

LARGE PRINT ORDER of SERVICE



LENT 3

Welcome on March 15, 2009

Worship & Celebration: 9:00am & 11:00am

Social Time: following Worship & Celebration

We are so pleased that you're able to join us today in worship and celebration at MCC Toronto. We are a joyful, spiritual community of people committed to being an inclusive, affirmative, caring church.

If today is your first time visiting us and you like what is happening here and want to get involved, please fill in the orange welcome card found in the pew pocket. After service, please meet the presider at the back of the sanctuary who will share MCC Toronto information with you.

At the ❖ symbol, you are asked to rise in body or in spirit.

Phonic Ears for hearing assistance are available from the technical ministry volunteers at the sound booth.

We ask that you kindly turn your cell phone off during service. Our vision is to be a bridge. Whoever you are, wherever you are from, you are welcome! Even if today is your first time here, you are invited to participate fully in every part of the service as much or as little as you like. Here is a guide to our worship:

We are a house of prayer for all people. We affirm many paths to God. For non-Christ-centred Anointing or Communion blessings, please approach the anointer or server with your arms crossed over your chest.

Prayers of the People are when you are invited to name people or circumstances as prayer requests out loud, at the appropriate times, as you feel comfortable.

Lessons for Life are meant to inspire you in your spiritual journey and to challenge you to find ways to put your faith into action. CDs of the Lessons for Life are available at the Information Centre in the Social Hall and transcripts are available at www.MCCToronto.com

During the Time for Reconciliation and Healing you're invited to come forward alone or with a friend to receive an anointing for healing. An Anointer will anoint your forehead with oil and offer you a brief blessing. We all share God's love and celebrate God's unconditional gift of peace and freedom.

Building Bridges is possible because of the abundant giving of people just like you. Gathering our gifts, we celebrate the difference God makes in people's lives through our life as community.

We celebrate an open Communion. You do not need to be a member of this church or of any church to participate in Communion. If today is your first time in church, you are especially welcome to share in Communion. When you come forward, a

server will dip the wafer in the juice, place it in your mouth and offer you a brief blessing like: "Rejoice that God is love and this love is with you always." We serve only non-alcoholic wine and the wafers are 100% wheat. We celebrate a variety of understandings about communion and so we believe the bread and juice are transformed in community to be spiritual nourishment for all people.

Our Volunteers make it all possible! At times in our service, you may notice a number of people moving into position to serve. We extend a special thank you to all who make our celebrations possible through their gifts of time and talent today and every time we gather.

The Touch of the Holy: that's what our weekly celebrations are all about. We pray that God's presence will remain with you to bring you peace and joy.

Welcome / Life & Work of the Congregation

One Minute Celebrations

Hand of Friendship

Prelude

Thy Word

The Choir

Call to Worship ❖

One: God of Mystery,

Many: **Grant us new life through you today.**

Processional Hymn ❖

Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning

Our song shall rise to thee;

Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!

God in three persons, blessed trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,

Casting down their golden crowns

Around the glassy sea;

Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,

Which wert and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

All thy works shall praise thy name,

In earth, and sky, and sea;

Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!

God in three persons, blessed trinity!

Opening Prayer ❖

Anthem

I Want To Thank You God

Prayers of the People

During the Prayers of the People, you are encouraged to share aloud names of people who are brought into your thoughts for prayer.

One: Gracious God, your abundance surrounds us and sustains us. We thank you for gifts of friendship and new beginnings, for life as it unfolds and new opportunities for growth ... God of grace,

Many: We know you hear our prayers.

One: Spirit of hope, in our lives and in our world there are many troubled by concerns. Some face the uncertainty and pain of illness. Some wrestle with anxiety and fear, about work, about relationships and about themselves. We pray that your healing love may touch these lives ... God of hope,

Many: We know you hear our prayers.

One: Spirit of compassion, be with us as we face losses in our lives. Where there is disappointment, lead us to joy. Where there is grief, fill us with your peace. Where there is death, help us to say good-bye for now and not for ever. We pray for ... God of compassion,

Many: We know you hear our prayers.

One: Breath of the Universe, you have created us for joy. Open our minds to the gracious promptings of your Spirit, increase our trust and guide our hearts in the ways of the truth.

Many: God of many Names, you transform us by grace and renew us in peace.

Amen, Amen, Amen!

Sacred Readings

Luke 6: 38

One: Glory to you, O Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Many: Glory to you, O Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

One: Anyone who chooses, can be with me, says our God, and where I am, there shall you also be.

Many: Glory to you, O Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

John 6: 5-12

One: These are sacred readings.

May they comfort us, inspire us, and challenge us.

Many: Thanks be to God.

Many: Open our eyes, God, we want to see Jesus.

To reach out and touch him and say that we love him.

Open our ears, God, and help us to listen.

Open our eyes, God, we want to see Jesus.

Lessons for Life

8 Life Changing Messages from Jesus: From Want to Gratitude

Rev. Dr. Brent Hawkes, C.M.

Time of Reconciliation & Healing

Anointing, Flow Through Me

Anointing, flow through me

Anointing, flow through me

Let the power of your healing spirit, flow through me

Anointing, flow through me

Prayer of Reconciliation

One: Jesus showed us a way to a new relationship with God, freeing us from whatever binds us, reconciling us with God, with each other, and with ourselves.

And so we pray:

Many: **God, your grace
liberates us from the past,
frees us from sadness,
releases us from guilt.**

**Your love inspires us to sing a new song,
as we embrace the beauty within us,
in others and in you.**

**We open our hearts again
to the renewal, the forgiveness,
and the freedom you offer ...**

A time is provided for silent reflection or confession.

Affirmation of Freedom & Invitation to Healing

One: Hear the good news, God saying to us, "Behold, I make all things new!" In every moment, you are loved, and so you

are forgiven, free in the name of God who created you,
who dwells within you, and who goes with you always. Amen.

*As we sing together please come forward freely and receive
anointing for healing so that God's love might transform us in body
and spirit.*

Shepherd of My Heart

My Shepherd is the Lord, for nothing shall I want;
Green are the pastures where I'm, led to repose.
Near waters still and deep God will re-fresh my soul.
I am led onward in ways true to thy Name.

(chorus)

Guide me, O shepherd of my heart;
Lead me homeward through the dark,
Into everlasting day.
Show me the way of truth and light;
Keep me always in your sight.
May my life never part from the shepherd of my heart

If I should walk one day into the vale of darkness,
No evil shall I fear with God at my side.
There with your crook and staff you give me strength and comfort;
You spread a banquet in the sight of my foes. ***(chorus)***

You anoint my head with oil;
My cup is over flowing;
Goodness and kindness crown the days of my life.
Within the Lord's own house I dwell in peace for ever;
Within the house of God my soul is at rest. ***(chorus)***

I've Got Peace Like a River

I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river,
I've got peace like a river in my soul.

I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river,
I've got peace like a river in my soul.

I've got love like an ocean, I've got love like an ocean,
I've got love like an ocean in my soul.

I've got love like an ocean, I've got love like an ocean,
I've got love like an ocean in my soul.

I've got joy like a fountain, I've got joy like a fountain,
I've got joy like a fountain in my soul.

I've got joy like a fountain, I've got joy like a fountain,
I've got joy like a fountain in my soul.

Jesus' Prayer ❖

**Many: Our creator, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy dominion come;
thy will be done on earth as it is 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 thine is dominion,
and the power and the glory,
for ever. Amen.**

Offertory

Patti Jamieson

Read about Patti on page 3 of Connections.

Building Bridges

One: ...the ushers will come forward to receive our tithes,
and offerings.

Gathering of our Gifts

Our Journey of Faith

Many: Take a look around you, what do you see?
A world in need of comfort and peace.
We have a vision, we have a way.
Come walk beside us on our journey of faith.
Build a bridge of hope.
Make a path of understanding.
Plant a seed of truth.
Watch it grow. Help it grow.
We're building bridges together
On our journey of faith.

Blessing of Gifts

One: God, we offer these gifts out of our abundance to your
work in this community. Your love frees us to be generous
with each other and inspires us to action as we build
bridges in this place and from this place to a world hungry
for hope, for justice, and for peace. And so we
commission these gifts to your service in the world.

Many: We're building bridges together
On our journey of faith.

Celebration of Holy Communion

One: God is with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

Many: We lift them up to God.

One: Let us give thanks to our God.

Many: It is right to give thanks and praise.

One: It is a right and good and joyful thing, always and everywhere, to give thanks to you, God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with all the company of heaven who forever sing to proclaim the glory of your Name.

Many: **Holy, holy, holy one; my heart, my heart adores you!
My heart knows how to say to you, holy are you Lord!
Saint, Saint, Saint Très-Haut, mon coeur te donne louange,
Mon Dieu, mon coeur proclame avec joie,
Tu es le seul Éternel.**

**Let us be bread, blessed by our God,
Broken and shared, life for the world.
Let us rejoice, in love freely poured,
Let us be one in our God.**

Choir: I am the bread of life, broken for all.
Eat now and hunger no more.

Many: **Let us be love, blessed by our God,
Spoken and shared, life for the world.
Let us rejoice, in love freely poured,
Let us be one in our God.**

**One faith, one hope, one symbol of love
Given to us in this one bread, one cup.
O let us be one in our God.
Let us be one in our God.**

Invitation to God's Table

As others receive, please maintain an atmosphere of calm reflection, and join in singing the communion hymns.

Give Us This Day

Give us this day our daily bread;
You said you would supply all my needs, according to your riches.
I have but to ask, and I shall receive.
To go from here and share this love you've given me,
To show the ones who're lost and help them find the way,
The way to truth and love, so they can be free.
O God, we need your love!
O God, we need your peace!
O God, we need your joy, so we can be free!
Give us this day our daily bread.

Softly and Tenderly

Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,
Calling for you and for me;
See at the portals he's waiting and watching,
Watching for you and for me.

(chorus)

Come home, come home,
All who are weary, come home;
Earnestly, tenderly Jesus is calling
Calling, "O people, come home!"

Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading,
Pleading for you and for me?
Why should we linger and heed not God's mercies,
Mercies for you and for me? ***(chorus)***

Time is now fleeting, the moments are passing,
Passing from you and from me;
Shadows are gathering, death's night is coming,
Coming for you and for me. ***(chorus)***

O for the wonderful love he has promised,
Promised for you and for me;
Though we have sinned he has mercy and pardon,
Pardon for you and for me. **(chorus)**

A Wonderful Saviour

A wonderful saviour is Jesus my lord,
A wonderful saviour to me;
He hideth my soul in the cleft of the rock,
Where rivers of pleasure I see.

(chorus)

He hideth my soul in the cleft of the rock
That shadows a dry, thirsty land;
He hideth my life in the depths of his love,
And covers me there with his hand,
And covers me there with his hand.

A wonderful saviour is Jesus my lord,
He taketh my burden away;
He holdeth me up, and I shall not be moved,
He giveth me strength as my day. **(chorus)**

With numberless blessings each moment he crowns,
And, filled with his fullness divine,
I sing in my rapture, O glory to God
For such a redeemer as mine! **(chorus)**

When clothed in his brightness, transported I rise
To meet him in clouds of the sky,
His perfect salvation, his wonderful love,
I'll shout with the millions on high. **(chorus)**

Breathe

This is the air I breathe
This is the air I breathe
Your holy presence, living in me
This is my daily bread
This is my daily bread
Your very word, spoken to me

******please rise as you are able**

And I
I'm reaching for you
And I
I'm walking to you
And I
I'll walk beside you
I want to be with you.

Benediction ❖

Many: Amen, Amen, Amen!

Closing Words ❖

Closing Song ❖

How Sweet it is to be Loved by You

How sweet it is to be loved by you
How sweet it is to be loved by you

I needed the shelter of someone's arms
There you were
I needed someone to understand my ups and downs
There you were
With sweet love and devotion
Sweetly touching my emotion

And I want to stop
And say thank you
I just want to stop

How sweet it is to be loved by you
How sweet it is to be loved by you
How sweet it is
How sweet it is

Please join us in the Social Hall

Following our service, please join us for refreshments, find out about events at the Information Centre, and more!

We care, and we're here to listen. If you would like to pray with someone following today's service please approach the deacon who will be at the front of the sanctuary near the Communion table on the main floor.

We're with you in prayer.

You can send in a prayer request in any one of four ways:

1. Through the **prayer book in the Chapel,**
2. Call **(416) 406-6228 x 114,**
3. Send an e-mail to: **care@mcctoronto.com,** or
4. Through the link on the front page of our website at:
www.mcctoronto.com

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