

Bayview United Church

Conference Call Worship Service

Scripture Reader: Janice Cermak

Music Director: Karen Quinton

Minister: Rev. Cindy Cooper

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 22nd, 2020

11:00 a.m.

Moment of Reflection:

Hope is looking to the future with trust and faith. It is optimism in the face of adversity. Without hope, we lose our will to live fully. Hope gives us the courage to keep moving forward. It can be elusive when we have suffered often, yet it is the light that can redeem our dreams. With hope, we know we are not alone. There is always help when we are willing to ask. There are gifts to be gleaned from all that happens. With hope, we find the confidence to try and try again.

I am thankful for the gift of Hope.

It is the light of my life.

(The Virtues Project)

Praising God

Prelude "Be Still My Soul" Sibelius arr. Cindy Berry

Words of Welcome

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Call to Worship

I invite you to take a moment now to breathe deeply and centre yourself in the love of God...

As long nights give way to light, and winter sleep to fresh beginnings, we come today to be reminded of God's love for us.

Like the green shoots of renewed life stirring beneath the soil, we are reawakening to God's Word in our lives. In this time of worship and reflection let us re-affirm our identity as children of God. Let us worship together in a spirit of hope and joy.

Opening Prayer (join in if you like)

God of Hope and Promise, we come before You as people who long for light in our darkness and meaning in our confusion. Give us both sight and insight to see the world from Your perspective. Expand our vision and touch us with Your Truth, that we may embrace life in all its fullness as we greet each new day. Amen.

Hymn (409) "Morning Has Broken"

- 1 Morning has broken like the first morning,
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing!
Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the
Word!**
- 3 Ours is the sunlight! Ours is the morning
born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's recreation of the new day!**

Prayer for Grace (join in if you like)

Visionary God, open our faith to see: to see ourselves as we are and could be; to see others as You see them, with grace and compassion. Help us to see possibilities instead of problems. Open our eyes to visions of what we can accomplish together. May we all seek to live in unity and in service to You. Amen.

Assurance of Grace

The Good News of the gospel is that God always loves us and is always with us to support and encourage us. May God's hope strengthen and enrich your life each day. Amen.

Listening for God's Word

Gospel Lesson John 9:1-41 Janice Cermak
(Jesus heals a man born blind while others turn a blind eye to this miracle.)

Sermon "Tuning in to God" Rev. Cindy

Hymn (337) "Blessed Assurance"

**1 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of the Spirit, washed in Christ's blood.
This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Saviour all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Saviour all the day long.**

**3 Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my Saviour am happy and blessed;
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with God's goodness,
lost in Christ's love.**

**This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Saviour all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Saviour all the day long.**

Responding to God

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (join in if you like)

**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.**

Commissioning and Benediction

May the road rise up to meet you.
May the wind always be at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
and rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.
Traditional Irish Blessing

Postlude "Softly and Tenderly" Will Thompson
arr. Joel Raney

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Thank you for joining in to listen to the Conference Call Worship Service today. We hope you found it meaningful. We are living through uncertain times and we pray this service brings a small sense of comfort and joy to your day. God bless you, stay well, and we hope you tune in next week...same day, same time, same phone number.

Many thanks to Brian Kai for coordinating our Conference Call, to Karen Quinton for inspiring us with her music and to Janice Cermak for reading our scripture.