



Birchcliff Bluffs United Church

Ministers: All the People – wherever and however they gather

Minister of Word & Sacrament: Rev. Dr. Ellen Redcliffe

Music Director: Randy Vancourt

Musical Guest: Daniel Giverin

Reader: Mary Cannings

May 26, 2024 - Trinity Sunday

COUNTRY MUSIC SUNDAY

WE GATHER AS GOD’S PEOPLE

Prelude

Welcome

Lighting the Christ Candle

As we gather here this morning, we remember that all are welcome in this place. May the light that shines from these flames illuminate our path ahead, and help us to flourish together in love, peace and justice.

Land Acknowledgement

We now take a moment to acknowledge the sacred land beside the water on which Birchcliff Bluffs United Church stands. It has been a site of human activity for many thousands of years. This land is the traditional territory of the Huron-Wendat and Petun First Nations, the Seneca, and most recently the Mississaugas of the Credit River.

We are grateful for the opportunity to live and work on this territory and we seek to be mindful of broken covenants and the need to strive to make right with all our relations.

Opening Hymn

Turn Your Radio On

1. Well, come and listen in to the radio station
where the mighty Hosts of Heaven sing;
Turn your radio on, Turn your radio on,
If you wanna hear the songs of Zion
coming from the land of endless spring
Get in touch with God,
Turn your radio on.

Turn your radio on,
and listen to the music in the air.

Turn your radio on,
heaven's glory share
Turn your lights down low,
and listen to the Master's radio.
Get in touch with God,
Turn your radio on.

2 People listen in to the glory land chorus
listen to the glad hosannas roll
Turn your radio on, turn your radio on
Get a little taste of joy awaiting
get a little heaven in your soul
Get in touch with God
Turn your radio on.

Turn your radio on,
and listen to the music in the air.
Turn your radio on,
heaven's glory share
Turn your lights down low,
and listen to the Master's radio.
Get in touch with God,
Turn your radio on.

3 Don't you know that everybody is a radio receiver
all you have to do is listen to the call
Turn your radio on, Turn your radio on
If you listen in you will be a believer
leaning on the truths that will never fall
Get in touch with God
Turn your radio on.

4 Listen to the songs of the fathers and mothers
And the many friends gone on before
Turn your radio on, Turn your radio on
Some eternal morning we shall meet them
over on the hallelujah shore
Get in touch with God
Turn your radio on.

Turn your radio on,
and listen to the music in the air.
Turn your radio on,
heaven's glory share
Turn your lights down low,
and listen to the Master's radio.

Get in touch with God,
Turn your radio on.
(repeat chorus)

Life and Work of the Church

Scripture Psalm 29

¹ Give glory to God, you heavenly court,
give God glory and strength!

² **Give forth the glory that God's Name deserves,
and worship God in the splendor of holiness!**

³ The voice of God resounds over the waters;
the God of glory thunders over the raging seas.

⁴ **God's voice is powerful,
God's voice is full of majesty.**

⁵ The voice of God snaps the cedars,
shatters the cedars of Lebanon.

⁶ **It makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Sirion like a young wild ox.**

⁷ The voice of God strikes with bolts of lightning;

⁸ the voice of God shakes the wilderness,
the wilderness of Kadesh.

⁹ **The voice of God twists the oaks,
and strips the forests bare;
and in God's Temple all cry, "Glory!"**

¹⁰ God sits in judgment over the flood;
God is its Ruler forever.

¹¹ **Give strength to your people, God!
Bless your people with peace!**

Romans 8:12-17

¹² Therefore, dear brothers and sisters, you have no obligation to do what your sinful nature urges you to do. ¹³ For if you live by its dictates, you will die. But if through the power of the Spirit you put to death the deeds of your sinful nature, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.

¹⁵ So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit when you were adopted as God's own children. ¹⁶ For the Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God's children. ¹⁷ And since we are God's children, we are God's heirs. In fact, together with Christ we are heirs of God's glory. But if we are to share the glory, we must also share the suffering.

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn

Peace in the Valley

1 I am tired and weary but I must toil on
Till the Lords come to call me away
Where the morning is bright and the Lamb is the light
And the night is fair as the day

There'll be peace in the valley for me some day
There'll be peace in the valley for me, I pray
no more sorrow and sadness or trouble will be
There'll be peace in the valley for me

2 There the flow'rs will be blooming, the grass will be green
And the skies will be clear and serene
The sun ever shines, giving one endless beam
And the clouds there will ever be seen

There'll be peace in the valley for me some day
There'll be peace in the valley for me, I pray
no more sorrow and sadness or trouble will be
There'll be peace in the valley for me

3 There the bear will be gentle, the wolf will be tame
And the lion will lay down by the lamb
The host from the wild will be led by a Child
I'll be changed from the creature I am

There'll be peace in the valley for me some day
There'll be peace in the valley for me, I pray
no more sorrow and sadness or trouble will be
There'll be peace in the valley for me

Musical Guest

Reflection

Song

On The Wings of a Dove

On the wings of a snow-white dove
He sends His pure sweet love
A sign from above
On the wings of a dove

1 When troubles surround us
When evils come
The body grows weak
The spirit grows numb
When these things beset us
He doesn't forget us
He sends down His love
On the wings of a dove

On the wings of a snow-white dove
He sends His pure sweet love
A sign from above
On the wings of a dove

2 When noah had drifted
On the flood many days
He searched for land
In various ways
Troubles, he had some
But wasn't forgotten
He sent him His love
On the wings of a dove

On the wings of a snow-white dove
He sends His pure sweet love
A sign from above
On the wings of a dove

3 When Jesus went down
to the waters that day
He was baptized in the usual way
When it was done, God blessed his Son
He sent Him His love
On the wings of a dove

On the wings of a snow-white dove
He sends His pure sweet love
A sign from above
On the wings of a dove
(repeat)

Offering

At this time of Offering let us remember the many gifts we all enjoy and consider ways that we may give back, as we are able, to help support the work of this church in our community.

**Bless these gifts that we offer. Bless those who offer them.
Bless those who will receive, in turn.
May this circle of blessings continue.
Amen.**

Prayers of the People

A Country Prayer

Oh yes, I'm proud to know for sure,
I'm going Home one day;
But Lord I've got just one request,
about where I'm gonna stay.

I know you've got a place for me,
a huge mansion in the sky;
But living big is not for me,
no matter how I try.

I'd like to make a simple trade:
my mansion, harp and crown;
For just a simple cabin placed
beyond the edge of town.

I'll give up walking streets of gold,
for pathway through the woods;
As long as Heaven's where I'm at,
I think that I'll be good.

I ask for just a piece of land,
a place to hang my wings;
A porch with hooks up in the roof,
to hold my favourite swing.

A view of hills with grass so green,
in shade of big old trees;
The smell of lilacs in the air,
will be alright with me.
Amen.

Lord's Prayer

**Creator, in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your dominion come, your will be done
on earth, as in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread
and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors,
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil,
For yours is eternity,
the power, and the glory,
For ever and ever, Amen.**

BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

Closing Hymn

Will The Circle Be Unbroken

1 There are loved ones in the glory
Whose dear forms you often miss.
When you close your earthly story,
Will you join them in their bliss?

Will the circle be unbroken
By and by, O by and by?
Is a better home awaiting
In the sky, O in the sky?

2 You remember songs of heaven
Which you sang with childish voice.
Do you love the hymns they taught you,
Or are songs of earth your choice?

Will the circle be unbroken
By and by, O by and by?
Is a better home awaiting
In the sky, O in the sky?

3 You can picture happy gath'rings
Round the fireside long ago,
And you think of tearful partings
When they left you here below.

Will the circle be unbroken
By and by, O by and by?
Is a better home awaiting
In the sky, O in the sky?

4 One by one their seats were emptied.
One by one they went away.
Now the family is parted.

Will it be complete one day?

Will the circle be unbroken
By and by, O by and by?
Is a better home awaiting
In the sky, O in the sky?
(repeat)

Benediction & Commissioning

**And now may goodness and mercy be our source, our guide, and our destination as we continue our journey. Let us go forward, sharing that love with all those who we meet, and work for justice and peace for all people.
Amen.**

Choral Response

I'll Fly Away

Some glad morning when this life is o'er
I'll fly away
To that home on God's celestial shore
I'll fly away

I'll fly away, oh, Glory
I'll fly away
When I die, Hallelujah, by and by
I'll fly away

When the shadows of this life have gone
I'll fly away
Like a bird from prison bars has flown
I'll fly away

I'll fly away, oh, Glory
I'll fly away
When I die, Hallelujah, by and by
I'll fly away

Oh how glad and happy when we meet
I'll fly away
No more cold iron shackles on my feet
I'll fly away

I'll fly away, oh, Glory
I'll fly away
When I die, Hallelujah, by and by

I'll fly away

Just a few more weary days and then

I'll fly away

To a land where joy shall never end

I'll fly away

I'll fly away, oh, Glory

I'll fly away

When I die, Hallelujah, by and by

I'll fly away

Yeah, when I die, Hallelujah, by and by

I'll fly away

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