

Bayview United Church

2609 Bayview Avenue

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Worship Service

Zoom Audio Call

Call: 647-374-4685

ID#: 896-7180-8158#

Participant ID: Press #

Password: call or email office

Or <https://zoom.us/s/89671808158>

Music Director: K. Quinton

Minister: Rev. C. Cooper

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Sunday, March 14th, 2021 11:00 a.m.

Moment of Silent Reflection:

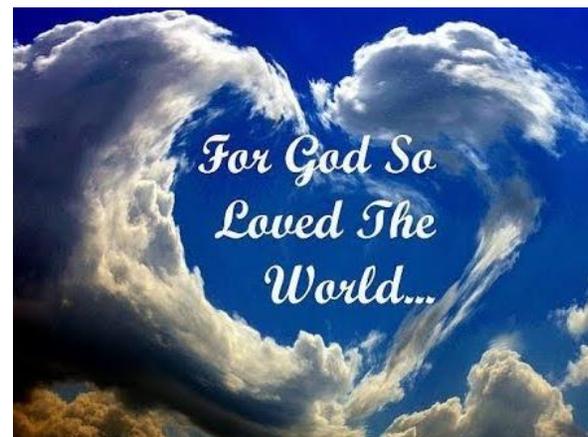
Mercy is blessing others with our compassion and forgiveness. We are touched by their suffering and want to help. Justice is giving people what they deserve. Mercy is giving them more. We are merciful when we give ourselves and others a fresh chance after an offence or mistake. Nothing inspires hope so much as a clean slate. When we have the humility to remember the countless mercies we receive throughout life, we find it in our hearts to show mercy to others. We offer the gift of our tenderness.

(The Virtues Project)

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Praising God

Prelude "Fairest Lord Jesus" Silesian spiritual
arr. Becki S. Mayo



Words of Welcome

Call to Worship

Let us take a moment to quiet our thoughts as we prepare our hearts for worship...

Shh! Listen, do you hear it? God's voice is calling us to venture into the wilderness.

This is the place where spiritual discoveries begin and where courage and strength are nurtured.

Let us worship God, the Giver and Sustainer of life.

We trust in God's mercy and guidance to lead us through to the Promised Land.

We can be assured, "For God so loved the world!"

Let us praise God!

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Opening Prayer (unison)

We gather to worship You, God of the wilderness and the Promised Land. Help us to remember that even the wilderness can be a place of blessing, for You are there. Turn our despair into hope, our sorrow into joy, our anxiety into peace, our complaints into praise and thanksgiving. Fill us with strength and courage to face our fears and discover the path that leads to healing and wholeness, as Jesus did. Amen.

Hymn (240) "Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven"
vs. 1,2,3

- 1 Praise, my soul, the God of heaven,
glad of heart your carols raise;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
who, like me, should sing God's praise.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Praise the Maker all your days!
- 2 Praise God for the grace and favour
shown our forebears in distress;
God is still the same forever,
slow to chide and swift to bless.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Sing our Maker's faithfulness!
- 3 Like a loving parent caring,
God knows well our feeble frame;
gladly all our burdens bearing,
still to countless years the same.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
All within me, praise God's name!

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Prayer for Grace (unison)

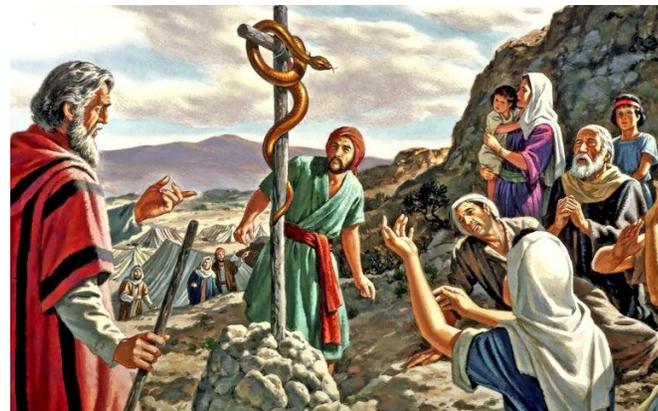
O God, where our hearts are fearful and limited,
grant us freedom and daring.
Where anxiety is contagious and spreading,
grant us peace and reassurance.
Where possibilities close doors and windows,
grant us trust and imagination.
Where hurt is unaddressed and unrelieved,
grant us understanding and healing.
Where spirits are apprehensive and diminished,
grant us soaring wings and strengthened dreams.
Help us to embrace Your strength in our lives. Amen.

Assurance of Grace

God's unconditional love is for all who accept this gift.
As we unwrap God's love, it comes alive in our hearts. Praise be to God!

Listening for God's Word

Hebrew Lesson Numbers 21:4-9 J. Cermak
(A bronze serpent heals the people.)



Gospel Lesson John 3:14-21 J. Cermak
(For God so loved the world.)

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Solo “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” Thomas Chisholm
L. Lazar, Soprano

Sermon “Seeking Healing, Not Fear” Rev. Cooper

Hymn (274) “Your Hand, O God, Has Guided”
vs.1, 3, 5

1 Your hand, O God, has guided
your flock from age to age;
the wondrous tale is written,
full clear, on every page.
Our forebears owned your goodness,
and we their deeds record;
and both to this bear witness:
one church, one faith, one Lord.

3 Through many days of darkness,
through many scenes of strife,
the faithful few fought bravely
to guard your people's life.
Their gospel of redemption,
sin pardoned, earth restored,
was all in this enfolded:
one church, one faith, one Lord.

5 Your mercy will not fail us,
nor leave your work undone;
with your right hand to help us,
the victory shall be won;
and then, by earth and heaven,
your name shall be adored,
and this shall be our anthem:
one church, one faith, one Lord.

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Responding to God

Prayers of the People

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 (266) “Amazing Grace” vs.1, 2, 3, 4,5

1 Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.

2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed.

3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

4 The Lord has promised good to me,
this word my hope secures;

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God will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

- 5 When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.

Commissioning and Benediction

Although the road is long and the journey is hard
Although the mountains are too high
And the valleys are too low
By Your grace, give us hope
By Your power, give us strength
By Your mercy, give us wisdom
So that we may continue to go where You lead us
Until all Your children are safe from harm.
May we go with Your light shining in us. Amen.

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 "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty"
J.B.Dykes, arr. Lloyd Larson

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Thank you for joining our Zoom audio and video
worship service today. We hope you found the
worship service a meaningful experience.

Many thanks to B. Kai, J. Brooker, R. Bloor and R.
Kunihiro for coordinating our Zoom audio
and video service. Thanks to J. Cermak for reading
our scriptures. Thanks to K. Quinton, L. Lazar, and P.
Tibbles Cookson for inspiring us with their music.

**BUC Discussion Session about the options for
receiving COVID-19 Vaccine**, on Sunday, March 14th
from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. on Zoom. Dr. M. Nagai Noma,
S. Yamashita, B. Kai, R. Kunihiro, and L. Sumiya will
respond to questions you may have about getting the
vaccine. Others who have received the vaccine
would be welcome to share your experience as well.
To join, use Zoom worship link.

Lenten Project: Since 2017, when violence
escalated in Myanmar's Rakhine State, more than
720,000 children and adults from the ethnic Rohingya
minority have sought refuge in Bangladesh, fearing
for their lives. Many are exhausted, sick and hungry.
Rohingya children have witnessed things no child
should see while fleeing their homes in Myanmar.
From May until September, refugees face
Bangladesh's monsoon season, with heavy rains and
powerful winds that can tear through the camps,
leaving behind crumpled shelters and families
scrambling to rebuild. Save the Children is providing
vital food, shelter, health, nutrition, hygiene and
emotional care to the children.

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Our **Lenten Offering** this year will go to support the Rohingya Crisis in Cox's Bazaar, through **Save the Children**. You are invited to send a donation to BUC anytime in Lent or at Easter. If you make a donation, please specify "Lent, Save the Children". Thank you for your support of this important cause.

You can support Bayview United Church using **e-transfer** from your bank. Decide the amount you wish to donate, follow your bank's instructions & email to: office@bayviewunitedchurch.ca In the comments section indicate where you would like your donation to go, for example Local, Mission and Service, Easter, Memorial, etc. Thank you for your support of BUC.

Today, Sunday March 14th, Fourth Sunday of Lent 1:00 p.m. – Annual Congregational Meeting on Zoom audio/video. How to join the meeting: see the letters from the Annual Report package mailed to you. The link is a different number from the worship service.

Sunday March 21st, Fifth Sunday of Lent 1:00 p.m. Council Meeting on Zoom.

Sunday, March 28th, Palm/Passion Sunday with the celebration of Holy Communion. You are invited to have a piece of bread or cracker and a beverage and together we will share the Lord's Supper.

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

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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 email E. Turnbull or call R. Shikaze with your prayer request. Thank you.

God bless you, stay well, stay safe and we hope you tune in next week...same day, same time, and same Zoom phone number or video link.



Have a blessed day!