

**Bolton United Church – Sunday Worship
October 18, 2020**

We Gather To Worship

Prelude:

Introit: VU 396 Jesus, Stand Among Us VERSE 1

Lighting of the Candles

Announcements: Please note: **we will not** be having lay readers, **singing by the congregation, handshakes and or hugs at our welcoming time.** Offering plates will be left at the front and the back of the church for your use, upon entering or leaving the service. You are invited to sign up for PAR, or online donations (**details are on the website, follow the link**). Hymn books and Pew Bibles have been removed from the pews and no bulletins will be provided. We will rely only on the PowerPoint screen.

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.

Hymn: VU 679 Let There Be Light

The Call to Worship

One: We come together as the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God for everlasting love and grace!

One: We come together as a family to share the good times and the bad.

All: We share our joys, and lift up our concerns to you, O God.

One: Creator God, we know you are there even though we cannot see you.

All: Be with us now and always, and we will always put our trust in you.

Opening Prayer:

God, we come together as a people unsure of our way, and unsure of the world we thought we knew. Things have changed; things are difficult; we are concerned and we long for those things that comfort us. Help us to remember that you are always there; your presence goes before us always, and you have promised to be with us to the very end. We confess that we have moments where our faith leaves us completely. We worry about how to go about our daily lives, and we forget the one most important thing. We forget to put our trust in

you. God, remind us that you are here right in front of us and all around us, and help us to see our way through the darkness as we walk towards the light.

Assurance of Hope:

Friends, here is good news. God hears our prayers, and God has promised to always be there to us. All we need is faith the size of a mustard seed, the smallest of the seeds. That is enough and even more than enough. Our faith will see us through, not because of our faith, but because of the One in whom we have faith. God is with us always.

All: Thanks be to God!

We Listen to God's Word

Anthem: Be Thou My Vision / arr. by Pruette Plemens

Exodus 33:12-23 (NIV):

12 Moses said to the LORD, "You have been telling me, 'Lead these people,' but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. You have said, 'I know you by name and you have found favor with me.'

13 If you are pleased with me, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favor with you. Remember that this nation is your people."

14 The LORD replied, "My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest."

15 Then Moses said to him, "If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here.

16 How will anyone know that you are pleased with me and with your people unless you go with us? What else will distinguish me and your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?"

17 And the LORD said to Moses, "I will do the very thing you have asked, because I am pleased with you and I know you by name."

18 Then Moses said, "Now show me your glory."

19 And the LORD said, "I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the LORD, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.

20 But," he said, "you cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live."

21 Then the LORD said, "There is a place near me where you may stand on a rock.

22 When my glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by.

23 Then I will remove my hand and you will see my back; but my face must not be seen."

Hymn: MV 28 God of the Bible

Message: "Walk Towards the Light"

Andrew Dunn

The Response

Offering & Gifts

Offertory Prayer (unison)

All: We thank you, God, for the gifts of time and talents, the gifts of life and love, and the gift of faith you have bestowed upon us. You have wonderfully created us and given us hope and joy that we might spend our days praising you. Let us praise you now by returning to you a portion of all that you have given us, to further your work and to show by examples of love and compassion the way you have made for us. Lead us on towards the light, God, and we will follow. In Jesus' name we pray, AMEN.

Pastoral Prayers & Prayers of the People:

The Sending Forth

Hymn: VU 87 I Am the Light of the World

Commissioning & Benediction:

As we go forth from this place of sanctuary, into the world which is all God's creation, know always that the love of God will be with you on your journey. Whether you walk through the valley of the shadow of death, or bask in the light on the mountaintop, God will be with you. Now go to the world, secure in the knowledge that the love of God, the grace of Christ and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit will abide in each one of you, now and always. Amen.

Choral Closing: VU 481 Sent Forth by God's Blessing VERSE 1

Postlude: