Bayview United Church

2609 Bayview Avenue Toronto, Ontario M2L 1B5 416-447-5941 office@bayviewunitedchurch.ca

> 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

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Sunday, March 26th, 2023

11:00 a.m.

Moment of Silent Reflection:

"When everything seems to be going against you, remember that the airplane takes off against the wind, not with it." – **Henry Ford**

"Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall." **– Confucius**

"Hardships often prepare ordinary people for an extraordinary destiny." – C.S. Lewis

In the middle of a difficulty lies opportunity."

- Albert Einstein

Page 2 Praising God

Prelude

"As the Deer" Martin Nystrom arr. Douglas E. Wagner



New Life!

Words of Welcome Acknowledging the Territory

Call to Worship

Sometimes we are a people of dry bones, we have no hope.

God says, "We will be raised from our living graves and filled with the Spirit."

Sometimes our joy is dried up and we are depressed about the future.

God says, "The Spirit will be poured out on all flesh; the old will dream dreams and the young will see visions."

Come let us worship the God of resurrection, of new life and of new hope!

Opening Prayer (unison)

God of spring, we worship You as the Source of life and Creator of new beginnings. Warm our hearts and rekindle our faith. Rouse us to dance with joy and sing Your praise. Renew our hope in what is possible, and breathe Your Spirit of life into us and our church. Amen.

Hymn (373) "As Comes the Breath of Spring" vs.1,2,3

- 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.
- You come like dawning day with flaming truth and love, to chase all glooms away, to brace our wills to prove how wise, how good to choose the truth and its brave fight, to prize it, win or lose, and live on your delight.
- 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

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life with an ampler air.

Prayer for Grace (unison)

Loving God, sometimes our commitments feel like dry bones. We maintain structures, but we lack spirit. Breathe new life into each one of us, O God, and fill us with Your power for living, Your passion for loving and Your promise of new beginnings. May God raise us all to new life this day. Amen.

Assurance of Grace

The Spirit of God brings life and breath to us and to the world. We are God's people. Proclaim this good news. Amen.

Solo

"Abide with Me"
Henry Francis Lyte/William Henry Monk
P. Tibbles Cookson, Mezzo Soprano

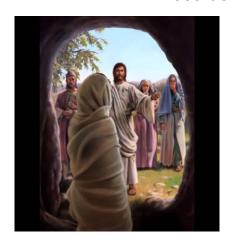
Listening for God's Word

Hebrew Reading Ezekiel 37:1-14 J. Brooker (A vision of dry bones coming to life.)



Gospel Lesson John 11:1, 5-7, 17-27, 38-45 (Jesus raises Lazarus.) J. Brooker

Choir Anthem "You Raise Me Up"
B. Graham/R.Lovland, arr. Joseph M.Martin recorded Nov. 2022



Sermon

"Live Again"

Rev. Cooper

Hymn (375) "Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness" vs. 1,2,4
Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,
blow thro' the wilderness calling and free,
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,
stir me from placidness,
Wind, Wind on the sea.

- 1 You moved on the waters, you called to the deep, then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep; and over the eons you called to each thing: wake from your slumbers and rise on your wings. **R**
- 2 You swept thro' the desert, you stung with the sand, and you goaded your people with a law and a land; and when they were blinded with their idols and lies, then you spoke thro' your prophets to open their eyes. **R**

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4You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes, from the bondage of sorrow the captives dream dreams,

our women see visions, our men clear their eyes, with bold new decisions your people arise. **R**

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 (586) "We Shall Go Out with Hope..."

We shall go out with hope of resurrection; we shall go out, from strength to strength go on; we shall go out and tell our stories boldly; tales of a love that will not let us go.

We'll sing our songs of wrongs that can be righted; we'll dream our dreams of hurts that can be healed; we'll weave a cloth of all the world united

within the vision of new life in Christ.

2 We'll give a voice
to those who have not spoken;
we'll find the words for those
whose lips are sealed;
we'll make the tunes
for those who sing no longer,
expressive love alive in every heart.
We'll share our joy
with those who still are weeping,
raise hymns of strength
for hearts that break in grief,
we'll leap and dance the resurrection story,
including all in circles of our love.

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;
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,

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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 "Fairest Lord Jesus" - Crusader's Hymn arr. Becki Slagle Mayo

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. Brooker for reading our scriptures. Thanks to K. Quinton, L. Lazar, and P. Tibbles Cookson for inspiring us with their music.

Today, Sunday, March 26th, Fifth Sunday of Lent

Sunday, April 2nd, 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 7th, 11:00 a.m. – Good Friday worship service on Zoom. We will remember the last day of Jesus' life.

Sunday, April 9th, 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. There will be light refreshments following the service.

Sunday, April 16th, 11:00 a.m. – 1st Sunday after Easter on Zoom.

"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 26th, 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.

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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!

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.

Have a blessed day!