

LARGE PRINT ORDER of SERVICE



EPIPHANY 5

Welcome on February 8, 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, or if you'd like to update your contact information in our database, please complete one of the Welcome Cards located in the pew pocket and place it in the offering plate as it goes by.

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

Baptism (11am)

Hand of Friendship

Prelude

This is the Day

The Choir

Processional Hymn ❖

River

River, rushin' down to ocean blue,
River from a mountain high.
River, as you do what rivers do,
River, draw the Spirit nigh.

Spirit, comin' down to the riverside,
Spirit, spark of wond'rous thought.
Spirit, I am free for you to guide.
Spirit, pray that I be taught!

Water, let me drink of your healing pow'r.
Water, strength and life you give.
Water, as I travel with each hour,
Water, help my body live.

River, flowin' down where you ran before,
River, source of clearer view.
River, as I walk your rocky shore,
River, see my journey through.
River, see my journey through.

Opening Prayer / 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

1 Corinthians 9: 16-18

One: Alleluia!

Many: Alleluia!

One: Holy Spirit, come dwell in us,
light our path with word and song.

Many: Alleluia!

Mark 1: 35-39

One: These are sacred readings.
May they comfort us, inspire us, and challenge us.

Many: Thanks be to God.

**Many: Glory to God all around us,
And to all creation peace!
O God all loving, we thank you
And give praise to you for your glory.
Jesus Christ, one with God,**

**Guide us, and show us the way.
For you O God are the holy one,
You O God are most high.
To Jesus Christ our trusted friend
And Holy Spirit evermore,
Be blessing and honour and glory,
Be all blessing and honour and glory,
Amen, Amen, Amen!**

Sharing of Stories through Word and Song:

Jackie Richardson

Time of Reconciliation & Healing

Come to the Water

And Jesus said, "Come to the water, stand by my side.
I know you are thirsty, you won't be denied.
I felt every tear-drop when in anguish you cried,
And I strove to remind you that for those tears I died."

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.

Amazing Grace

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a soul like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was bound but now I'm free.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
This word my hope secures;
God will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

Holy Ground Medley

We are standing on holy ground,
and I know that there are angels all around.
Let us praise Jesus now;
for we are standing in God's presence on holy ground.

This is holy ground.
We're standing on holy ground.
For the Lord is present,
and where God is, is holy.

This is holy ground.
We're standing on holy ground.
For the Lord is present,
and where God is, is holy.

These are holy hands.
God's given us holy hands.
God works through these hands,
And so these hands are holy.

These are holy hands.
God's given us holy hands.
God works through these hands,
And so these hands are holy.

We are standing on holy ground,
and I know that there are angels all around.
Let us praise Jesus now;
for we are standing in God's presence on holy ground.

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

Jackie Richardson

Read about Jackie on page 3 of Connections.

Building Bridges

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

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 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, loving God, 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 God!
¡Santo, santo, santo, mi corazón te adora!
¡Mi corazón te sabe decir, Santo eres mi Dios!**

One: On the night you were betrayed, you took the bread, After giving thanks you broke it and said, "This is my body, broken for you, And as you do this, remember me."

Many: **"This is my body, broken for you,
And as you do this, remember me."**

One: On the night you were betrayed you held the cup.
After giving thanks, you lifted it up.
"This is my life, poured out for you,
And as you do this, remember me."

**Many: "This is my life, poured out for you,
And as you do this, remember me."**

One: So we thank you for the cup and for the bread,
For we see the love you gave and the life you led.
And we remember your wondrous love,
You gave your body, you showed your love.

**Many: And we remember your wondrous love,
You gave your body, you showed your love.**

One: Let us now proclaim the Mystery of our Faith:

**Many: Christ has died!
Christ is risen!
Christ will come again!**

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.

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)***

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)**

Alleluia

Because You Live ❖

Because you live, I can face tomorrow;
Because you live, all fear is gone;
Because I know you hold the future,
And life is worth the living, Just because you live.

Benediction ❖

Many: Amen, Amen, Amen!

Closing Words ❖

Closing Song ❖

This Little Light of Mine

This little light of mine
I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine
I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine
I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Hide it under a bushel, No,
I'm gonna let it shine
Hide it under a bushel, No,
I'm gonna let it shine
Hide it under a bushel, No,
I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

I'm gonna walk my whole life through
With this living light of mine
I'm gonna walk my whole life through
With this living light of mine
I'm gonna walk my whole life through
With this living light of mine
I'm gonna let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

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 171,**
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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