

# SYDENHAM STREET UNITED CHURCH

## Kingston, Ontario



Minister

REV. ELIZABETH MACDONALD

Organist & Music Director

MR. CHARLES WALKER



*As an Affirming Congregation*

*we seek 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.*



*Celebrate*

*the*

*Joy*

*With*

*Us*

SYDENHAM STREET UNITED CHURCH

Sunday, February 19, 2012

*Transfiguration Sunday ~ Sacrament of Communion*

Morning Worship at Ten Thirty

(\* Indicates Stand If You Are Able)

**BOLD TEXT INDICATES CONGREGATION'S PARTICIPATION**

**GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

**Prelude:** Chorale prelude on a melody by Gibbons ~ *Healey Willan*

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Centring Music**

\***Gathering Hymn 104** "We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding" ~ *Abbot's Leigh*

**Call to Worship:**

As Jesus changed on the mountain,

You call us, O God, to change our hearts.

**But change is frightening.**

You call us, O God, to change our thinking.

**But change is challenging.**

You call us, O God, to change our lives.

**But change is hard work.**

Open our lives, our thinking, our hearts

**Prepare us, O God, for your loving, life-giving changes.**

**Introit: "Love is Humble, Love is Gentle"** ~ *Timothy Dudley-Smith*

*(Text is found in Voice United, #604, verses 2 & 4)*

**Gathering Prayer**

**God the mountaintop, plain and valley, reveal yourself to us once again, wherever we find ourselves as we gather for worship. Glorious, mysterious and shimmering with light, you know our hearts and minds, our triumphs and our trials. Trusting that you love us as we are here and now, we pray that you will transform us into all you created us to be. Amen.**

**LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD**

**Responsive Psalm 50** (Pg. 775 in Voices United)

**Gospel:** Mark 9:2-9

For the Word of God in Scripture

For the Word of God among us

For the Word of God among us

**Thanks be to God**

**Sermon**

**GATHERING AT CHRIST'S TABLE**

**Sharing the Peace of Christ**

**Offerings of our Life and Work**

**Offertory Anthem:** Kyrie Eleison ~ *Brian Lewis*

*Kyrie Eleison, Christe Eleison, Kyrie Eleison.*

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

\***Communion Hymn 478** "You Satisfy the Hungry Heart" ~ *Finest Wheat*

*(The offering will be brought forward during the hymn)*

**Invitation**

**The Great Thanksgiving**

God be with you.                      **And also with you.**  
 Lift up your hearts                    **We lift them up to God.**  
 Let us give thanks to our God.      **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We sing a song of thanksgiving, O God . . .  
 . . . guiding all toward harmony with their source.

**We thank you for your loving action in all things.**  
**Through our ancestors in faith**  
**you show us faithful living;**  
**upon their lives our lives are built.**  
**You call us to be part of this communion of saints,**  
**experiencing the fulfillment of God's reign**  
**even as we anticipate a new heaven and a new earth.**

**"Holy, Holy, Holy" (#203 in Voices United)**

And we find you made known in Jesus of Nazareth,  
 so we sing of God, the Christ, the Holy One embodied.

**We sing of Jesus, a Jew born to a woman in poverty**  
**In a time of social upheaval and political oppression.**  
**He knew human joy and sorrow.**  
**He healed the sick and fed the hungry.**  
**He forgave sins and freed those held captive**  
**by means of all manner of demonic powers.**  
**He crossed barriers of race, class, culture and gender.**  
**He preached and practised unconditional love –**  
**and he commanded his followers to love one another**  
**as he had loved them, as you are love.**

Because his witness to your love was threatening . . .  
 . . . Nothing separates us from your love

**Memorial Acclamation (#204 in Voices United)**

And so we sing of your spirit . . .  
 . . . through these gifts and this gathering.

**Grateful for all your loving action, we cannot keep from singing,**  
**until all things have found wholeness and union in you,**  
**Holy God, Holy Mystery, Wholly Love.**

**Great Amen (#205 in Voices United)****Sung Lord's Prayer (#959 in Voices United)****Sharing the Elements**

*After choir members have received the elements, Beginning with those in the back pews, you are invited to come forward down the centre aisle, receive a piece of bread or rice cake and eat it, take a glass of juice and drink it. You may return to your pew down one of the side aisles.*

**Communion Anthem: Of the Glorious Body Telling ~ T.L. de Victoria**

*(paraphrase)* O my tongue, sing the mysteries of the glorious Body. Given for us, proceeding forth, he deigns in love to take human form. He is God-with-us, Emmanuel. He gives himself for the sake of sinners, and by his death he makes atonement for us. The "Word made flesh," his flesh is our true bread; his blood is our wine, by which we are refreshed; and through faith and love we see deliverance from the stain of sin. Amen.

**Prayer after Communion**

**We place our hope in you, O God. We sing of a life beyond life and a future good beyond imagining; a new heaven and a new earth, the end of sorrow, pain and tears, Christ's return and life with you, the making new of all things. We yearn for the coming of that future, O God. Until then, help us to embrace the present and embody hope, to love our enemies, to care for**

the earth, to choose life. *Amen.*

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S LOVE

**\*Hymn 329** "O Jesus Christ, May Grateful Hearts Be Rising" ~ *Welwyn*  
*(The Benevolent Offering will be gathered and presented during the hymn)*

**\*Commissioning**

**\*Sung Benediction (222 in More Voices)**

"May the Peace of God Be Your Peace" ~ *Neil McLaren*

**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.**

**Postlude:** Toccata in E minor ~ *Johann Pachelbel*

### *Welcome to the service this morning*

You were greeted by Muriel & Roy Huntly, and Mabel Corlett. After Worship please join us for coffee and fellowship in the Downstairs Hall. Your hosts at Coffee Hour are Mary LeRoy & Jeremy Dent.

We thank this morning Lay Reader, Muriel Huntly.

Communion Setting: Kingsfold Communion Set ~ Kingsfold

For those people who are hearing impaired, we have hearing-assist equipment available.

The flowers in the sanctuary today are placed to the glory of God and in loving memory of Alice Goheen who passed away this week at the age of 100.

**MGOS:** Our youth program, Many Gifts One Spirit will be led by Elaine Power this morning at 10:30 AM for ages 4-9 and at 4:00 PM on Monday for ages 9-16. On Sunday morning, children are finished at the end of the worship service.

### **Hospitality for our youngest children!**

A "**drop-in centre**" for children (up to 4 years old) and their parents is set up in the Chapel. No supervision is available but if your little one is restless, needs to play and have some space, please check out this inviting option.

## News & Announcements

The **deadline for submissions to the SSUC Winter Newsletter is TODAY**, February 19. Please email them to [ruthran@kos.net](mailto:ruthran@kos.net) or [sydenham@kos.net](mailto:sydenham@kos.net).

### **TODAY Feb 19 – Flags in the Sydenham Street Sanctuary – What Do They Mean to You?**

Reactions to the Canadian flag and Union Jack hanging over the Chancel, and the Pride and United flags hanging over the sanctuary are strong and wide-ranging. Acting on the recommendation of the Worship Committee, the Executive has set **today** after worship as a time for discussion. Come ready to listen to what flags mean to others and to share your own thoughts and feelings. No motions will be presented and no decisions will be made at this meeting. The purpose of this meeting is to more fully hear and understand one another.

**Helen Tufts Nursery School** needs our support as they prepare to present a letter to Kingston Mayor, Mark Gerretsen, this Tuesday, February 21. You are invited to read the letter and add your own signature. This will be available at the front of the sanctuary.

### **Be part of updating and expanding what The United Church of Canada believes!**


Add your voice and cast your ballot as Sydenham Street United Church joins congregations and presbyteries across The United Church of Canada in voting on Remit 6, a proposal to elevate the status and authority of three statements of faith – The Song of Faith (2006), A New Creed (1968) and the 1940 Statement of Faith – by adding them to the 20 Articles of Faith already in the Doctrine Section of the Basis of Union (our denomination's constitution).

**A Congregational Meeting has been called following worship on Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup> to vote on Remit 6.** In preparation for this vote, Elizabeth will preach during worship and facilitate discussion in the Chapel after worship on the following: February 5 – 1940; Statement of Faith; February 26 – A New Creed, March 11 – Song of Faith.

Copies of these four statements of faith, and background information by Queens School of Religion Professor, John Young and General Council Staff Bruce Gregersen are available via email, online at SSUC website or in the Church Office.

**CHORAL HARMONY** – June 10, 2012 Finnish a cappella sensation, **Rajaton** is coming to SSUC after performing three concerts of pop, classical, Finnish and contemporary music at the NAC in Ottawa. **Rajaton** will offer a workshop for interested singers who will create a mass choir and perform with **Rajaton** in an evening concert. This event is being co-hosted by SSUC’s MGOS and Open Voices Choir. Check out **Rajaton**’s Butterfly Video at [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) If interested, email your name, voice (SATB) phone and email contact info to [andyrush@sympatico.ca](mailto:andyrush@sympatico.ca) with **rajatonparticipant** in the subject line. Mark June 10th in your calendar now and plan to spend the day and evening making music with **Rajaton**.

**The Partners in Mission Food Bank** gives out 600 hampers of food every month to low income families in Kingston, as well as distributing breakfast foods and fresh fruit snacks to 4200 children every school day. If you have looked at your food bills recently, you will understand why it is increasingly difficult for low income families to pay for both rent and food. All contributions are welcome, but cereals, oatmeal, peanut butter, rice, canned stew, canned fruit and canned tomatoes for homemade sauces are particularly welcome. Please place your donations in the wicker basket in the front vestibule.

 **Small Group Ministry**  
At SSUC our Small Group Ministry is an important part of being community. Why not consider taking part in one of the interest groups associated with this program? Joining a Small Group is a great way to get better acquainted with your SSUC friends. For more information contact: Jane Mallory 613 544-4015 [robnjane@cogeco.ca](mailto:robnjane@cogeco.ca)

**Small Group Gatherings**

- On **Feb 21 the labyrinth will be in place in the chapel** from 4:30 -5:30. Feel free to come and join this Small Group who welcome your interest in this type of meditation. No experience necessary! For more information call Jane Mallory 544-4015.
- **The Evening Book Group** met on Tuesday Jan 24 at the home of Barb Parker to talk about Linden McIntyre's *The bishop's man*. Our next gathering is Feb 28 at the home of Lynn Freeman, where we will be talking about Charles Dickens' *A tale of two cities*.
- **The Compassion Group** will meet on Monday March 5 at 7 PM in the Chapel. Discussion continues on Karen Armstrong’s “Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life)—**THE SIXTH STEP ACTION** will be the the focus with Beth Israel Cantor, Michael Rumack, facilitating. All are welcome. For more information speak to Rob Vanderheyden or Rev. Elizabeth Macdonald.

**Meetings**

February 22—5:30 PM, Special Meeting of the Trustees in the Chapel  
March 25—after worship, Congregational Meeting in the lower hall

**Coming Events**

- March 3—Cantabile Choirs “Brothers & Sisters”
- March 7—Kiwanis Highlights Concert
- March 10—Chris Murphy CD Release Concert
- April 8—Manahem Pressler Concert
- April 24—Young Choristers Limestone
- May 4—BrassWerks Concert
- May 5-6—Interconnected Art Studio Tour (Lower Hall)
- May 26—Cantabile Choirs “Passion and Romance”

**The Wider Church**

**Piping HOT!! Chili Dinner** with choices: meat, vegetarian, mild or hot, buns, Caesar Salad and homemade dessert on Friday Feb. 24 from 5-6:15 pm at Cooke's-Portsmouth United Church, 200 Norman Rogers Dr. Kingston. Cost: \$13. Adults \$5. Youth (5-12yrs.). Call 613-542-4545 for more information.

**Turkey Dinner with all the trimmings** at St. Paul’s United Church, Rd.38, Harrow-smith, Saturday Feb. 25 from 4:30-6:30. Cost \$12.00 and children \$6.00. Take-out available.

The **World Day of Prayer Service 2012** will take place on Friday, March 2, 2012, 2 PM, at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, 490 Days Rd. The service is written by the women of Malaysia.



Moderator Mardi Tindal in inviting SSUC and all United Church congregations to join in Earth Day challenges to reduce our congregation's environmental footprint, and to bring our congregation and community together.

One of February's challenges focuses on *Ethical Brownies*.

Eating ethically is no small task. It's not about absolutes, but about doing the best you can and trying to do better. Try baking and sharing Ethical Brownies.

*The following has been adapted from Kathy Douglas, "The Winner Is...the World!" Mandate May/10) pp. 40–44. Used with permission.*

### ***Ethical Brownies***

**1/3 cup (80 ml) fair trade cocoa**

**1 cup (250 ml) organic canola oil**

**1½ cups (375 ml) locally milled all-purpose flour**

**½ tsp (2 ml) salt**

The best way to limit the use of salt is to eat fewer processed foods.

**¼ cup (60 ml) tap water**

Tap water is healthy and safe.

**4 local free-range eggs**

Some organic egg producers also pasture their chickens in large, moveable enclosures that are outdoors, sit directly on the pasture, and are moved daily. You may also know of local small-scale producers.

**1½ cups (375 ml) fair trade sugar**

**1 tsp (5 ml) fair trade pure vanilla**

Preheat oven to 325°F (160°C). Grease a 9" x 13" baking pan.

Pour all ingredients into a large mixing bowl, and stir them together. Pour the batter into the greased pan. Bake for 25 minutes or when toothpick inserted in centre comes out clean or almost clean.

All of the ingredients for Ethical Brownies can be purchased at Tara Natural Foods, 81 Princess St. Fair Trade cocoa and sugar can be purchased at Ten Thousand Villages, 235 Princess St.

The producers/growers and distributors of the Ethical Brownie ingredients have made a decent living without injustice and can be considered winners.

Everyone who tastes and enjoys the brownies is a winner too!

To learn more about our Moderator's Earth Day 2012 Invitation/Challenge check out The United Church of Canada website [www.united-church.ca](http://www.united-church.ca)

