

Bolton United Church – Sunday Worship October 25, 2020

We Gather In Worship

Prelude:

Introit: VU 396 Jesus, Stand Among Us VERSE 1

Welcome Grace & Peace to you, from our sibling Jesus the Christ:

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 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. When Communion is held, we ask that you bring your own elements, they will be blessed and we will eat and drink together.

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 242 Let All Things Now Living

The Call to Worship & Opening Prayer:

One: The Lord be with you

All: And also with you.

One: We gather in worship to sing praises to our God

All: We come, to be fed, to hear your words of life once more and to find comfort in your presence. Silence:

Most Holy and Loving God we come before you in this our time of worship seeking your guidance. We come in awe and wonder because you are mysterious, life giver, and light bearer. You seek us out; you call us from where we are to experience your healing hand. You are wisdom, yet kind, loving and caring and in your presence, we find comfort and joy. God, in this our time of worship draw us closer to your presence. We pray in your name. Amen.

Assurance of Hope:

It is not to earn God's grace that we act justly; it is because of God's mercy shown in Jesus the Christ that we are set free to be grateful. Filled with gratitude, it becomes

impossible for us to knowingly cause God pain. The experience of forgiveness makes our heart more like God's and more loving towards others.

All: And the people of God say Amen!

Hymn: VU 289 It Only Takes a Spark

We Listen to God's Word

Scripture:

Matthew 22:34-42, NIV, **The Great Commandment**

³⁴ Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. ³⁵ One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: ³⁶ "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" ³⁷ Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' ^[a] ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' ^[b] ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

One: The Gospel of Christ

All: Thanks be to God!

Anthem: He Is Exalted / arr. by Lloyd Larson

Sermon: "Can we Love God and not Neighbours"

Rev. Eleanor Scarlett

The Response

Offering & Gifts

Offertory Prayer (unison)

Loving God, we present our offering of gift and selves, our joy and our tears, our laughter and our loneliness, our sorrow for past mistakes and our promise for a better tomorrow. Accept these offering we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Pastoral Prayers & Prayers of the People:

The Sending Forth

Hymn: MV 12 Come Touch Our Hearts

Commissioning & Benediction:

May the Light of God's love transform us, may the Spirit of God's voice be a source of strength. May the wonder of God's awareness lighten our path, may the courage of Jesus our sibling be with us today and always and may the promise God's assurance encircle us today and always. Go and love deeply.

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

Postlude: