

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



January 17th, 2021

2nd Sunday after Epiphany

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.

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Organ Prelude: Wie schon leuchtet der Morgenstern (How Brightly Shines the Morning Star)--J. S. Bach

Introit: God Who Touches Earth with Beauty (vs. 1) ----M. Edgar/J. Jones

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship:**

ONE: Come, all you people! Come into the majesty of God's presence where there can be no secrets. Come into the gaze of God Most High where you will be searched, known and loved.

ALL: **We come, longing to belong and wanting to be known. We come, mindful of all that we bring with us and hopeful that the God of all grace will still welcome us into God's loving embrace. We come, to praise and honour the glory and wonder of the God of gods.**

***Hymn:** VU 314 Come Now Almighty King

COME NOW, ALMIGHTY KING

**Come now, almighty King,
Help us your name to sing,
Help us to praise,
One God all glorious,
ever victorious,
Come and reign over us,
Ancient of Days.**

**Come now, incarnate Son,
Your life in us begun,**

**Our prayer attend;
Come and your people bless,
Come, give your word success;
Establish your righteousness,
Saviour and friend.**

**Come Holy Comforter,
Your sacred witness bear,
In this glad hour;
Your grace to us impart,
Now rule in every heart,
Never from us depart,
Spirit of Power.**

**To the great One in Three,
Eternal praises be
Forever more;
Your sovereign majesty
May we in glory see,
And to eternity
Love and adore.**

Opening Prayer:

ONE: O Lord of Hosts, you have called us into being and given us purpose. You have called us out of selfish ways to join you in your temple and become your Holy people. You call us to set ourselves apart and to be different in the world.

ALL: **When we are tempted, Lord Jesus, to think that the call to be different makes us better please, make us humble. When we begin to wander from your call**

**to love you and our neighbour Redeeming Christ,
set our feet upon your
holy pathways and point us in your holy way. In
your power use us to bring others to you and in
your mercy do not permit us to keep others away
from you.**

Sharing The Peace Of Christ:

Prayer of Confession

ONE: Let us come before the Lord of heaven and earth and confess our sins.

ALL: **Father in heaven, we have sinned against you and you alone. Forgive us for our sins of commission or omission and remember the grace of your Son, our Saviour. Wash us clean in our hearts and our spirits and see us holy as your Son is holy. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon:

ONE: Behold, the grace of God covers over the multitudes of our sins.

ALL: **We sing of God's compassion and the grace won for us by Jesus Christ upon the cross and through the grave. We are new creations in Christ Jesus and free from condemnation.**

***Hymn: VU 296 This Is God's Wondrous World**

THIS IS GOD'S WONDROUS WORLD

**This is God's wondrous world
And to my listening ears
All nature sings and round me rings
The music of the spheres
This is God's wondrous world;
I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees,**

**Of skies and seas,
God's hand the wonders wrought.**

**This is God's wondrous world:
The birds their carols raise;
The morning light, the lily white,
Declare their Maker's praise.
This is God's wondrous world:
God shines in all that's fair;
In the rustling grass
Or the mountain pass,
God's voice speaks everywhere.**

**This is God's wondrous world:
O let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the ruler yet.
This is God's wondrous world:
Why should my heart be sad?
Let voices sing,
Let the heavens ring:
God reigns, let earth be glad.**

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: 1 Samuel 3: 1-10

Reading: John 1: 43-51

Reading: 1 Corinthians 6: 12-20

Musical Offering: Father Almighty---C. Franck
Christa Chaplin--Soprano
Josh Shea---Bass

Message: You Are Not Your Own

Hymn: VU 560 O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee

O MASTER, LET ME WALK WITH THEE

**O Master, let me walk with thee
In lowly paths of service free;
Teach me thy secret help me bear
The strain of toil the fret of care.**

**Help me the slow of heart to move
With some clear winning word of love;
Teach me the wayward feet to stay,
And guide them in the homeward way.**

**Teach me thy patience; still with thee,
In closer, dearer company,
In work that keeps faith sure and strong,
In trust that triumphs over wrong,**

**In hope that sends a shining ray
Far down the future's broadening way,
In peace that only thou canst give,
With thee, O Master, let me live.**

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Invitation to the Offering:

ONE: In light of all that our God has done for us and in recognition to all the love that our God has showered down upon us let us come forward bringing our gifts of gratitude and thanksgiving. This morning's offering will be received.

Offertory Prelude: Interlude---W. Hine

OFFERTORY PRAYER: (in unison)

ALL: O Lord our God, we praise you for your constant and loving care to us your children. There is no way that we can adequately repay you for your mercy even so, we bring these gifts of our thankfulness forward asking that you would bless these gifts and multiply these gifts in order that they might serve your children and your church. Amen.

***Hymn:** VU 420 Go To The World

GO TO THE WORLD

**Go to the world! Go into all the earth.
Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth,
Baptizing as the sign of our rebirth.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

**Go to the world! Go into every place.
Go live the Word of God's redeeming grace.
Go seek God's presence in each time and space.**

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

**Go to the world! Go struggle, bless and pray;
The nights of tears give way to joyous day.
As servant Church, you follow Christ's own way.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

**Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,
For I am with you 'til the age shall end,
When all the hosts of glory cry "Amen!"
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

***BENEDICTION:**

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

ALL: **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.

ALL: **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.**

Vesper: God Who Touches Earth with Beauty (vs. 4 and 5) ----M.
Edgar/J. Jones

Organ Postlude: Canzonetta---D. Buxtehude