

Bayview United Church

2609 Bayview Avenue
Toronto, Ontario
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416-447-5941

Website: www.bayviewunitedchurch.ca

Email: info@bayviewunitedchurch.ca

Church Administrator: M. Leone

Custodian: K. Bryan

Music Director: K. Quinton

Minister: Rev. C. Cooper

As a diverse and inclusive Christian community, our mission is to empower individuals to connect with God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit and equip them to live their faith in just and compassionate ways that will help transform themselves, their neighbourhood and the world.

Third Sunday of Lent

Sunday, March 24th, 2019 11:00 a.m.

(*congregation stands as able)

Praising God

Prelude "As the Deer" M. Nystrom arr. D. Wagner

Welcome & Announcements C. MacLean

Musical Interlude

Call to Worship

One: Like water to a dry river bed,

All: So is Your refreshing presence with us, O God.

One: Like the warm sun on frozen ground.

All: So is Your hopeful presence with us, O God.

One: Like a child's laughter at a school playground,

All: So is Your joyful presence with us, O God.

One: Like the song of birds on an early spring morning,

All: So Your welcoming presence greets us this day.

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*Hymn (240) "Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven"

Opening Prayer (unison)

Loving God, create in us a tender heart as we care for Your garden. When we, like the fig tree bear no fruit, help us to be patient as we nurture and rejuvenate ourselves, so that we can be healthier and bear much fruit. Sprinkle us this hour with Your nutritious water, so we will grow to be strong, healthy and fruitful trees. Amen.

Hebrew Scripture Isaiah 55:1-3; 6-9

(When you come to God, you will have life.)

*Hymn (289) "It Only Takes a Spark" vs. 1 & 2

A Time with the Children

Prayer and the Lord's Prayer (unison)

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,
and the power, and the glory.
For ever and ever. Amen.

Hymn (289) "It Only Takes a Spark" vs. 3
(Young people leave for classes.)

Prayer for Grace (unison)

Gracious God, You know how we love to hear the praise of others, yet find it difficult to hear their criticism, even when it is designed to support us. As a gardener prunes

and fertilizes the plants so they will grow stronger and healthier, keep us open to the pruning work of Your Spirit. Help us in our lives to make our priorities and directions become clearer as we seek to live as Your people. Amen.

*Sung Assurance (MV 154) "Deep in Our Hearts" (vs. 1)

Listening for God's Word

Psalm Reading Psalm 63:1-8
(I long for You, O God.)

Gospel Lesson Luke 13:1-9
(The parable of the barren fig tree.)

Anthem "Sweet Are the Prayers of a Friend" Pepper Choplin

Sermon "Tending the Garden" Rev. Cooper

*Hymn (703) "In the Bulb There Is a Flower" vs. 1 & 2

Responding to God

Offering "The Poet Speaks", Op.15 #13 Schumann

* **Dedication** (MV 182)

**Refrain: Grateful for the life You give us,
Thankful for Your Holy Son,
Joyful in Your Spirit flowing
Over all, O God of Love.
Grateful for the Bread of Heaven,
Thankful for Your Holy Word,
Joyful in Your mercy flowing,
We will praise You.**

May our lives proclaim Your justice,
May our voices sing Your praise.
May our hands work in Your service
To the glory of Your name. (Refrain)

*Prayer

The Prayers of the People

*Recessional Hymn (633) "Bless Now, O God, the Journey"

*Commissioning and Benediction

*Choral Amen "Let There Be Peace on Earth"

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 ev'ry 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.

Postlude "Pastorale" René Dubois

Hymn use Copyright # 3094581

Sunday March 24th, 2019

Head Usher: T. Nakamichi

Ushers: P. & T. Takasaki, S. & E. Turnbull

Scripture Reader: J. Brooker

Welcome to worship at Bayview United Church. If you are visiting or here for the first time, please sign the guest book located at the main entrance to the sanctuary. Everyone is invited for light refreshments following the service at a cost of \$3.00 per person; children are free. The money raised will go to support the Mission and Service Fund of The United Church of Canada. **Please remember we are a nut-free building.**

Prayers and Concerns: Please remember in your prayers all those in need of hope, comfort and healing.

Lent is a time of reflection, a time you understand something you've understood all your life, but in a new way. If you care to donate flowers for a Sunday morning worship service, in memoriam or for a special occasion, please contact **C. Ichiyen** by Wednesday prior to a service.

If you have any announcements for the bulletin, please send them to M. Leone at office@bayviewunitedchurch.ca or call 416-447-5941 by Wednesday.

Please feel free to contact Rev. Cooper anytime, at 416-447-5941 (church office), 416-201-1479 (cell), or e-mail: ccooper@idirect.ca. Thank you.

Call for Choir Members: Any congregation member who would enjoy singing with the **choir** is invited to attend choir practice on Thursday nights at 7:30 p.m. All voices are welcome (and particularly sopranos at the moment). Practice recordings of our music are always made available, and many anthems are also on YouTube, if you are not able to attend on Thursdays. (Several of our members participate in this way.) Please contact K. Quinton.

Audio CD of the Service: We can make an audio copy of the service. If you would like a copy, please speak to B. Kai.

Hearing Assistance Devices: If you are having trouble hearing the service, we have hearing assistance devices. If you would like to try one, please speak to B. Kai.

Welcomers: Would those individuals who agreed to be welcomers please sign the sign-up sheet on the narthex bulletin board. Please wear the special Welcomer nametag. Thank you.

Lenten Calendars are available today. You are invited to bring back a donation on Easter Sunday. This year our Lenten Project is to support the United Church's **Gifts with Vision**. We will be supporting for \$100 the Build a Well project in Africa and \$100 delivers food, shelter, education, and programs for the 65 million displaced persons in Africa and the Middle East. Thank you for your support.

Sun. March 24th – 11:00 a.m. – Lent 3 - Worship Service.
12:30 p.m. – Healing Prayer Service in the sanctuary. Everyone is invited to attend this reflective and meditative service. There will be an opportunity for individual prayers and laying on of hands for anyone who would like this.

Sat. March 30th – 11:15 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. – Confirmation class in the narthex.

Sun. March 31st – 11:00 a.m. – Lent 4 - Worship Service.

Sun. April 7th – 11:00 a.m. – Lent 5 - Worship Service followed by a stew lunch sponsored by the Community and Global Ministry Team. Cost is \$10.00 per person. Children are free. All proceeds go to the Mission and Service Fund.

Sun. April 14th – 11:00 a.m. – Palm Sunday Service with Holy Communion and special music from the choir.
1:00 p.m. - Japanese Language Service in the sanctuary.

Wed. April 17th – 2:30 p.m. – Worship Service at the Donway. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Fri. April 19th – 11:00 a.m. – Good Friday Service to remember the last day of Jesus' life. Followed by refreshments. If anyone would like to do a reading in the service, please speak to Rev. Cooper. Thank you.

Sun. April 21st – 11:00 a.m. – Easter Sunday Service. We celebrate the resurrection of Jesus through word and song. Please remember to bring your Lenten offering. Thank you.

Thurs. April 25th - 2:00 p.m. - Worship Service at Momiji. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Sat. April 27th – 9:30 a.m. – 2:15 p.m. - Women's Fellowship Circle Daybreak held at Momiji. Cost with catered lunch and program is \$15.00 payable to A. Kunihiro or L. Hirowatari.

The guest speaker is A. Pruner a yoga teacher, yoga therapist and somatic educator. With a blend of humour and compassion, her session will focus on recognizing tension in the body and the nervous system, building presence and freeing up our body, breath and spirit. As stress increases in our lives, it becomes more important to take a pause for self care. This can be as simple as a few easy breaths in and out, or a simple stretch, or some quiet meditation. Come and learn how you can re-centre, re-align and then re-engage with life in an easy and productive way. **All women are welcome.**

Sun. April 28th – 11:00 a.m. – Worship Service 1:00 p.m. – Hospitality and Care meeting in the Sunday School room.

The Youth Class will meet, April 7th. We are very grateful that J. Yuan has agreed to lead the Youth Class for one Sunday each month. Copies of the youth curriculum are available to anyone interested in joining as a volunteer leader for this class.

Lansing United Church (49 Bogert Ave.) Nearly New Shop is now open. They are happy to receive your gently used clothing, toys, kitchenware, shoes, jewelry, baby clothes, bedding, and other linen goods. They cannot accept stuffed toys, appliances, baby furniture or car seats. Items can be

dropped off Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. and Thursday evenings until 8:30 p.m. Thank you for your support.

BUC Prayer Group: These individuals offer confidential prayer support to anyone who is in need of God's healing love, support and compassion in their lives. Prayers may be for a relative, a close friend or yourself. Please contact B. Marshall or E. Turnbull with your prayer request. Thank you.

Eva's Place: All toiletries, soap, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, etc., are accepted weekly to help the youth at Eva's Place. Please place these items in the **Eva's Place** bin.

Food Bank: On the first and third Sundays of each month, you are invited to bring non-perishable food for the Lansing Food Bank. They especially need items for infants, non-beef soup and canned black beans. Thank you for your support.

Eyeglasses Project: The Community and Global Team are supporting the Lions Club Sight Program. By recycling old or no longer used eyeglasses and sunglasses, we will be supporting teams of doctors running volunteer eye clinics in many countries. They do not use the cases. **Please leave the glasses in the box at the entrance to the narthex.**

STAMPS: We are collecting used postage stamps for The Leprosy Mission Canada, who sell them to dealers to raise money for medicine, care and rehabilitation for people suffering from leprosy. They prefer that the stamps be cut from the envelopes, **leaving about a ¼ inch paper border.** The stamps can be left in the **STAMP BOX on the table at the entrance to the narthex.**

Alcoholics Anonymous meets downstairs every Tuesday and Thursday, at 8 p.m. For more information, call our main

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help line: 416-487-5591. If you have a problem with alcohol,
we have the solution.

Sunday March 31st, 2019

Head Usher: T. Nakamichi

Ushers: P. Watanabe, P. Widgery, T. & E. Yuan

Scripture Reader: P. Watanabe