

CHALMERS UNITED CHURCH

1 John 4:7-8

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

MAY 2, 2021

5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Pre-Recorded Service

THE REV. DR. WILLIAM SMITH

The Litmus Test

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While the stay-at-home order is in effect our Worship Services will be pre-recorded and posted on the Chalmers YouTube channel.

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

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

I Love You Lord - Laurie Klein arr. Lloyd Larson
Bill Egnatoff, flutes; Joan Egnatoff, piano

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Amid Covid, vaccines and lockdown, we find ourselves waiting.

**Waiting for health to return, waiting for freedom,
waiting with hope.**

Hope comes through caring for ourselves and caring for others.

**Jesus calls us to love our God, to love our neighbour
and to love ourselves. It is in this simple commandment
we find true freedom.**

Faith, Hope and love.

Let us worship God!

INTROIT

Gather Us In

MV 7

Gather us in, ground us in you.

Gather us in, ground us in you.

Gather us in, gather us in,
ground us, ground us in you.

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PRAYER OF APPROACH

Prayer of St Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.

Where there is hatred let me sow love;

Where there is injury, pardon;

Where there is doubt, faith;

Where there is despair, hope;

Where there is darkness, light;

Where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
To be consoled as to console;
To be understood as to understand;
To be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive;
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

HYMN VU 232 *Joyful, Joyful We Adore You*

- 1 Joyful, joyful, we adore you,
God of glory, life and love;
hearts unfold like flowers before you,
opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
drive the gloom and doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.
- 2 All your works with joy surround you,
earth and heaven reflect your rays,
stars and angels sing around you,
center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain,
sound their praise eternally.
- 3 You are giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
wellspring of the joy of living,
ocean depth of happy rest!
Source of grace and fount of blessing,
let your light upon us shine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine.
- 4 Mortals, join the mighty chorus
which the morning stars began;
God's own love is reigning o'er us,
joining people hand in hand.
Ever singing, march we onward,
victors in the midst of strife;
joyful music leads us sunward
in the triumph song of life.

Words: Henry Van Dyke 1097, alt. Music: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824, adapt. Edward Hodges 1864,
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A WORLD ENGAGED WITH GOD

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy One, Sacred Mystery,
greater than words can express;
whose love for us and all creation
exceeds our capacity to imagine,
open our hearts and minds. Amen

Acts 8: 26 - 40

1 John 4: 7 - 21

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN MV 94 *Love Knocks & Waits*

- 1 Love knocks and waits for us to hear, to open and invite;
Love longs to quiet every fear, and seeks to set things right.
- 2 Love offers life, in spite of foes who threaten and condemn; embracing
enemies, Love goes the second mile with them.
- 3 Love comes to heal the broken heart, to ease the troubled mind without a
word Love bids us start to ask and seek and find.
- 4 Love knocks and enters at the sound of welcome from within;
Love sings and dances all around, and feels new life begin.

Words and Music: Daniel Charles Damon, 1994 © Words 1996, Music 1998
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SERMON

The Litmus Test

Rev. Dr. William Smith

COMMITTING TO THE FUTURE

SHARING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

Breathe in Love

words and melody by Janice Moncrieff

piano accompaniment by Mark Sirett

Janice Moncrieff, soprano; Mark Sirett, piano

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN VU 333 *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.

2 Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy grace receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

3 Finish then thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee,
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

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BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

CHORAL BLESSING

MV 222

May the Peace of God Be Your Peace

May the peace of God be your peace.
May the love of God be the love you show.
May the joy of God be the joy you know,
and may the world that God would see be found in you.

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POSTLUDE

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

Trad. Spiritual, arr. Judy Nishimura
Bill Egnatoff, flutes

THANK YOU FOR TALENTS SHARED

Guest Minister **The Rev. Dr. William Smith** has served congregations in Long Sault, Cornwall, Ottawa and Belleville prior to his appointment as Executive Secretary of the Bay of Quinte Conference in 2012. He retired from that position in 2019. This past year he worked as supply minister at Edith Rankin Memorial United Church while they were in the process of calling their new minister.

He is a graduate of St. Pat's College (B.A); Queen's University (M. Div.) and Ashland Theological Seminary (D. Min).

Bill has always been involved in community ministry and in 2012 was awarded the Queen's Jubilee Medal for his work in the community and the Maria Cristina Medal for his work in El Salvador.

Bill is married to Sharon and together they have four children and seven grandchildren

Hymn Choir	Janice Moncrieff, Joan Egnatoff, Barb Fletcher, Juliet Milsome, Al Fletcher, Bill Egnatoff
Sound & Media Techs	Catie Doane
Technical Chair	Nick Steinberg

AT CHALMERS

Pre-Service Coffee Hour

- The pandemic is dragging on, live worship services are suspended, and a return to normalcy is a while off. But we can still meet and visit!

Pre-Service Coffee Hour over zoom from 10-10:30 am. Let's use this opportunity to see each other and to chat!

At 10:30, you can stay on to see the pre-recorded service with Rev. Dr. William Smith, or leave the zoom meeting and watch the recording by yourself. Looking forward to seeing you on Sunday!

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83823105027?pwd=WUxMZFM3ZWlEL1lNnN1Z1dVQoh3Zz09>

You can also dial in: 1 647 558 0588 (long distance charges may 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 to unmute yourself.

Next Sunday, May 9

- **Our Guest Minister** will be The Reverend Dr. Paul Currie

Tuesday May 11

- **CCE** will meet at 4 pm by Zoom.

Benevolent Fund Program

- Thank you for the donations of soup, laundry pods and snack bars! The program is still in dire need of: toothbrushes, bars of soap, Kraft dinners. Please help those in need. If you can donate, please call Jan at 613-547-0480 to arrange drop off. Thank you



To submit materials for the bulletin

please use: bulletin@chalmersunitedchurch.com

Please send announcements by end of day Monday, or late editions by end of day Tuesday for inclusion the following Sunday.

Please send announcements you wish made verbally

to: bulletin@chalmersunitedchurch.com and Al Fletcher: afletcher8@cogeco.ca

The Chalmers Church House Office remains closed.

Staff can be reached by telephone and email.

For Rentals/room bookings please email office@chalmersunitedchurch.com

To support Chalmers and the ongoing work it does in our community, donations to the church can be made by:

1. mailing in your gift to:
Envelope Secretary, 212 Barrie St. Kingston, ON K7N 1A3
2. dropping your envelope through the mail slot at the house, anytime to: 212 Barrie St. at Clergy St. Kingston.
3. using E-Transfer: envelopesecretary@chalmersunitedchurch.com. When using e-Transfer, please allocate where you wish your funds placed, in the "Message". Undesignated funds are allocated to the General Fund.
4. donating online through Canada Helps CHALMERS UNITED CHURCH | Charity Profile | Donate Online | [Canadahelps](https://canadahelps.com) and use the "Donate to this Charity" button.
5. submitting through PAR or Pre-Authorized Remittance is an automatic monthly withdrawal from your bank account, where you can give to what matters to you most. Register by contacting the Envelope Secretary at:
envelopesecretary@chalmersunitedchurch.com or by calling 613 546 3263 ext. 221.