



Birchcliff Bluffs United Church

Ministers: All the People – wherever and however they gather

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Guest: Daniel Giverin

October 27th, 2024

**ALL HALLOWS MUSIC SERVICE
REFORMATION SUNDAY**

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude

King of the Fairies

Welcome

Introit

For All The Saints (v. 1, 2, 3, 5, 6)

VU 705

1 For all the saints, who from their labours rest,
all who by faith before the world confessed,
your name, O Jesus, be forever blest.

Hallelujah, hallelujah!

2 You were their rock, their fortress, and their might:
you were their captain in the well-fought fight;
you, in the darkness drear, their one true light.

Hallelujah, hallelujah!

3 O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
yet all are one within your great design.

Hallelujah, hallelujah!

5 But lo! there breaks a yet more glorious day
the saints triumphant rise in bright array:
as God to glory calls them all away.

Hallelujah, hallelujah!

6 From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,

sing to Creator, Son, and Holy Ghost:
Hallelujah, hallelujah!

Candle Lighting

We light the Christ candle today in memory of all those who have gone before us. Family, friends, church members; beloved souls who have left us but remain in our hearts and memories. We also light this candle to remember that we are an affirming congregation; Publicly, Intentionally and Explicitly welcoming all people.

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. The land we are worshipping on today is the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples, and is home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. We also acknowledge that Toronto is covered by Treaty 13 signed with the Mississaugas of the Credit, and the Williams Treaties signed with multiple Mississaugas and Chippewa bands.

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

Be Thou My Vision (v. 1, 2, 4, 5)

VU 642

- 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.
- 4 Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always;
thou and thou only, the first in my heart,
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.
- 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.

Call to Worship

When we pass through the rough waters,

You are there with us.

When we suffer and feel hopeless,

You are there with us.

When we are joyful and celebratory,

You are there with us.

Whether we feel triumphant or defeated,

You are there with us, always.

**Come, let us join our hearts and voices
together with all the saints throughout time
as we come together this day.**

Passing the Peace

We pass the peace (*with a bow, or a wave, or a nod to our neighbours*) to remind us of the light of Christ that is in each of us, and that we are called to reconciliation and community.

Let us greet those around you with the Peace of Christ, saying:

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Life and Work

Opening Prayer

The countless saints of history who have blazed a trail of courage through time,

The tender touch of loved ones, the example of heroes,

the healing words of comforters, the remarkable acts of fearless ones.

The gentle strength of grandmothers, the loyalty of friends, the kindness of strangers,

the joy of children, the sacrifice of parents.

The young and old, dead and living, articulate and silent,

strange and familiar, brilliant and ordinary.

In every time and place they have shown us the way.

We are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses,

so let us raise our voices together.

Amen

RECEIVING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading

Psalm 34:1–8

I will bless God at all times;
and praise shall continually be in my mouth.
² My soul makes its boast in God;
let the humble hear and be glad.
³ O magnify God with me,
and let us exalt God's name together.
⁴ I sought God, and I was answered
and delivered from all my fears.
⁵ Look to God, and be radiant,
so your faces shall never be ashamed.
⁶ This poor soul cried and was heard by God
and was saved from every trouble.
⁷ The angel of God encamps
around those who worship, and delivers them.
⁸ O taste and see that God is good;
happy are those who take refuge in God.
Many are the afflictions of the righteous,
but God rescues them from them all.

Mark 10:46–52 The Healing of Bartimaeus

⁴⁶ They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. ⁴⁷ When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁸ Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁹ Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you." ⁵⁰ So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. ⁵¹ Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said to him, "My teacher, let me see again." ⁵² Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn

Hallelujah! We Shall Rise

1. In the resurrection morning,
When we hear God's trumpet sound,
We shall rise, Hallelujah! We shall rise!
Then the saints will come rejoicing
And no tears will e'er be found,
We shall rise, Hallelujah! we shall rise.

We shall rise, Hallelujah!
We shall rise, Amen!
We shall rise, Hallelujah!
In the resurrection morning,
When death's prison bars are broken,
We shall rise, Hallelujah! We shall rise.

2. In the resurrection morning,
What a meeting it will be,
We shall rise, Hallelujah! We shall rise!
When our fathers and our mothers,
And our loved ones we shall see,
We shall rise, Hallelujah! We shall rise!

We shall rise, Hallelujah!
We shall rise, Amen!
We shall rise, Hallelujah!
In the resurrection morning,
When death's prison bars are broken,
We shall rise, Hallelujah! We shall rise!

4. In the resurrection morning,
We shall meet Him in the air,
We shall rise, Hallelujah! We shall rise!
And be carried up to glory,
To our home so bright and fair,
We shall rise, Hallelujah! We shall rise!

We shall rise, Hallelujah!
We shall rise, Amen!
We shall rise, Hallelujah!
In the resurrection morning,
When death's prison bars are broken,
We shall rise, Hallelujah! We shall rise.

In the resurrection morning,
When death's prison bars are broken,
We shall rise, Hallelujah! We shall rise!

Guest Musician

Reflection

Celebrating Hallowmas

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn

When The Saints Are Marching In

1. Thro' the shining gate,
Where the angels wait,
When the saints are marching in,
The redeemed shall come,
And be crowned at home,
When the saints are marching in.

When the saints are marching in,
When the saints are marching in,
Joyful songs of salvation
thro' the sky shall ring,
When the saints are marching in.

2. Parted friends shall meet,
On the golden street,
When the saints are marching in,
Spotless robes shall wear,
Victor's palms shall bear,
When the saints are marching in.

When the saints are marching in,
When the saints are marching in,
Joyful songs of salvation
thro' the sky shall ring,
When the saints are marching in.

3. Ev'ry tongue and race
Shall extol God's grace,
When the saints are marching in,
And the blood-washed throng
Shall repeat the song,
When the saints are marching in.

When the saints are marching in,
When the saints are marching in,
Joyful songs of salvation
thro' the sky shall ring,
When the saints are marching in.

When the saints are marching in,
When the saints are marching in,
Joyful songs of salvation

thro' the sky shall ring,
When the saints are marching in.

Offering

God of grace,
all we are and all we have is yours.
Accept our joyful offering
as a token of our abiding love:
may it be used to bring peace, justice
and comfort to all the world. Amen.

Prayers of the People

We give thanks for all those who went before us,
**Whether meeting in the outdoors or in cathedrals,
Whether wooden churches or crumbling cement meeting houses.**

We give thanks for hands lifted in praise:
**Manicured hands and hands stained with grease or soil,
Strong hands and those gnarled with age,
Holy hands.**

We give thanks for hardworking saints;
**Whether hard-hatted or steel-booted,
Head ragged or aproned,
Blue-collared or three-piece-suited
They left their mark on the earth for you, for us, for our children to come.**

We give thanks for the tremendous sacrifices made by those who have gone before us.
**Bless their memories.
May we learn how to walk wisely from their examples of faith, dedication, worship,
and love.**

We now take a moment to remember those we keep in our prayers. (pause)

And now, in the words we have been taught to pray, we sing...

**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

Sing With All The Saints in Glory

1 Sing with all the saints in glory,
sing the resurrection song!
Death and sorrow, earth's dark story,
to the former days belong.
All around the clouds are breaking;
soon the storms of time shall cease;
in God's likeness we awaken,
knowing everlasting peace.

2 Oh, what glory, far exceeding
all that eye has yet perceived!
Holiest hearts for ages pleading
never that full joy conceived.
God has promised, Christ prepares it;
there on high our welcome waits.
Ev'ry humble spirit shares it.
Christ has passed th'eternal gates.

3 Life eternal! Heav'n rejoices:
Jesus lives who once was dead.
Shout with joy, O deathless voices!
Child of God, lift up your head!
Life eternal! Oh, what wonders
crowd on faith: what joy unknown,
when amid earth's closing thunders,
saints shall stand before the throne!

Benediction & Commissioning

Be generous in prosperity, and thankful in adversity.
Be fair in your judgment, and guarded in your speech.
Be a lamp unto those who walk in darkness, and a home to the stranger.
Be eyes to the blind, and a guiding light unto the feet of the erring.
Be a breath of life to the body of humankind,
a dew to the soil of the human heart,
and a fruit upon the tree of humility.
Amen.

Choral Response

Peace Is Flowing Like a River

1 Peace is flowing like a river,
Flowing out through you and me;

Flowing out into the desert,
Setting all the captives free.

2 Joy is flowing like a river,
Flowing out through you and me;
Flowing out into the desert,
Setting all the captives free.

3 Love is flowing like a river,
Flowing out through you and me;
Flowing out into the desert,
Setting all the captives free.

Postlude

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