

ZOOM Service May 2nd, 2021

Easter 5

Centering Ourselves for Worship

As we prepare now to worship together while apart, I invite you to take three slow, deep breaths and allow your space to become worship space for this time. [*brief silence*]



Lighting of Candle

Into our presence we invite the fire that has burned since the beginning of time, that it might shine for us this day.

Opening Music

The Spring Has Come

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T6gvgDE2YLk>

Murray/Gibson from Etobicoke United church - you can if you feel technologically up to it fast forward the first minute or so where he's introducing it. Not the most visually exciting setting but I wanted these words and they are hard to come by

Prayer

Loving God, Source of all Life, you are the vine-grower and we are the branches.

Wetrust ourselves to your wise and tender care.

Work with us, we pray,

That we may bear the fruit that is in us,

That we may be all that we are meant to be.

May we receive and share your nourishment,

Finding strength and compassion to love each other as you love us.

Amen.

Readings from Ancient and Modern Wisdom

read by Frank Loomer

John 4:16-21

John 15:1-8

Poem by Mary Oliver

When I am Among the Trees

Mary Oliver from Thirst. Boston; Beacon, 2006

When I am among the trees,
especially the willows and the honey locust,
equally the beech, the oaks and the pines,
they give off such hints of gladness,
I would almost say that they save me, and daily.

I am so distant from the hope of myself,
in which I have goodness, and discernment,
and never hurry through the world,
but walk slowly and bow often.

Around me the trees stir in their leaves
and call out, "Stay awhile."
The light flows from their branches.

And they call again, "It's simple," they say,
"and you too have come
into the world to do this, to go easy, to be filled
with light, and to shine."

Special Music

"All Things Bright and Beautiful"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pVSf5QISmA8>

John Rutter setting - National Taiwan University Chorus

Reflection

Branches of the one vine

Music for Reflection

Here I Am

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MPg0V7M1J9g>

Dolly Parton

Offering Prayer

Generous God, you give us gifts beyond our understanding. We offer you our gifts, trusting that that your Spirit will work with them and through them. Through our gifts and through our offering of ourselves, may new and vibrant growth happen in our church and around the world, nourished by the living water of your Spirit. Amen.

The Community at Prayer

Announcements, Joys and Concerns

**Board meeting this Wednesday. 7 p.m. Facebook live Thursday at 7 on Jane's FB page.
Zoom coffee break Fri. Starting 10, same zoom link as today.**

Closing Music

La Bamba

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k5dkwQY-tk>

*Playing for Change - simply a lovely celebration and expression of community around the world!
May it bring joy to your heart!*

Blessing and Sending Forth

May you stay rooted and grounded in the perfect love that casts out fear. May you be nourished by God's own light and warmth.. May the love, light and warmth within you help you grow into all that you are meant to become. Love one another and nourish good growth here and throughout God's beloved world. Amen.

Sharing the light

And as we go forward into our day, we carry with us that fire that continues to burn and will continue to create new life. May it inspire us and warm us as we go.

*Centring words by Susan Lukey from Gathering L/E/P 2021..
Candle lighting and sharing the Light by Ali Anningson. Other Prayers by Jane*

Dedication:

