

Bayview United Church

2609 Bayview Avenue
Toronto, Ontario M2L 1B5
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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/j/89671808158>

Church Administrator: M. Leone

Music Director: K. Quinton

Minister: Rev. C. Cooper

Third Sunday of Lent

Sunday, March 20th, 2022 11:00 a.m.

Moment of Silent Reflection:

Self-Discipline is having the self-control to do only what we truly choose to do, rather than being blown about in the winds of our desires. Self-discipline gives us the will to persevere. It helps us to meet our goals, to be productive instead of procrastinating. It keeps us from saying or doing things we would regret. We are vigilant and honest with ourselves, which frees us to live by our highest values. We are able to weed out bad habits and cultivate good ones. Self-mastery is fulfilling to our souls. (The Virtues Project)

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Praising God

Prelude

"Barcarolle" Op. 45#8

Stephen Heller



Words of Welcome

Acknowledging the Territory

Call to Worship

Each one of us is Holy Ground!

We are cared for by a loving Gardener.

May God water the ground of our being.

Let us turn to God to quench our thirst.

Let God soften the soil around our hearts.

Together let us turn to Christ to lighten our hearts.

May God breathe new life into us.

Let us turn to the Spirit to feed our body and soul.

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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.

Hymn (373) "As Comes the Breath of Spring"
vs. 1,3,4,

1 As comes the breath of spring
with light and mirth and song,
so does your Spirit bring
new days brave, free, and strong.

You come with thrill of life
to chase hence winter's breath,
to hush to peace the strife
of sin that ends in death.

3 You come like songs at morn
that fill the earth with joy,
till we, in Christ newborn,
new strength in praise employ.

You come to rouse the heart
from drifting to despair,
through high hopes to impart
life with an ampler air.

4 You breathe and there is health;
you move and there is power;
you whisper, there is wealth
of love, your richest dower.

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Your presence is to us
like summer in the soul;
your joy shines forth and then
life blossoms to its goal.

Prayer for Grace (unison)

Holy God, thank You for Your constant love and support. Help us when we give up too soon or judge ourselves and others too quickly. Grant us patience and kindness. Be the Gardener of our lives. Water our soil, fertilize our roots and prune our branches that we may bear fruit and fulfill Your purpose. Amen.

Sung Assurance (154) MV "Deep In Our Hearts"

Deep in our hearts there is a common vision; vs.1
Deep in our hearts there is a common song;
Deep in our hearts there is a common story,
telling Creation that we are one.

Hebrew Scripture Isaiah 55:1-3; 6-9 M. Kitagawa
(When you come to God, you will have life.)

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



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Solo "There is a Balm in Gilead"
African-American spiritual
P. Tibbles Cookson, Mezzo Soprano

Sermon "Patient Gardening" Rev. Cooper

Hymn (664) "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"
vs.1, 2,3

- 1 What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry
everything to God in prayer.
- 2 Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged;
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful,
who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness;
take it to the Lord in prayer.
- 3 Are we weak and heavy laden,
cumbered with a load of care?
Christ the Saviour is our refuge;
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do our friends despise, forsake us?
Are we tempted to despair?
Jesus' strength will shield our weakness,
and we'll find new courage there.

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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 (382) "Breathe on Me, Breath of God"
vs. 1,2,3,4

- 1 Breathe on me, breath of God,
fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love,
and do what thou wouldst do.
- 2 Breathe on me, breath of God,
until my heart is pure,
until my will is one with thine,
to do and to endure.
- 3 Breathe on me, breath of God,
till I am wholly thine,
until this earthly part of me
glows with thy fire divine.

4 Breathe on me, breath of God:
so shall I never die,
but live with thee the perfect life
of thine eternity.

Commissioning and Benediction

May the Christ who walks on wounded feet,
walk with you to the end of your road;
May the Christ who serves with wounded hands,
teach you to serve each other;
May the Christ who loves with a wounded heart,
help you to love each other;
When you go out, may you see the face of Jesus
in everyone you meet,
and may everyone you meet
see the face of Jesus in you. Amen.

A Celtic Prayer

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 "Be Still My Soul" (Finlandia)
Jean Sibelius, arr. Cindy Berry

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, and R. Bloor for
coordinating our Zoom audio and video service.
Thanks to M. Kitagawa for reading our scriptures.
Thanks to K. Quinton, L. Lazar, and P. Tibbles
Cookson for inspiring us with their music.

Today, Sunday, March 20th, Third Sunday of Lent
1:00 p.m. – Council meeting on Zoom

Sunday, March 27th, Fourth Sunday of Lent

Sunday, April 3rd, Fifth Sunday of Lent

Sunday, April 10th, Palm Sunday and 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.

"March is Broadview Month"

Broadview (formerly the Observer): Renewal time
for the United Church's *Broadview* magazine is fast
approaching. If you already have a subscription,
please send \$25.00 to the church and indicate the
money is for your Broadview subscription. You may
either e-transfer the money to
office@bayviewunitedchurch.ca or mail a cheque to
2609 Bayview Ave, North York, ON M2L 1B5. If you
are a new subscriber, please follow the same
procedure but please also send **your full name and
mailing address to S. Yamashita**. All renewals and
new subscriptions are due by March 27th, 2022.

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If you have any questions, please contact our BUC Broadview Representative, S. Yamashita. Thank you.

Lenten Offering Project:

This year you are invited to support the United Church **Gifts with Vision** program. Your **donations** given to **BUC** on **Easter Sunday** will go towards supporting the following 3 projects:

1. In many communities in Zambia, water has to be brought from far away, often by young girls. The time-consuming task of bringing daily water forces them to give up their education. The People's Action Forum is **drilling a well** at Kamulaseni Community School in Chipata. With clean and safe water available locally, more girls will be able to stay in school, and the local community will benefit.
2. An **olive tree** can live 1,000 years in harsh conditions and yields a generous harvest. Over decades of Israeli military occupation, hundreds of thousands of olive trees in Palestine have been systematically destroyed. Many Palestinians rely on olive trees for their livelihood, nutrition, and other vital uses. Join the YWCA of Palestine and East Jerusalem YMCA in helping Palestinians plant trees for prosperity and peace.
3. More than 80 million people worldwide are currently fleeing danger, persecution, or starvation. Around the world, **displaced persons** face untold suffering and need, and their number is growing. On average, one person is displaced every two seconds. Food, shelter, education and training,

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health care, and other vital programs for displaced persons are even more important during the pandemic. The United Church's partners in Africa, the Middle East, and South America provide care and support to people who have had to leave everything behind.

Thank you for your support!

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

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 Rev. Cooper or call R. Shikaze with your prayer request.

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. If you do not use e-transfer you can always mail your cheque to the church. Thank you for your support of BUC.

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!