



FAIRLAWN

Connect with what matters in life.



Fairlawn Avenue United Church
Sunday, May 12, 2024, 10:30am
Mother's Day

Rev. Jean Ward
Director of Music, Eleanor Daley
Fairlawn Avenue Senior Choir

2.

*Indicates when the congregation is to stand, if able.
The congregation is invited to say or sing **bold text**.

Welcome & Acknowledgement

***Processional Hymn** Joyful, Joyful We Adore You

VU #232

**Joyful, joyful we adore you,
God of glory, life and love;
hearts unfold like flowers before you,
opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
drive the gloom of doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.**

**All your works with joy surround you,
earth and heaven reflect your rays,
stars and angels sing around you,
centre of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain,
sound their praise eternally.**

**You are giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
well-spring of the joy of living,
ocean depth of happy rest!
Source of grace and fount of blessing,
let your light upon us shine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine.**

**Mortals join the mighty chorus
which the morning stars began;
God's own love is reigning o'er us,
joining people hand in hand.
Ever singing, march we onward,
victors in the midst of strife;
joyful music leads us sunward
in the triumph song of life.**

*Gathering Prayer

***Introit** Blessing for Mothers

E. Daley

We thank you, Creator, for mothers everywhere,
 Lord, may your love surround them,
 may your strength protect them,
 and may your truth guide them. Amen.
 (Christopher Idle, b. 1938)

Sharing Peace

Scripture The Woman at the Well

Anthem A Family of Love

Mary McDonald (b. 1956)

Thank you, God, for family, for those we call our own,
 for giving to each other a place to call our home.
 For sisters and for brothers, for loved ones all alone,
 we thank you, God, for family, our family of love.

We are one in God's Son. We are one, a family of love.

We are always together, whether we're near or apart;
 all united together, a family of love.

Thank you, God, for children you are trusting us to raise,
 and for the ones who raised us, we give to you the praise.
 Each one, part of you, Father, extensions from above.
 We thank you for our family, our family of love.

We are always together, whether we're near or apart;
 all united together, together in our heart.
 We are joined by your Spirit, coming or when we depart,
 all of us joining together, a family of love.
 (Mary McDonald)

Reflection

Rev. Jean Ward

**Mothering God, you gave me birth
in the bright morning of this world,
Creator, source of every breath,
you are my rain, my wind, my sun.**

**Mothering Christ, you took my form,
offering me your food of light,
grain of my life, and grape of love,
your very body for my peace.**

**Mothering Spirit, nurturing one,
in arms of patience hold me close,
so that in faith I root and grow
until I flower, until I know.**

Introduction of Offering

Offertory Anthem Prayer for Mothers
Senior Choir Women

Donna Butler Douglas

God bless the mother who sings to her child,
Peaceful and calm, her words soft and mild.
God bless the mother awake in the night,
Rocking her child 'til morning light.

*Gather all mothers in tender embrace.
Grant them your courage, your wisdom and grace.
Honour their place in your sacred design,
Of healing the world one child at a time.*

God bless the mother forgiving and wise,
Sharing God's grace through the light in her eyes.
God bless the mother oppressed by her fears,
Carried by faith 'til hope reappears. *R*
(Kathy Burdette)

***Presentation of the Offering**

**In gratitude and humble trust
 We bring our best today,
 To serve your cause and share your love
 With all along life's way.
 O God, who gave yourself to us
 In Jesus Christ, your Son,
 Teach us to give ourselves each day
 Until life's work is done.**

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

***Recessional Hymn** Bring Many Names

VU #268 (verses 1, 2, 3 and 6)

**Bring many names, beautiful and good,
 celebrate in parable and story,
 holiness in glory, living, loving God.
 Hail and hosanna! Bring many names!**

**Strong mother God, working night and day,
 planning all the wonders of creation,
 setting each equation, genius at play:
 Hail and hosanna, strong mother God!**

**Warm father God, hugging every child,
 feeling all the strains of human living,
 caring and forgiving till we're reconciled:
 Hail and hosanna, warm father God!**

**Great, living God, never fully known,
 joyful darkness far beyond our seeing,
 closer yet than breathing, everlasting home:
 Hail and hosanna, great, living God!**

***Blessing**

6.

*Choral Commissioning

E. Daley

(The choir will sing through once, and then the congregation is invited to join in.)

**May God's love surround you,
may God's wisdom guide you,
may God's light shine upon you,
until we meet again.**

Postlude

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HAPPY

 **MOTHER'S DAY** 

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