



Thornbury, Ontario
Grace United Church
Bold. Nurturing. Liberal. Christian.

JANUARY 16th, 2022

A Sunday of Music

Find this service at www.graceunitedthornbury.ca/live

Leading us today in Worship:

Music Director: Dr. Christopher Burton

Scripture Reader: Carol Clarke

Choir Members: Shirley Woolner,

Debby Weale & Mary Poulin

~ Leader: regular font ~ **All: bold font** ~ *Sung words: bold italics*

We Gather to Worship God

PRELUDE: Sonata in B Flat Major G.F. Handel

GREETING: (2 Cor. 13:13)

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

WELCOME:

Acknowledgement of the Traditional Territory:

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Let us come together in worship. Let us do this humbly and
prayerfully, remembering always that God is good and will
see us through our trials.

Lighting the Christ Candle:

The Christ candle is lit.

Light to soften shadows.

Light to warm the air.
 Light to warm our hearts.
 Light of presence, refining light, light of Christ.

OPENING PRAYER:

Dear Lord, let us share each other's talents and gifts, which may be musical or technical, or in any field of endeavour. Give us each a kind hand and a kind heart, so needed as you lead us through these unpredictable and unprecedented difficult times.

OPENING HYMN: VU 218 "We Praise you, O God"

1. We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
 in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
 We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;
 we bless your holy name, glad praises we sing.

2. We worship you, God of our mothers and fathers,
 through trial and tempest, companion and guide.
 When perils overtake us, you will not forsake us,
 but faithful to your promise, your walk by our side.

3. With voices united our praises we offer
 and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
 Our sins now confessing, we pray for your blessing,
 to you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

We Listen to God's Word

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION:

VU 371 "Open My Eyes, That I May See" vv. 1 & 2

1. Open my eyes, that I may see
 glimpses of truth thou hast for me;
 place in my hands the wonderful key
 that shall unclasp and set me free.

Silently now I wait for thee,
 ready, my God, thy will to see.
 Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

2. Open my ears, that I may hear
 voices of truth thou sendest clear;
 and while the wave notes fall on my ear,
 everything false will disappear.

Silently now I wait for thee,
 ready, my God, thy will to see,
 Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!

READINGS:

1 Corinthians 12: 1-11

(NRSV)

Salutation

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind — just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you — so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and

that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters.

RESPONSE:

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL INTERLUDE: Improvisation on a Hymn C. Burton

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING: (for our gifts):

During the pandemic, we have come to appreciate the gifts of many who do jobs that are far from glamorous but are essential to our well-being. It is not too late to write letters of thanks or show appreciation to those in our community of faith as well as the broader community.

Let us give thanks, always and for everything, saying, "We thank you, God."

For the beauty and wonder of creation,

we thank you, God.

For all that is gracious in the lives of all your people,
revealing the image of Christ,

we thank you, God.

For food and shelter, for families and friends,

we thank you, God.

For minds to think and hearts to love,

we thank you, God.

For the strength work, for delight in play,

For the energy to live and time to seek your way,

we thank you, God.

For those who are courageous in conflict, patient in suffering,

And faithful in adversity,

we thank you, God.

For all who pursue justice, truth, and peace,

we thank you, God.

Today, we give thanks especially for ...

For these signs of your love,

we thank you, God.

For all the saints who have reflected the light of Christ,

we thank you, God.

These and all our prayers, spoken and unspoken, we offer
to you through Jesus,

Your Gift and our Salvation. Amen

SPECIAL MUSIC:

Simple Gifts/Lord of the Dance Piano Solo arr. C. Burton

HYMN: VU 633 “Bless Now O God, the Journey”

1. 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.

2. 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.

3. 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, as faith is found.

Impromptu in G Flat Major, Op.90 #3 F. Schubert

VU 430 God be in My Head Solo by C. Burton

HYMN: VU 559 “Come, O Fount of Every Blessing”

1. Come, O Fount of every blessing,
 tune my heart to sing your grace;
 streams of mercy, never ceasing
 call for songs of endless praise.
 Teach me some melodious sonnet,
 sung by flaming tongues above.
 Praise the mount; I'm fixed upon it,
 mount of God's unfailing love.

2. Here I pause in my sojourning,
 giving thanks for having come,
 come to trust, at every turning,
 God will guide me safely home.
 Jesus sought me when a stranger,
 wandering from the fold of God,
 came to rescue me from danger,
 precious presence, precious blood.

3. O, to grace how great a debt
 or daily I am drawn anew!
 Let that grace now, like a fetter,
 bind my wandering heart to you.
 Prone to wander, I can feel it,
 wander from the love I've known:

here's my heart, O, take and seal it,
seal it for your very own.

We Respond to God's Word

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

Dear God, I am tired. So tired.
My shoulders ache,
my hip is out of joint,
and I am limping with the weight
of stuff that is not mine to carry.
Help me to be humble:
to know my limits,
where I am stretched
beyond what is healthy or reasonable.
Forgive my pride, the foolish illusion
that I am not important enough
to make a difference
and too important
to leave my fears and work in your hands.
Help me to truly learn from you,
O Jesus, and to rest in you.
In you, I will find true peace
and the ways and means
to truly serve you.
May my witness of faith
be a blessing to you and a gift to the world,
here and now, changing lives
with the small gestures of kindness
that build and transform our world.
In Christ, I pray, amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As a child turns to a loving caregiver who watches over them, we turn in prayer to you O God, who are our heavenly parent, our mother,

Our Father, who art in Heaven...

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The Peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

We share the peace of Christ by typing in the chat box.

You may also think of one person with whom you would like to share the peace of Christ.

MUSIC for PASSING the PEACE:

Blessed are the Pure in Heart

H. Walford Davies

INVITATION to the OFFERING:

Let us take this moment to donate as generously to the church as we are able online, via mail, and by PAR.

Ponder why we do it, why we come, and what the church is in our community and in our life.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION:

O God of the many spectacular gifts, we give in thanksgiving. We pray that you may take these gifts that we offer as well as those given through PAR, blessing and sanctifying all that we give. Let your love grow and spread around us. This we ask in the name of Jesus, the Christ, Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join us by Zoom following this service for:

Coffee Hour

The link was sent out by e-blast.

We Go Out to Share the Good News

HYMN: MV 161" I Have Called You by Your Name"

1. I have called you by your name, you are mine;
 I have gifted you and ask you now to shine.
 I will not abandon you; all my promises are true.
 You are gifted, called, and chosen; you are mine.

2. I will help you learn my name as you go;
 read it written in my people, help them grow.
 Pour the water in my name, speak the word your soul can
 claim,
 offer Jesus' body given long ago.

3. I know you will need my touch as you go;
 feel it pulsing in creation's ebb and flow,
 Like the woman reaching out, choosing faith in spite of
 doubt,
 hold the hem of Jesus' robe, then let it go.

4. I have given you a name, it is mine;
 I have given you my Spirit as a sign.
 With my wonder in your soul, make my wounded children
 whole;
 Go and tell my precious people they are mine.

COMMISSIONING and BENEDICTION:

May blessings abound around you this day. Feeling God's
 loving presence among us, let us go forth into the world,
 allowing our light to shine on all we meet.

SUNG BLESSING: VU 429 "May the Blessing of God be Upon You"

May the blessing of God be upon you,
 May God's love light all your way.
 May the grace of Christ enfold you
 And peace around you stay.
 May the spirit of God dwell within you.
 May you live in joy each day.

POSTLUDE: : Variations on a Theme by Handel Handel/Brahms

RESOURCES USED

LITURGY SOURCES: The following are used with permission:

Acknowledgement of Territory: written by Lori van Santvoort-Jansekovitch, Broadway UC., Thunder Bay, On.

Call to Worship. Lighting of Candles, Opening Prayer, Prayer of Invitation, Dedication of Offering & Benediction: written by Christopher Burton.

Prayer of Thanksgiving: VU 929A Words: Adapted from Book of Alternative Services, 1985, alt., © 1985 The General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada

Prayers of the People: Minister's Prayer During the Pandemic written by Wendy MacLean, of Christ United Church, Lyn On. Which appeared in Gathering, Spring 2021.

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Prelude: Sonata in B Flat Major G.F. Handel

Interlude: Improvisation on a Hymn C. Burton

Music for Passing the Peace: Blessed are the Pure in Heart H. Walford Davies

Postlude: Variations on a Theme by Handel Handel/Brahms

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Special Music: - "Simple Gifts/Lord of the Dance:" Piano Solo arr. C. Burton.

"Impromptu in G Flat Major, Op. 90 #3:" F. Schubert.

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