

LARGE PRINT ORDER of SERVICE



EPIPHANY 3

Welcome on January 25, 2009

Worship & Celebration: 7:00pm

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, you like what is happening here and want to get involved, please fill in the orange welcome card found in the pew pocket and meet with a H.O.M.E. Team volunteer after service on the north side of the sanctuary. They will share MCC Toronto information with you.

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.

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

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.

We Gather with Music

Welcome / Life & Work of the Congregation

One Minute Celebrations

Hand of Friendship

Worship & Praise ❖

Lead Me to the Rock

When my heart is overwhelmed, hear my cry,
give heed to my prayer,
and my eyes are dim with tears,
O God make them clear.
From the ends of all the earth
when my heart is fainting
let me know that you have heard
and lead me into safety. And ...

(chorus)

Lead me to the rock, the rock that's higher
Lead me to the rock that's higher than I.
Lead me to the rock, the rock that's higher,
higher than I.

You, O God, have been for me
a refuge from my enemies.
Let me live within your strength
in the shelter of your wings.
From the ends of all the earth
when my heart is fainting
let me know that you have heard
and lead me into safety. And ...

(chorus 2x, and then repeat "higher than I" 3x)

Your Love is Amazing

Your love is amazing
Steady and unchanging
Your love is a mountain
Firm beneath my feet

Your love is a mystery
How you gently lift me
When I am surrounded
Your love carries me

(chorus)

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah
Your love makes me sing
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah
Your love makes me sing

Your love is surprising
I can feel it rising
All the joy that's growing
Deep inside of me

Every time I greet you
All your goodness shines through
I can feel this God song
rising up in me

(chorus 2x)

Breathe

This is the air I breathe. This is the air I breathe.
Your holy presence living in me.
This is my daily bread. This is my daily bread.
Your very word spoken to me.

And I...I'm desperate for you. And I...I'm lost without you.

Prayer of Invocation

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

(chorus)

Every time I feel the spirit
Moving in my heart I will pray
Every time I feel the spirit
Moving in my heart I will pray

Up on the mountain, when my God spoke
All about was fire and smoke
I looked around me, it looked so fine
I asked my God if all was mine ***(chorus)***

Oh, I have sorrow and I have woe
And I have heartaches here below
But while God leads me I'll never fear
Because I know that love is near ***(chorus)***

Oh, Jordan river is chilly and cold.
It chills the body but not the soul.
And if you get there before I do
Reach out your hand and pull me through
(repeat chorus 2-3x)

Lessons For Life

Taking Flight, Part IV: The Eagle

Rev. Dr. Brent Hawkes, C.M.

Sermon Song

The Power of Your Love

God, I come to you
Let my heart be changed, renewed
Flowing from the grace that I've found in you
And God, I've come to know
The weaknesses I see in me
Will be stripped away
By the power of your love

(chorus)

Hold me close, let your love surround me
Bring me near, draw me to your side
And as I wait I'll rise up like the eagle
And I will soar with you, your Spirit leads me on,
By the power of your love

God, unveil my eyes
Let me see you face to face
The knowledge of your love as you live in me
God, renew my mind
As your will unfolds in my life
In living every day by the power of your love
(repeat chorus twice)

And I will soar with you
Your Spirit leads me on
By the power of your love
(repeat)

Building Bridges Gathering 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 Our 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.

Intercessory Prayer

Jesus' Prayer ❖

We Celebrate Connection & Transformation

Communion (in front of the altar), Anointing for Healing (against the north west wall), and Personal Intercessory Prayer (in the chapel) are offered simultaneously at this time. Please join in singing:

Come Just As You Are

Come just as you are, hear the spirit call.

Come just as you are.

Come and see, come receive.

Come and live forever.

Love everlasting, and strength for today;
Taste the living water, and never thirst again.

Come just as you are, hear the spirit call.

Come just as you are.

Come and live abundantly.

Come and live forevermore.

Again and Again

Again and again you blessed me,

Again and again you kept me,

Again and again you brought me all the way.

You've been better to me

than I've been to myself,

Better to me than anyone else.

Again and again you brought me all the way.

Bright Side

There's a bright side somewhere

There's a bright side somewhere

I'm gonna keep on till I find it

There's a bright side somewhere

There's a bright side somewhere
There's a bright side somewhere
I'm gonna keep on till I find it
There's a bright side somewhere

There is more love somewhere
There is more love somewhere
I'm gonna keep on till I find it
There is more love somewhere

There is more peace somewhere
There is more peace somewhere
I'm gonna keep on till I find it
There is more peace somewhere

There's a bright side somewhere
There's a bright side somewhere
I'm gonna keep on till I find it
There's a bright side somewhere
I'm gonna keep on till I find it
There's a bright side somewhere
There's a bright side somewhere

Holy Ground Medley

This is holy ground.
We're standing on holy ground.
For the Lord is present,
and where God is, is holy. (**repeat**)

These are holy hands.
God's given us holy hands.
God works through these hands,
And so these hands are holy. (**repeat**)

We are standing on holy ground,
and I know that there are angels all around.
Let us praise Jesus now;
for we are standing in God's presence
on holy ground. (*repeat*)

Blessing

Closing Words

Closing Song ❖

Where Justice Rolls Down

(chorus)

Where justice rolls down
Like a mighty water
And righteousness grows
Like an ever flowing stream
And mercy resounds
Like the waves on the oceans
Let praises rise high
On the songs of the redeemed

There is a river that streams from the temple
Begins as a trickle and ends in the sea
As it grows, healing it will give
Where it flows everything will live (*chorus*)

Wade in the water and feel the strong current
Remember the stagnance of stale life before
God is here leave the past behind
In the clear waters you will find

(chorus twice, and then repeat last line)

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 a Prayer Partner who will be in the chapel.

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

Metropolitan Community Church of Toronto
115 Simpson Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M4K 1A1
Tel: (416) 406-6228 Fax: (416) 466-5207
www.mcctoronto.com / info@mcctoronto.com