

# 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

Church Administrator: M. Leone

Music Director: K. Quinton

Minister: Rev. C. Cooper

## Fourth Sunday of Lent

Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023

11:00 a.m.

### Moment of Silent Reflection:

"The only thing worse than being blind is having sight but no vision." --**Helen Keller**

"Kindness is a language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see." --**Mark Twain**

"There is no better way to thank God for your sight than by giving a helping hand to someone in the dark." --**Helen Keller**

"Blind is not the situation when people cannot see others, but when people fail to feel or sense the existence of others." – **Millie**

## Page 2 Praising God

**Prelude** "The Church's One Foundation"  
Samuel Wesley, arr. Cindy Berry



### Words of Welcome

### Acknowledging the Territory

### Call to Worship

God invites us to see the world through new eyes.

As God's children we are called to focus on what gives us new life and light.

Let us open our eyes to opportunities that are pleasing to God so we can follow the pathway to God's inclusive love.

Thanks be to God who gave us Jesus, the Light of the World, to guide and nurture us each day.

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**Opening Prayer (unison)**

**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 (410) "This Day God Gives Me" vs. 1,2,3**

- 1 This day God gives me strength of high heaven,  
sun and moon shining, flame in my hearth,  
flashing of lightning, wind in its swiftness,  
deeps of the ocean, firmness of earth.
- 2 This day God sends me strength to sustain me,  
might to uphold me, wisdom as guide.  
Your eyes are watchful, your ears are listening,  
your lips are speaking, Friend at my side.
- 3 God's way is my way, God's shield is round me,  
God's host defends me, saving from ill.  
Angels of heaven, drive from me always  
all that would harm me, stand by me still.

**Prayer for Grace (unison)**

**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.**

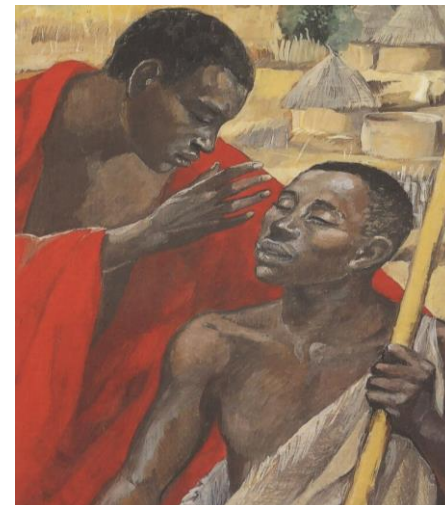
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**Sung Assurance (371) "Open My Eyes..." vs. 1,2**

- 1 Open my eyes, that I may see  
glimpses of truth thou hast for me;  
place in my hands the wonderful key  
that shall unclasp and set me free.  
**Silently now I wait for thee,  
ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!**
- 2 Open my ears, that I may hear  
voices of truth thou sendest clear;  
and while the wavenotes fall on my ear,  
everything false will disappear.  
**Silently now I wait for thee,  
ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!**

**Listening for God's Word**

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



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**Solo** "The Lord's My Shepherd"  
Scottish Psalter/Jessie S. Irvine  
L. Lazar, Soprano

**Sermon** "Was Blind, But Now I See" Rev. Cooper

**Hymn (266)** "Amazing Grace" vs. 1, 2, 3, 4

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

**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.**

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**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 (642)** "Be Thou My Vision" vs. 1,2,5

- 1 Be thou my vision, O joy of my heart;  
naught be all else to me save that thou art,  
thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
waking or sleeping thy presence my light.
- 2 Be thou my wisdom, my calm in all strife;  
I ever with thee, and thou in my life;  
thou loving parent, thy child may I be,  
thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.
- 5 Great God of heaven, after victory won,  
may I reach heaven's joys,  
O bright heaven's sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
still be my vision, O ruler of all.

**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,  
Stretch out your hands to serve;  
May the Christ who loves with a wounded heart,  
Open your hearts to love;

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May you see the face of Christ in everyone you meet,  
and may everyone you meet  
see the face of Christ in you. Amen.

A Celtic Prayer

**Choral Amen (424)** “May the God of Hope...” vs.1,2

May the God of hope go with us every day,  
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.  
May the God of justice speed us on our way,  
bringing light and hope to every land and race.

**Praying, let us work for peace,  
singing, share our joy with all,  
working for a world that's new,  
faithful when we hear Christ's call.**

2 May the God of healing free the earth from fear,  
freeing us for peace, both treasured and pursued.  
May the God of love keep our commitment clear  
to a world restored, to human life renewed. **R**

**Postlude**

“What a Friend”

Charles C. Converse, arr. Jack Schrader

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

**Today, Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup>,** Fourth Sunday of Lent

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**Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup>,** Fifth Sunday of Lent

**Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, Palm Sunday** and Celebration of  
**Holy Communion** on Zoom. You are invited to have  
a piece of bread or cracker and a beverage and  
together we will share the Lord’s Supper.

**Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 a.m. – Good Friday** worship  
service on Zoom. We will remember the last day of  
Jesus’ life.

**Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 a.m. - Easter Sunday.** This  
will be a hybrid service (in-person at BUC as well as  
on Zoom). We will celebrate the resurrection of Jesus,  
with special music and with J. Liddle on trumpet.

**"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](mailto: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 email **your full name and  
mailing address to**. All renewals and  
new subscriptions are due by March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023. 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 **International Development and Relief Foundation (IDRF)** which is providing aid to the victims of the Turkey & Syrian earthquakes. **IDRF** has launched its first phase of its emergency response program by helping survivors with **blankets, heaters, tents and jackets.**

Additionally, **IDRF** will provide **warm meals and emergency first aid** to families affected by this crisis.

**IDRF** is a non-profit Canadian registered charity based in North York, working with partners around the world and locally to facilitate relief and development programs.

Your **donations** given to **BUC** on **Easter Sunday** will go towards supporting this important aid program.

Thank you for your support!

**Bayview/Cummer Exploration Teams' Activities  
Week Ending March 18, 2023**

The activities of the Exploration Teams involved the following:

During the past week the following activities occurred:

- Bayview AGM was held on Sunday, March 12.
- Exploration Teams met on Tuesday, March 14.
- Ways to bring our congregations together discussed at Exploration Team meeting. Tours, joint services, meet and greet sessions to be arranged.
- Representatives from Bayview and Cummer attended a meeting of the Communities of Faith Commission of Shining Waters Regional Council to discuss a conceptual framework for a possible amalgamation.
- Chairs of Bayview and Cummer governing bodies met to discuss governance model.

- We have not yet heard from Toronto United Church Council about the two appraisals that have been done on the Bayview property.
- List of possible items to be relocated to Cummer from Bayview developed.
- Met with TUC to discuss the rental program at 53 Cummer and the possible financial consequences of an amalgamation.
- TUC is conducting a review of the building costs for 53 Cummer. As this is a new building the building costs are an estimate currently.

During the upcoming two weeks the following activities have been scheduled.

- M&P Committee meeting has been scheduled with the Cummer staff.
- Exchange of information between Cummer and Bayview concerning activities of each congregation.
- The Exploration Teams will further develop the framework for possible amalgamation.
- Joint committee meetings being scheduled.
- Tours of 53 Cummer being scheduled for Bayview congregation.
- Exploration Report to the two congregations to be drafted.



**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 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](mailto: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.



**Have a blessed day!**