

LARGE PRINT ORDER of SERVICE



EPIPHANY 4

Welcome on February 1, 2009

Worship & Celebration: 9:00am & 11:00am

Social Time: following Worship & Celebration

We are so pleased that you're able to join us today in worship and celebration at MCC Toronto. We are a joyful, spiritual community of people committed to being an inclusive, affirmative, caring church.

If today is your first time visiting us, or if you'd like to update your contact information in our database, please complete one of the Welcome Cards located in the pew pocket and place it in the offering plate as it goes by.

At the ❖ symbol, you are asked to rise in body or in spirit.

Phonic Ears for hearing assistance are available from the technical ministry volunteers at the sound booth.

We ask that you kindly turn your cell phone off during service.

Our vision is to be a bridge. Whoever you are, wherever you are from, you are welcome! Even if today is your first time here, you are invited to participate fully in every part of the service as much or as little as you like. Here is a guide to our worship:

We are a house of prayer for all people. We affirm many paths to God. For non-Christ-centred Anointing or Communion blessings, please approach the anointer or server with your arms crossed over your chest.

Prayers of the People are when you are invited to name people or circumstances as prayer requests out loud, at the appropriate times, as you feel comfortable.

Lessons for Life are meant to inspire you in your spiritual journey and to challenge you to find ways to put your faith into action. CDs of the Lessons for Life are available at the Information Centre in the Social Hall and transcripts are available at www.MCCToronto.com

During the Time for Reconciliation and Healing you're invited to come forward alone or with a friend to receive an anointing for healing. An Anointer will anoint your forehead with oil and offer you a brief blessing. We all share God's love and celebrate God's unconditional gift of peace and freedom.

Building Bridges is possible because of the abundant giving of people just like you. Gathering our gifts, we celebrate the difference God makes in people's lives through our life as community.

We celebrate an open Communion. You do not need to be a member of this church or of any church to participate in Communion. If today is your first time in church, you are especially welcome to share in Communion. When you come forward, a server will dip the wafer in the juice, place it in your mouth and offer

you a brief blessing like: "Rejoice that God is love and this love is with you always." We serve only non-alcoholic wine and the wafers are 100% wheat. We celebrate a variety of understandings about communion and so we believe the bread and juice are transformed in community to be spiritual nourishment for all people.

Our Volunteers make it all possible! At times in our service, you may notice a number of people moving into position to serve. We extend a special thank you to all who make our celebrations possible through their gifts of time and talent today and every time we gather.

The Touch of the Holy: that's what our weekly celebrations are all about. We pray that God's presence will remain with you to bring you peace and joy.

Welcome / Life & Work of the Congregation

One Minute Celebrations

Blessing of Families

Hand of Friendship

Prelude

Amen Siakudumesa

The Choir

Call to Worship ❖

One: In this season of Epiphany, when we are moving into
new ways of being,

**All: We ask that you guide us to live boldly and
generously.**

Processional Hymn ❖

Lift Every Voice and Sing

Featuring Wally Grosett

Lift every voice and sing,
'Til earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmony of Liberty,
Let our rejoicing rise,
High as the listening skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.

Sing a song full of the faith that the harsh past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us.

Facing the rising sun
Of our new day begun,
Let us march on 'til victory is won.

Stoney the road we trod,
Bitter the chastening rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died.
Yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our people sighed?

We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,
We have come treading our path through the blood of the
slaughtered.

Out from the gloomy past,
'til now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
God who has brought us thus far on the way.
God who by your might led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.

Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met You.
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, forget You.
Shadowed beneath Your hand, may we forever stand,
True to our God, true to our native land.

Opening Prayer ❖

Black History Month Presentation

Anthem

My God is a Rock

Prayers of the People

During the Prayers of the People, you are encouraged to share aloud names of people who are brought into your thoughts for prayer.

One: Gracious God, your abundance surrounds us and sustains us. We thank you for gifts of friendship and new beginnings, for life as it unfolds and new opportunities for growth ... God of grace,

Many: We know you hear our prayers.

One: Spirit of hope, in our lives and in our world there are many troubled by concerns. Some face the uncertainty and pain of illness. Some wrestle with anxiety and fear, about work, about relationships and about themselves. We pray that

your healing love may touch these lives ... God of hope,

Many: We know you hear our prayers.

One: Spirit of compassion, be with us as we face losses in our lives. Where there is disappointment, lead us to joy. Where there is grief, fill us with your peace. Where there is death, help us to say good-bye for now and not for ever. We pray for ... God of compassion,

Many: We know you hear our prayers.

One: Breath of the Universe, you have created us for joy. Open our minds to the gracious promptings of your Spirit, increase our trust and guide our hearts in the ways of the truth.

Many: God of many Names, you transform us by grace and renew us in peace.

Amen, Amen, Amen!

Sacred Readings

Duet 18: 18-19

One: Alleluia!

Many: Alleluia!

One: Holy Spirit, come dwell in us,
light our path with word and song.

Many: Alleluia!

Mark 1: 21-25

One: These are sacred readings.
May they comfort us, inspire us, and challenge us.

Many: Thanks be to God.

**Many: Glory to God all around us,
And to all creation peace!
O God all loving, we thank you
And give praise to you for your glory.
Jesus Christ, one with God,
Guide us, and show us the way.
For you O God are the holy one,**

**You O God are most high.
To Jesus Christ our trusted friend
And Holy Spirit evermore,
Be blessing and honour and glory,
Be all blessing and honour and glory,
Amen, Amen, Amen!**

Lessons For Life

Even in This Economy There is Still a “Prophet”

Rev. Dr. Brent Hawkes, C.M.

Time of Reconciliation & Healing

I'll Say Yes

I'll say yes, God yes
To your will and to your way
I'll say yes, God yes
I will trust you and obey
When your spirit speaks to me
With my whole heart I'll agree
And my answer will be yes, God yes

Prayer of Reconciliation

One: Jesus showed us a way to a new relationship with God, freeing us from whatever binds us, reconciling us with God, with each other, and with ourselves.
And so we pray:

Many: **God, we recognize those times
when we have separated ourselves
from you and each other.
We have not always cared for, respected and loved
our world, our neighbour, or ourselves.
We have sinned
by things we have done,**

**and by things we have left undone.
We open our hearts again to the renewal,
the forgiveness and the freedom you offer...**

A time is provided for silent reflection or confession.

Affirmation of Freedom & Invitation to Healing

One: Hear the good news, God saying to us, "Behold, I make all things new!" In every moment, you are loved, and so you are forgiven, free in the name of God who created you, who dwells within you, and who goes with you always. Amen.

As we sing together please come forward freely and receive anointing for healing so that God's love might transform us in body and spirit.

Here I Am Lord

I the Lord of sea and sky.
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in shadows now
My hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their shadows bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

(chorus)

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

I the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.

I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone.
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my Word to them.
Whom shall I send? (**chorus**)

I the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send? (**chorus**)

I Will Pledge This Song to You

You are holy, you are holy, and my life is in your hands
You are worthy, you are worthy, take my life and all I am

Ev'ry dream I've known, ev'ry heartache, too,
They have all been shared with you
All the times I've failed been untrue to you
I have known your mercy, too.

You are holy, you are holy, and my life is in your hands
You are worthy, you are worthy, take my life and all I am

Now the way shines clear and your presence here
Gives me strength to carry through
Lord, you are my way
And so ev'ry day I will pledge this song to you

You are holy, you are holy, and my life is in your hands
You are worthy, you are worthy, take my life and all I am

Jesus' Prayer ❖

Many: Our creator, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy dominion come;
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil;
for thine is dominion,
and the power and the glory,
for ever. Amen.

Offertory

Mark Cassius

Read about Mark on page 3 of Connections.

Building Bridges

One: ...the ushers will come forward to receive our tithes,
offerings, and welcome cards.

Gathering of our Gifts

Our Journey of Faith

Many: Take a look around you, what do you see?
A world in need of comfort and peace.
We have a vision, we have a way.
Come walk beside us on our journey of faith.
Build a bridge of hope.
Make a path of understanding.
Plant a seed of truth.

**Watch it grow. Help it grow.
We're building bridges together
On our journey of faith.**

Blessing of Gifts

One: God, we offer these gifts out of our abundance to your work in this community. Your love frees us to be generous with each other and inspires us to action as we build bridges in this place and from this place to a world hungry for hope, for justice, and for peace. And so we commission these gifts to your service in the world.

Many: **We're building bridges together
On our journey of faith.**

Celebration of Holy Communion

One: God is with you.

Many: **And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

Many: **We lift them up to God.**

One: Let us give thanks to God.

Many: **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

One: It is a right and good and joyful thing, always and everywhere, to give thanks to you, loving God, Creator of heaven and earth. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with all the company of heaven who forever sing to proclaim the glory of your Name.

Many: **Holy, holy, holy one; my heart, my heart adores you!
My heart knows how to say to you, holy are you God!
Saint, Saint, Saint Très-Haut, mon coeur te donne louange,
Mon Dieu, mon coeur proclame avec joie,
Tu es le seul Éternel.**

One: On the night you were betrayed, you took the bread,
After giving thanks you broke it and said,

"This is my body, broken for you,
And as you do this, remember me."

Many: **"This is my body, broken for you,
And as you do this, remember me."**

One: On the night you were betrayed you held the cup.
After giving thanks, you lifted it up.

"This is my life, poured out for you,
And as you do this, remember me."

Many: **"This is my life, poured out for you,
And as you do this, remember me."**

One: So we thank you for the cup and for the bread,
For we see the love you gave and the life you led.
And we remember your wondrous love,
You gave your body, you showed your love.

Many: **And we remember your wondrous love,
You gave your body, you showed your love.**

One: Let us now proclaim the Mystery of our Faith:

Many: **Christ has died!
Christ is risen!
Christ will come again!**

Invitation to God's Table

As others receive, please maintain an atmosphere of calm reflection, and join in singing the communion hymns.

Give Us This Day

Give us this day our daily bread;

You said you would supply all my needs, according to your riches.

I have but to ask, and I shall receive.

To go from here and share this love you've given me,

To show the ones who're lost and help them find the way,

The way to truth and love, so they can be free.
O God, we need your love!
O God, we need your peace!
O God, we need your joy, so we can be free!
Give us this day our daily bread.

There's a Sweet Sweet Spirit

There's a sweet, sweet spirit in this place,
And I know that it's the spirit of the Lord;
There are sweet expressions on each face,
And I know they feel the presence of the Lord.

Sweet holy spirit, sweet heavenly dove,
Stay right here with us, filling us with your love,
And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise;
Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived
When we shall leave this place.

There are blessings you cannot receive
Till you know the saviour's fullness, and believe.
You're the one to profit when you say,
"I am going to walk with Jesus all the way."

Sweet holy spirit, sweet heavenly dove,
Stay right here with us, filling us with your love,
And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise;
Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived
When we shall leave this place.

When Peace Like a River Attendeth

When peace like a river attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, you have taught me to say,
"It is well, it is well with my soul."

It is well with my soul,
It is well, it is well with my soul.

My sin -- O the bliss of this glorious thought,
My sin, not in part but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more:
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
It is well with my soul,
It is well, it is well with my soul.

And, Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend,
Even so, it is well with my soul.
It is well with my soul,
It is well, it is well with my soul.

Alleluia

Because You Live ❖

Because you live, I can face tomorrow;
Because you live, all fear is gone;
Because I know you hold the future,
And life is worth the living, Just because you live.

Benediction ❖

Many: Amen, Amen, Amen!

Closing Words ❖

Closing Song ❖

Siya Humba (We Are Marching)

Choir: Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenhkos'
Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenhkos'
Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenhkos'
Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenhkos'

Siyahamba, hamba
Siyahamba, hamba
Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenhkos'

Siyahamba, hamba
Siyahamba, hamba
Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenhkos'

We are living in the love of God
We are living in the love of God
We are living in the love of God
We are living in the love of God

We are living, living
We are living, living
We are living in the love of God
We are living, living
We are living, living
We are living in the love of God

We are loving in the light of God,
We are loving in the light of God
We are loving in the light of God,
We are loving in the light of God

We are loving, loving,
We are loving, loving

We are loving in the light of God
We are loving, loving,
We are loving, loving
We are loving in the light of God

Please join us in the Social Hall

Following our service, please join us for refreshments, find out about events at the Information Centre, and more!

We care, and we're here to listen. If you would like to pray with someone following today's service please approach the deacon who will be at the front of the sanctuary near the Communion table on the main floor.

We're with you in prayer.

You can send in a prayer request in any one of four ways:

1. Through the **prayer book in the Chapel,**
2. Call **416-406-6228 x 171,**
3. Send an e-mail to: **care@mcctoronto.com,** or
4. Through the link on the front page of our website at:
www.mcctoronto.com.

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