

Bolton United Church
Sunday Worship May 10, 2020 - 5th Sunday of Easter

Silent Reflection:

Grace and Peace to you from the Risen Christ.

Acknowledging the Land

We acknowledge that we are in the traditional territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishinaabe peoples, on whose land and by whose waters we gather. We acknowledge their stewardship as we worship, listen, learn, share, and heal together in the name of our Creator, the Holy One of Blessing.

Opening Prayer:

Most Holy and Loving God, we come before you today like those before us. We bring our certainty and our doubts. We bring our despair and our hopes. We bring our fear and our assurances. We come in our times of self isolations and social distancing, broken yet not without hopes. We bring all that we are and all that we have to worship you. On this Christian Family Sunday - Mother's Day - we remember the families we are born into and those who have loved and nurtured us along the way. We give thanks for mothers, those who have birthed us from their womb and those from their hearts. We remember the six military personnel killed in the helicopter crash last week, we hold their families, friends, and colleagues in love as they grieve the loss of their loved ones. We come to lift up our frontline workers, leaders on all levels to ask your blessings upon them. We come to remember those who have died from COVID 19 and to lift up those who are infected. We come today to walk in the light of your resurrection.

Let us now offer our own prayers in silence:

God hear our prayers and in your love answer. Amen!

Hymn: VU 356, Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God.

Scripture: Acts 9: 36-43, New International Version (NIV)

³⁶In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas); she was always doing good and helping the poor. ³⁷About that time she became sick and died, and her body was washed and placed in an upstairs room. ³⁸Lydda was near Joppa; so when the disciples heard that Peter was in Lydda, they sent two men to him and urged him, "Please come at once!"

³⁹Peter went with them, and when he arrived, he was taken upstairs to the room. All the widows stood around him, crying and showing him the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them.

⁴⁰Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and prayed. Turning toward the dead woman, he said, "Tabitha, get up." She opened her eyes and seeing Peter she sat up. ⁴¹He took her by the hand and helped her to her feet. Then he called for the believers, especially the widows, and presented her to them alive. ⁴²This became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord. ⁴³Peter stayed in Joppa for some time with a tanner named Simon.

Anthem:

Reflections: see attached

Hymn VU 652, Be Still My Soul

Blessings:

HYMNS

VU 356 Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God

Seek ye first the kingdom of God
and God's righetousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you.
Hallelu, hallelujah.

Ask and it shall be given unto you;
seek and you shall find;
knock and the door shall be opened unto you.
Hallelu, hallelujah.

We do not live by bread alone,
but by every word
that proceeds from the mouth of God.
Hallelu, hallelujah.

VU 652 Be Still My Soul

Be still, my soul, for God is on your side;
bear patiently the cross of grief or pain.
Trust in your God, your saviour and your guide,
who through all changes faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul, your best, your heavenly friend
through stormy ways leads to a peaceful end.

Be still, my soul, your God will undertake
to guide the future surely as the past.
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake;
all now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul, life's tempests still obey
the voice that once the waves' wild fury stayed.

Be still, my soul, the hour is hastening on
when we shall be forever in God's peace;
when disappointment, grief and fear are gone,
love's joys restored, our strivings all shall cease.
Be still, my soul, when change and tears are past,
all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.