

**GEORGE STREET UNITED CHURCH
ROOTED IN THE ROCK:
TRANSFORMING FOR TOMORROW**



 **November 8th, 2020**

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Worship Leader: Rev. John Maich B.C.S M.Div.

Organist & Senior Choir Director:

Dr. Carolyn Sturge Sparkes, B. Mus., PhD

Men's Choir: Directed by William Green.

Office Hours: 10^{AM} – 1^{PM} **Number:** 726-8775

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WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Organ Prelude:

Introit:

For the Fallen

Mike Sammes

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship:

ONE: Come all you children of God. Come to the font of all life in remembrance and thanksgiving.

MANY: Great and mighty God, we come into your sanctuary on this day reminded of the sacrifice your Son made on the cross to save our souls and the sacrifices many others have made to save our freedoms. We praise you for your great compassion and the courage you have planted in the hearts of those who serve God, country and neighbour.

*Hymn: VU 806 *O God Our Help in Ages Past* (see insert)

Opening Prayer:

ONE: Today, O Lord, our hearts turn to the conflicts of past and present times.

We remember those who left home and kindred to stand against threats to our nation and our freedoms.

MANY: Today, O Lord, we set our minds upon those who left and did not return.

We mourn their lives poured out in agony. Today, O Lord, we turn our hearts to

Those who did return changed. Whose souls have been scarred by violence.

Help us to be mindful of commitments to peace we have made as citizens and nations

In order that we may have no longer need to carve names into memorials and generations

Will grow unmolested by global conflicts. Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ:

Prayer of Confession:

ONE: Come now, let us reason together says the Lord, though your sins be like scarlet they shall become whiter than snow.

MANY: We confess, Lord God of Hosts the violence and prejudice that finds its origins in our hearts. We lament that we resist your perfect love which drives out all fear and embrace suspicion which fosters hatred. We confess that We have promised to value peace and yet we crave power over others. Help us to remember the teachings of your Son and create a clean spirit within us.

Words of Assurance:

ONE: Rejoice and be glad for you are new creations in Christ Jesus therefore you will not be subject to condemnation.

MANY: Once, we were stained by our sin like crimson, now by the grace of our Redeeming Christ we stand in white robes of righteousness. Praise be to God for his mercy and compassion.

***Hymn: VU 659 *Eternal Father Strong to Save* (see insert)**

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination (in unison):

MANY: Gracious and loving God, you reveal yourself to us through Creation, Christ Jesus, your only Begotten Son and, through the words of Holy Scripture. Open your words to us this day that in hearing we may understand and with understanding we may follow you into action. Amen.

Reading: Joshua 24: 1-3, 14-25

Anthem: *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace* S.Temple/J. Holsten

Message: Witnesses Against Ourselves

Hymn: VU 159 *The Strife Is Over* (see insert)

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Invitation to the Offering:

ONE: Thankful for what we have received from you so freely we offer tokens of our gratitude. This morning's offering will be received.

Offertory Accompaniment *Organ Music*

OFFERTORY PRAYER: (in unison)

MANY: You Lord, are the God who provides. Every good and perfect gift that we have ever known is a gift from your hand.

Please accept these gifts that we offer. Accept them, bless them and multiply them so that they can be of service to your kin and your kingdom. Amen.

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

The National Anthem: *O Canada (see insert)*

Litany of Remembrance:

ONE: God Almighty, we pause now to offer our prayers and petitions for those who have perished as a result of conflict and the strife of war.

We pray not only for those who have given of themselves willingly and have paid the supreme sacrifice but also for those who have, through the course of war taken lives and shed the blood of others. We pray for the innocent casualties of hatred and terror. We pray for those who continue to stand ready in defence of county or the protection of neighbour. May we be worthy of the sacrifices made on our behalf and may those who have sacrificed be blessed in your sight.

MANY: May your blessing, O God, be upon them.

ONE: Bless O God the survivors of battle, who bear upon hearts and minds wounds that only your grace may heal.

MANY: May your blessing, O God, be upon them.

ONE: Bless and keep those who continue to train and who stand ready to defend our freedoms and our liberties. May their sacrifices not be in vain.

MANY: May your blessing, O God, be upon them.

ONE: We gather these prayers and fold them into the prayer that your Son taught us to pray saying,

MANY: Our Father Amen.

Reading the Rolls:

The Last Post:

Silent Remembrance:

Reveille:

The Traditional Act of Remembrance:

ONE: They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.

MANY: We will remember them.

ONE: Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet.

MANY: Lest we forget – lest we forget.

The Royal Anthem: God Save The Queen *(see insert)*

Prayer:

ONE: Loving and compassionate God may your grace be ever upon us.
Guide our memories so that we do not forget
the price paid for our freedom and our security.

MANY: Let us not forget the blood shed by your Son or the lives laid down by sons and daughters in the generations before and today's generation. Guard our hearts that we only lean to the pursuit of peace and justice in the world you have given to us. Let us remember those who died and honour those who have lived and let us be agents of grace assisting in the healing work that they will need. Amen.

***Hymn: VU 560 O Master Let Me Walk with Thee** *(see insert)*

***BENEDICTION:**

ONE: As people of God, you form a community of faith within
The United Church of Canada

MANY: Within this community of faith, we are blessed and blessing.

***COMMISSIONING (in unison):**

ONE: Go now and proclaim the good news of Christ's gospel.

MANY: We will testify to God's creative caring and to the Spirit's empowerment and encouragement of our community. We will use our many and varied gifts to reach out to our neighbours and embody God's love for them in the world.

Choral Benediction: Let us, O God, Depart in Peace G.Whelpton

OUTREACH AT GEORGE STREET UNITED CHURCH

The Jimmy Pratt Outreach Centre continues to operate its Soup Kitchen by providing takeaway hot meals rather than a sit in, weekly, from the front doors of George Street United Church, serving over 200 people each week.

Our Beginnings

The Soup Kitchen at George Street United Church was opened in the Jimmy Pratt Memorial Outreach Centre with the support of Kathy LeGrow. Since its inception in January 2002, the Jimmy Pratt Memorial Outreach Centre has served in excess of 250,000 meals in its eighteen-year history.

Our Future

Thanks to the patronage of Elinor Gill Ratcliffe, Corporate sponsors, government program support and the generosity of our congregation, our Soup Kitchen expanded to include an Internet Access Centre based on the results from a survey of outreach center patrons. The outreach center continues to expand to meet the needs of residents of the greater St. John's area in particular residents of the downtown core. A Senior's Inclusion Program was introduced in 2010 and a Winter Hot Breakfast Program was introduced in 2011.

Our Sponsors

Elinor Gill Ratcliffe, Canship Uglund, Food Sharing Assoc., Capital Hyundai, City Honda, Altius Resources, Production Services Network, Manna Bakery, Delta Hotel, Stewart McKelvey-Lawyers, The United Way, Tim Horton's (Ropewalk Lane), Husky Energy, Nalcor Energy, CRA Social Club, Verifin, Ryan & Lesley Gates, Terra Nova Foods, Wood Gundy, Pratt Foundation, Mary Brown's (Avalon Mall), Bluedrop, Murry Premises Hotel, CNLOPB. CNR, RBC

How You Can Help

- Become a sponsor of the Outreach program
- Remember a loved one by giving a special gift to the outreach centre