



FAIRLAWN

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100 Years
of Deep • Bold • Daring



ANNIVERSARY

The United Church of Canada • L'Église Unie du Canada

Fairlawn Avenue United Church
Sunday, June 9, 2024
Beginning of the United Church Centenary
Hymn Sing 10:15am
Worship Service 10:30am

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

2.

*Indicates when the congregation is to stand, as able.

Congregational responses, singing and readings in unison are indicated in bold text.

Welcome and Acknowledgement

Lighting of the Christ Candle

***Processional Hymn** Praise to the Lord, the Almighty VU #220

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, who rules all creation;
O my soul, praise him, at all times your health and salvation.
Come, all who hear:
brothers and sisters draw near,
joining in glad adoration.**

**Praise to the Lord, above all things so mightily reigning,
keeping us safe at his side, and so gently sustaining.
Have you not seen
how all you needed has been
met by God's gracious ordaining?**

**Praise to the Lord who will prosper our work and defend us;
surely his goodness and mercy will daily attend us:
ponder anew
what the Almighty can do,
who out of love will befriend us.**

**Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that has life and breath come now with praises before him!
Let the Amen
sound from God's people again:
gladly with praise we adore him.**

Prayer[1]

May the God of the past, present and future be with you.

And also with you.

Offer your hearts to our Creator, dear ones.

We do so, that God's light might shine in us.

Sing praises to God who loves us.

We rejoice in the One who invites us to this place.

From the hollowness of chaos,
 Imaginative God,
 you fearfully and wonderfully made all things:
***lightning that flashes on mountaintops,
 thunder that echoes off valley floors,***

We were intricately woven in your image,
 as you longed for us to be with your forever,
***but sin seemed too wonderful to us,
 and we followed it towards death.***

You sent trustworthy women and men
 to offer your invitation to come home,
***but we let their words drop from
 our ears and shatter on the ground.***

Grieving over the hardness of our hearts,
 you sent your Child to us,
 your treasure in human form.
***With all those who have found you,
 with those who continue to search,
 we lift our voices in thanksgiving:***

Holy, holy, holy are you, God of delight.
 All your wonder-filled works offer you praise.
Hosanna in the highest!

Introit

Behold, the Tabernacle of God

E. Daley

Behold, the tabernacle of God is with us,
 and the spirit of the Lord dwelleth within you.
 This is the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.
 (from Antiphons for the Feast of Dedication)

Scripture

Deuteronomy 5:6-21

(NRSVU)

"I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

"You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above or that is on the earth beneath or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity

4.

of parents to the third and fourth generation of those who reject me but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

“You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses my name.

“Observe the Sabbath day and keep it holy, as the Lord your God commanded you. Six days you shall labour and do all your work. But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, or your son or your daughter, or your male or female slave, or your ox or your donkey, or any of your livestock, or the resident alien in your towns, so that your male and female slave may rest as well as you.

“Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the Lord your God brought you out from there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm; therefore the Lord your God commanded you to keep the Sabbath day.

“Honour your father and your mother, as the Lord your God commanded you, so that your days may be long and that it may go well with you in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

“You shall not murder.

“Neither shall you commit adultery.

“Neither shall you steal.

“Neither shall you bear false witness against your neighbour.

“Neither shall you covet your neighbour’s wife.

“Neither shall you desire your neighbour’s house, or field, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.”

First Confession of Faith Twenty Articles of Doctrine (1925) Part 1

This is a Unison Confession. You are welcome to offer it with us all, and to hold back on any portions you are not in agreement with either because it does not reflect your beliefs or because you can not, in good conscience, offer words of a Century-old language.

Article I. *Of God.*

We believe in the one only living and true God, a Spirit, infinite, eternal, and unchangeable, in His being and perfections; the Lord Almighty, who is love, most just in all His ways, most glorious in

holiness, unsearchable in wisdom, plenteous in mercy, full of compassion, and abundant in goodness and truth. We worship Him in the unity of the Godhead and the mystery of the Holy Trinity, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, three persons of the same substance, equal in power and glory.

Article II. *Of Revelation.*

We believe that God has revealed Himself in nature, in history, and in the heart of man; that He has been graciously pleased to make clearer revelation of Himself to men of God who spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit; and that in the fullness of time He has perfectly revealed Himself in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, who is the brightness of the Father's glory and the express image of His person. We receive the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, given by inspiration of God, as containing the only infallible rule of faith and life, a faithful record of God's gracious revelations, and as the sure witness of Christ.

Article III. *Of the Divine Purpose.*

We believe that the eternal, wise, holy, and loving purpose of God so embraces all events that, while the freedom of man is not taken away, nor is God the author of sin, yet in His providence He makes all things work together in the fulfilment of His sovereign design and the manifestation of His glory.

Anthem O How Amiable E. Daley

O how amiable are thy dwellings, O Lord of hosts;
 my soul hath a desire and longing to enter the courts of the Lord,
 my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.
 Blessed are they who dwell in thy house, O Lord, ever singing thy praise.
 Let the favour of the Lord our God be upon us,
 and establish thou the work of our hands upon us;
 from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.
 (From Psalms 84 and 90)

Reflection Remembrances of Things Past

Rev. Dr. Cameron Watts

Passing the Peace

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father,
 Who art in heaven,
 Hallowed be Thy Name,
 Thy kingdom come, they 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, the power and the glory,
 Forever and ever. Amen.**

Introduction of Offering

Offertory Anthem Arise and Sing Dave and Jean Perry

Arise and sing, the Lord is King of all creation.
 Through all the land we raise a song of jubilation.
 We sing with praise for all the wonders to us given.
 Arise and sing, the Lord is King of all.
 Alleluia!

All glory be to God on high, our great Creator.
 We worship Thee, give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory.
 To earth bring peace, goodwill to all to last forever.
 O Lord, our God, our heav'nly King of all.
 Alleluia!

*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.**

***Recessional Hymn** Bless Now, O God, the Journey

**Bless now, O God, the journey
that all your people make,
the path through noise and silence,
the way of give and take.
The trail is found in desert
and winds the mountain round,
then leads beside still waters,
the road where faith is found.**

**Bless sojourners and pilgrims
who share this winding way,
whose hope burns through the terrors,
whose love sustains the day.
We yearn for holy freedom
while often we are bound.
Together we are seeking
the road where faith is found.**

**Divine Eternal Lover,
you meet us on the road.
We wait for lands of promise
where milk and honey flow.
But waiting not for places,
you meet us all around.
Our covenant is written
on roads where faith is found.**

***Aaronic Benediction**

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make Their face to shine upon you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up the light of Their countenance upon you
and give you peace.

8.

*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

[1] Thom Shuman, adapted, with permission

The United Church is turning 100!

Sunday, June 9 marks the beginning of the celebration of the Centenary of the United Church of Canada. Starting today, and continuing monthly in September, we will enjoy an early start to our worship services. At 10:15am Eleanor Daley, Director of Music, will lead us in a hymn sing. If you want to come and let out your joy a little more, come early and sing with us.

Later this afternoon, the initial celebratory service for the Centenary will be at Metropolitan United Church at 4:00pm, with the Reverend Dr. Michael Blair preaching.

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Website:
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