call to Serve / Give thanks for our Family Ministry”

** The live service will be broadcasted and recorded on YouTube, check your email for the link.*

Gathering Music

*Indicates stand as able

Hymn: Come In, Come In and Sit Down - Voices United #395

Refrain: Come in come in and sit down,
you are a part of the family.
We are lost and we are found,
and we are a part of the family.

We're all forgiven by God's grace,
for we are a part of the family. R

1 You know the reason why you came,
yet no reason can explain,
so share in the laughter and cry in the pain,
for we are a part of the family. R

3 There's life to be shared in the bread and the wine,
we are the branches Christ is the vine.
This is God's temple, it's not yours or mine,
but we are a part of the family. R

2 God is with us in this place,
like a mother's warm embrace.

4 There's rest for the weary and health for us all,
there's a yoke that is easy, and a burden that's small.
So come in and worship and answer the call,
for we are a part of the family. R

Words & Music © 1984 James K. Manley; harm © 1987 Daryl Nixon Song # 44817 All rights reserved

Lighting of Christ Candle: Acolytes: Susan & George Young

Sometimes, the world can seem a bit dark.
Conflicts, worries, and suffering seem to cloud our vision.
And so, today, as we do, whenever we gather as a family of faith,
we light this candle to remind us of the presence of Jesus, the light that never dims.
May this light kindle hope and peace in each of us - enough to light the world.

Sung Response: Take Up This Light - More Voices #213

Take up this light of peace and go into the world. Take up this light of peace in every moment.
In every moment of the journey, we're laying down our lives;
Lay them down in peace, lay them down and take up this light.

Welcome: Ellen Boynton

Good morning! On behalf of the Worship and Christian Education Committee, I welcome and greet you in the name of Jesus Christ on this Second Sunday of Stewardship focusing on Family Ministry and diversity and how we celebrate our call to serve. Your continued contributions and participation in the life and ministry of BCUC are very much appreciated. A friendly reminder to return your stewardship forms by dropping them in the stewardship box or in the office, by email or Canada Post.

Join us for fellowship & coffee after the service in the main hall.

You will notice that we have no ministers present today. I regret to inform you that Rev. Lorrie is on sick leave. Let us remember Rev. Lorrie in our thoughts and prayers and wish her well for recovery.

Rev. Kim is on study leave but also assisted in putting together this service for today.

We are very grateful for Erin helping us with the first part of the service and for Nicole Beaudry who will preach and lead the second part of the service.

Family Ministry Moment: Erin Berard

Centering for Worship: Erin

Friends, in the church and in the world, in our tears and in our laughter, we meet Christ. Let us come as faithful people, centering ourselves in God's love as we worship together.

***Call to Gather & Opening Prayer: (Responsively)** Leader: Erin

(Susan Lukey, Gathering, Pentecost 2 2021 Year B, Used with permission.)

To be a church family is a blessing.

To encourage and care for one another is a joy.

To work for the common good of all people

and all creation is our calling.

Come, let us worship as the body of Christ.

We come as followers of the Way of Jesus,

as those inspired by the Spirit of God,

To worship, sing, and pray.

Opening Prayer: (unison) (Based on A Song of Faith) Erin

(Phil Hobbs, Gathering, Pentecost 2 2018, Year B. Used with permission.)

**In worship this morning, Kind, Compassionate, and Present God,
we sing of a church with purpose:**

faith nurtured and hearts comforted, gifts shared for the good of all.

**We are a community of broken but hopeful believers,
yet, we would love as you first loved us.**

We are seeking to be faithful servants of God, here where we live and work.

Meet us. Heal us. Empower us. Enable us. Amen.

Special Music: 1, 2, 3, Alleluia - C. Sheehy CGS with Erin Berard

Time for the Young at Heart: Erin

The Prayer of Jesus / 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.

***Children's Hymn: O Let the Power - More Voices #13**

(Words Verse 1: Birchfield Aymer; Verse2: Unknown; Music: Trad. Song, Carribean)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 O let the power fall on me, my Lord,
let the power fall on me;
O let the power from heaven fall on me,
let the power fall on me. | 2. For we want justice and truth and love, my Lord,
we want justice and truth and love;
for we want justice and truth and love, my Lord,
we want justice and truth and love. |
|---|---|

Prayer for Illumination: (Unison) Reader: Cathy Dowsett

**Open our hearts to the mystery of your word, Holy God. Open our spirits to its
meaning for our lives. Be with us as we listen for and receive your word today. Amen.**

Responsive Psalm Reading: Psalm 67 (Voices United pg786)

Sung Response: Let the peoples praise you, God, Let the nations shout their joy.

Be gracious unto us, O God, and bless us; and let the light of your face shine upon us;

**that your ways may be known to earth,
your saving power among all nations.**

Let the nations be glad, and sing for joy,
**for you judge the peoples righteously
and guide the nations of the earth.**

The earth has yielded its harvest and you, O God, have blessed us.

Your blessing, O God, be upon us.

May all the ends of the earth revere you. R

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 (The Message) Spiritual Gifts

12 Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be ignorant. ² You know that when you were gentiles you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. ³ Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says “Let Jesus be cursed!” and no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except by the Holy Spirit. ⁴ Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, ⁵ and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷ To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸ To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of powerful deeds, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses. Hear what the gracious God is saying to all of us. **We listen and we respond with action.**

Ministry of Music: Not to Us, O Lord – MW Smith/P Smith arr. Schrader BCUC Choir

Sermon: Lay Preacher: Nicole Beaudry

Prayers of the People: Let us gather our hearts in prayer:

God-in-us, we come together this morning as your family of faith, full of gratitude and wonder. Your love flows through our lives in countless ways. The manifestation of your goodness is apparent in actions and events that touch us daily. We acknowledge with gratitude the blessings of all stewards and volunteers in this faith community who give their time, talents and treasure for the common good.

God-with-us, as we have reflected on Paul’s message on spiritual gifts, shine your light in our hearts and minds to help us understand the meaning of diversity as a gift. With love and devotion to goodness, we are able to make incredible things happen. Thank you for the strength to deliver goodwill in our daily actions and attitudes. Help us to see Love in the moment-by-moment possibilities to live honestly, to act courageously, and to speak from the wisdom of our hearts. God beside us, you have called us to give a word of encouragement to those overcome with illness and grief and those who face diverse challenges in life. We May we touch them with our healing spirit – to embrace them in our gentle love.

God before us, through our gifts, may we speak to the hearts of those whom we encounter day by day. May we be your light to shine for those who are full of fear; for those who experience conflict, prejudice, hatred, persecution, and poverty. At this moment – we remember the people of Gaza and Israel. In the prayer released by the United Church of Canada, we pray: “Even though there is uncertainty, indifference, and opposition, grant us the strength to continually seek an end to the occupation, so that Israelis and Palestinians can create a better future for themselves. Even as we dream of a time when Israel/Palestine will be a symbol of hope, peace, and reconciliation, help us to be mindfully aware of the volatile present. Draw close to the multitude of injured and grieving people in the Holy Land; gather up the hopeless, and abide with the physically and emotionally oppressed; may your presence and your kin’dom comfort our siblings in their suffering.” God who lead us, on this first Stewardship Sunday, as we pledge our time, our talents and our treasures to the visions of this congregation, remind us that no amount given is too outrageous or too small; for surely our dreams and visions for this faith community and beyond are made possible by our faith in you who lavishly gives and blesses in return. All these we ask in Jesus name. Amen.

Invitation to Offer:

I now invite you to offer your gifts of time, talents and resources as expressions of your gratitude to God's blessings. You will find the offering plates on the table as you enter the sanctuary. There are many additional ways you can financially support the work of the church – through PAR, by dropping into the office or by e-transfer. Thank you for your continued love and support of Bells Corners United Church.

***Offertory Hymn: Your Work, O God, Needs Many Hands** – Voices United #537 (vs1)

Your work, O God, needs many hands to help you everywhere,
and some there are who cannot serve unless our gifts we share.

***Offertory Prayer: (Unison)**

Creator God, for the talents and gifts delightfully given to us, we bring you our offering. May we use them to spread your love and hope for the world. Amen.

***Closing Hymn: Christ Has No Body Now But Yours - More Voices #171**

Refrain Christ has no body now but yours,
no hands but yours.
Here on this earth, yours is the work,
to serve with the joy of compassion.

no eyes but yours to glimpse the holy joy
of the city of God. *R*

3.No feet but yours to journey with the poor,
to walk this world with mercy and justice.
Yours are the steps to build a lasting peace
for the children of God. *R*

1.No hands but yours to heal the wounded world,
no hands but yours to soothe all its suffering,
no touch but yours to bind the broken hope
of the people of God. *R*

4.Through ev'ry gift, give back to those in need;
as Christ has blessed, so now be his blessing,
with ev'ry gift a benediction be,
to the people of God. *R*

2. No eyes but yours to see as Christ would see,
to find the lost, to gaze with compassion;

Words St. Teresa of Avila adapt. © 2003 by Stephen C, Warner; Music © 2006 Rick Gunn All rights reserved.

***Sending Forth: (Responsively)** (The Abingdon Worship Annual edited by Mary J. Scifres and B.J. Beu)

And now, from the One who is indeed the giver of all good gifts: go and share what God has given you;

We go and proclaim that God's love is here;

We go in the power of God's Spirit to make all things new.

Feast on the abundance of God's gifts.

God's gifts never end. Amen.

Sung Blessing: Shalom Cheverim – Songs for a Gospel People #114

Shalom good friends! Shalom good friends! Shalom, Shalom!
Till we meet again, till we meet again, shalom, shalom.

Sjalom chers amis! Sjalom chers amis! Sjalom, sjalom!
Jusqu'aurevoir, jusqu'aurevoir, sjalom, sjalom.

Shalom cheverim! Shalom cheverim! Shalom, Shalom!
Le hit-ra-ot, le hit-ra-ot, shalom, shalom.