

SYDENHAM STREET AND CHALMERS
UNITED CHURCHES
A JOINT WORSHIP SERVICE



JANUARY 24, 2021

INSIGHTS FOR EPIPHANY 3

Joint Truth and Reconciliation Action Group,
supported by Chalmers and Sydenham Street United Churches,
will lead us in Worship.

Juliet Huntly and Jim Leake will share the Reflection
on why it is so difficult to talk about racism;
other Joint Truth and Reconciliation Action Group members
will contribute to the service.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

Since time immemorial, Indigenous peoples have occupied and cared for this land. In acknowledging this land, the traditional home of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee, we seek to rebuild right relations with First Nations, Metis and Inuit peoples, to learn from them, and to live on this land with respect and gratitude for its bounty.

Due to the Covid regulations, our Services are currently being pre-recorded and posted on our YouTube channels.

CHURCHES

Chalmers United Church

Is a community of God's people who embrace Christian tradition and encourage new ideas. We gather to: Celebrate God's love; Search and be challenged; Nurture and be nurtured. We seek to: Welcome all who come; engage all ages in Ministry; be guided by faith in daily life; and be a compassionate, hopeful presence in the world. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. (1997)

On Sunday Jan.31 the Guest Minister for the Chalmers pre-recorded Worship Service will be the Rev. Don McLean.

Starting on Feb. 7, the first Worship Service at Chalmers each month will be held via Zoom. For more information, please see page 8.

212 Barrie St. Kingston ON K7L 3K3 **p** 613-546-3263 **f** 613-546-3340
e <office@chalmersunitedchurch.com>

rentals/room bookings 613-546-3263 x 221

Web <www.chalmersunitedchurch.com>

Live Online <www.chalmersunitedchurch.com> 10:30 am Sundays

Sydenham Street United Church

As an Affirming Congregation seeks to be a vital faith community within The United Church of Canada engaged in spirituality, justice and creativity, informed by Jesus Christ and the Bible, and discerning the call of the Trinity as we celebrate diversity, inclusivity and abundant life.

82 Sydenham St. Kingston ON K7L 3H4 **p** 613-542-9616 x 201
f 613-542-8784 **e** sydenham@kos.net **web** <www.sydenhamstreet.ca>

Online Sunday Services: www.youtube.com/user/SydenhamStreet

Bold Text indicates the parts that everyone reads together.
Song Books are: VU *Voices United* and MV *More Voices*

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Excerpt from *Give Thanks* Canon adapted - Donald Moore
based on a canon - Lowell Mason

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

CENTRING MUSIC

Draw Nigh to God

additional piano arrangement - Michael T. Fenn

CALL TO WORSHIP

O Breathing Life,
Your Name shines everywhere!
Release a space to plant your Presence here.
Imagine your possibilities now.
Embody your desire in every light and form.
Grow through us this moment's bread and wisdom.
Untie the knots of failure binding us,
as we release the strands we hold of others' faults.
Help us not forget our Source,
yet free us to be fully in the Present.
From you arises every Vision, Power and Song
from gathering to gathering. Amen.

Credit: Mark Berry, Telford Shropshire, United Kingdom Emerging Church Movement,
Aramaic re-translation.

INTROIT

HYMN VU 679 *Let There Be Light*

v. 1 & 2

1 Let there be light,
let there be understanding.
let all the nations gather,
let them be face to face;

2 open our lips,
open our minds to ponder,
open the door of concord
opening into grace;

Words: Francis Wheeler Davis 1968 Music: Robert J.B. Fleming 1967 © 1968 Hope
Pub. desc ©1987 Songs for a Gospel People
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GATHERING PRAYER

Gracious and generous God, you are indeed holy mystery,
wholly love. In this season of epiphany, may we take our guidance
from the wise ones in the ancient story,
who opened themselves to new insights,
...New insights and understandings...
as they gazed on the babe, this Jesus,
who shows us the way of wholly love. Amen.

HYMN VU 697 *O for a World*

V. 1-4

1 O for a world where everyone
respects each other's ways,
where love is lived and all is done
with justice and with praise.

2 O for a world where goods are shared
and misery relieved,
where truth is spoken, children spared,
equality achieved.

3 We welcome one world family
and struggle with each choice
that opens us to unity
and gives our vision voice.

4 The poor are rich, the weak are strong,
the foolish ones are wise.
Tell all who mourn: outcasts belong,
who perishes will rise.

Words: Walter Farquharson 1977 Music: Ron Klusmeier 1977
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LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD.

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

We open now to Sacred Mystery, to the Holy One,
infinitely greater than words can express,
whose love for us and all creation
exceeds our capacity to imagine. Amen

SCRIPTURE READING

Jonah 3: 1 - 5, 10

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Bones - Lynn Ungar

You tell me *I don't have
a racist bone in my body*
and I believe you.
The pillars of your tibia,
the delicate wing of your clavicle,
the intricate jewelry of your feet,
all are innocent in their creamy whiteness.
Your brain is a different story.
Your brain, like mine, is tribal
from its prehistoric roots.
Your brain, like mine, was grown
in a laboratory of lies. Your brain,
like mine, tells stories that are thrilling
but unreliable. Your brain, like mine,
is doing the best it can
to make its way in a broken world.
It is your muscle that scares me.

REFLECTION

Why is it so Hard to Talk about Racism?

Juliet Huntly, Jim Leake

SPECIAL MUSIC

duet for flute and clarinet

Opus 46, No. 1, Movement 2 - Kaspar Kummer, composer (1795-1870)

Sarah Corbett, flute, Alexander Wolff, clarinet
from the Queen's University Bachelor of Music program

RESPONDING TO GOD'S LOVE

MINUTE FOR MISSION

SHARING OUR GIFTS

Offerings are gratefully received online
by e-transfer to: envelopesecretary@chalmersunitedchurch.com
or through Canada Helps to:
CHALMERS UNITED CHURCH | Charity Profile | Donate Online | Canadahelps
or by Canada Post.

OFFERTORY

HYMN VU 541 *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures high and low;
give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.

Words: Thomas Ken ca. 1674 Music: Genevan Psalter 1551
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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER OF JESUS

Our Father, Our Mother, Our Holy One, May our kin-dom come
And your will be done here on earth.
May we find this day the bread we need
And may we feel forgiveness for our missteps
And forgive, freely others for theirs.
May we walk away from temptation and focus on good.
For yours is the kin-dom, the power
And the glory, now and forever. Amen

HYMN VU 678 *For the Healing of the Nations*

1 For the healing of the nations,
God, we pray with one accord;
for a just and equal sharing
of the things that earth affords.
To a life of love in action
help us rise and pledge our word.

2 Lead us forward into freedom,
from despair your world release;
that, redeemed from war and hatred,
all may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness
fear will die and hope increase.

3 All that kills abundant living,
let it from the earth be banned:
pride of status, race of schooling,
dogmas that obscure your plan.
In our common quest for justice
may we hallow life's brief span.

4 You, Creator-God, have written
your great name on humankind;
for our growing in our likeness
bring the life of Christ to mind;
that, by our response and service,
earth its destiny may find.

Words: Fred Kaan, 1965 Music: Henry Purcell ca. 1682, desc. Darryl Nixon 1986 ©
Hope Pub. 1967, Music: Songs for a Gospel People
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COMMISSIONING

SUNG BENEDICTION

Our God bless you and keep you,
Our God make their face to shine upon you,
to shine upon you and be gracious,
and be gracious unto you
and give you peace,
and give you peace. Amen

Alec Robinson – used with permission.

POSTLUDE

This is My Father's World - Ruth Mackie

THANK YOU FOR TALENTS SHARED

Worship Leaders: Jack Soule, Bill Egnatoff, Juliet Huntly, Jim Leake, Lynn Freeman, with assistance from other members of the Joint Truth and Reconciliation Group, Sydenham Street and Chalmers United Churches.

Music Director & Organist: Michael T. Fenn

Guest Musicians: Ms. Sarah Corbett (flute) and Mr. Alexander Wolff (clarinet), Bachelor of Music Program, Queen's University

Technical Production: Lisa Leavitt

The Joint Truth and Reconciliation Action Group (JTRAG), established by Chalmers and Sydenham Street United Churches in 2015, meets normally on the first Monday of the month. We seek to educate ourselves and others, share information, and support events relating to the legacy of our colonial past and advancing reconciliation among First Peoples and others who share this land known as Canada. If you share an interest in, and commitment to, advancing reconciliation with First Peoples, you are invited to participate in regularly hosted events, like the monthly reading group we are offering this year. For more information about our activities or joining JTRAG, please contact Juliet Huntly jhuntly6@gmail.com or Lynn Freeman lafreeman16@gmail.com (JTRAG co-chairs).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, Feb. 7

Chalmers' House Service: Our first service of 2021 was a "House Church", and while attendance was small, we received some very positive feedback. CCE has decided that we should gather in this "House Church" format on the first Sunday of each month. This format offers us an opportunity to minister to each other and to build relationships among us. Thanks to Zoom, we can be together, talk with each other and see each other. If you don't have a computer, you can join by phone.

Our next house church will take place on Sunday February 7 --- the 5th Sunday after Epiphany. Michael Cooke has agreed to help lead our gathering. The lectionary readings are Isaiah 40:21-31, Ps 147: 1-11, 1 Corinthians 9:16-23 and Mark 1:29-39. Each offers wisdom about healing power of our faith and the call to preach the gospel.

We invite you to offer to volunteer to read one of these passages or to sing a favourite hymn that we can incorporate into the service. Send your offer to participate to, Michael at mcooke253@gmail or 416-209-6156 by Friday January 29.

The zoom link and phone numbers to access the service are below and will remain the same for all House Church services. We will always start with a Coffee Hour at 10am.

As we are being guided by FaithCARE to find a way forward as a congregation, this is an opportunity to experience and to build community. Please get involved by attending live and offering to participate. It's the Sunday before Valentine's Day --- this is a great way to show your love for Chalmers and your fellow congregants.

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83823105027?pwd=WUxMZFM3ZWIEL1l1NnN1Z1dVQoh3Zz09> **Meeting ID:** 838 2310 5027, **Passcode:** 746801

To phone in, dial:

1 647 558 0588 (*long distance charges apply*) **Meeting ID:** 838 2310 5027. You don't need a Participant ID, just press # **Passcode:** 746801.

If you would like to talk to the other participants, press *6, and also *6 to mute yourself again.

Tuesday, Feb. 9

- **The Two Church Lunch and Learn Group** the topic will be "Racism" with Stephany Simpson, Associate VP Queen's University, (Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion) as our speaker.

Feb. 24 – March 24

- **Coming up: An Intra-Church Bible Study Series** with Rev. Dr. Bill Morrow on *Difficult Texts of the Old Testament and the Gospel*.

Feb 24	Divine Violence in the Flood (Genesis 6)
March 3	The Expulsion of Hagar (Genesis 21)
March 10	The Sacrifice of Isaac (Genesis 22)
March 17	Does God Reward Tricksters? (Genesis 28)
March 24	General Discussion: The Morality of God in the Book of Genesis

This Lenten series focuses on some of the hardest texts to understand in the book of Genesis. Each week, it meets from 7-9 pm. After a short vesper service in the tradition of the host congregation, the evening will focus on the text chosen for discussion. St. James will host information including handouts at stjameskingston.ca/lenten-series.