



# FAIRLAWN

Connect with what matters in life.



**Fairlawn Avenue United Church**

**Reign of Christ**

**Sunday, November 26, 2023**

**10:30am**

Rev. Dr. Cameron Watts

Rev. Jean Ward

Eleanor Daley, Dir. of Music

Scott Wevers, French Horn

Fairlawn Avenue Senior Choir

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## Welcome and Acknowledgements

**\*Processional Hymn** O Changeless Christ

VU #350 (verses 1-4)

***O changeless Christ, for ever new,  
who walked our earthly ways,  
still draw our hearts as once you drew  
the hearts of other days.***

***As once you spoke by plain and hill  
or taught by shore and sea,  
so be today our teacher still,  
O Christ of Galilee.***

***As wind and storm their master heard  
and his command fulfilled,  
may troubled hearts receive your word,  
the tempest-tossed be stilled.***

***And as of old to all who prayed  
your healing hand was shown,  
so be your touch upon us laid,  
unseen but not unknown.***

(Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926)

**\*Gathering Prayer** from Psalm 95

Here we are, to sing praises to the One who made us,

***Our songs, our joyous noise are for the One  
who is the foundation of our lives.***

We are in the Presence

***With nothing to offer better than our thanksgiving,  
sung, shouted, murmured, silent.***

We confess our need to offer thanks,  
appreciation for all that is  
into a universe that invites us to transcendence.

***We confess our need to entrust our depths,  
this earth,  
the terrible challenges of this life  
into the Creator's shaping and caring hands.***

When we are at sea,  
when we feel solid ground under our feet,

***Our faith and gratitude are focused on the Creator.***

We worship, we fall to our knees overcome  
by the glory of Creation and its Maker.

***As sheep in a pasture, cared for and nurtured,  
when our noise, joyful and otherwise,  
falls into silence,  
we still ourselves to listen  
to the voice that invites us into peace, trust, security.***

**\*Introit**

To the King of All the Ages

E. Daley

To the king of all the ages,  
immortal, invisible, the only God,  
be honour and glory for evermore.  
(I Timothy 1:17)

**Scripture Reading** Ephesians 1:11-23

Reader: Jill Klaehn

In Christ we have obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of the One who accomplishes all things according to their counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of the Holy One's glory.

In Christ you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as God's own people, to the praise of Christ's glory.

I have heard of your faith in Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers.

I pray that the Creator of our Teacher Jesus Christ, the Creator of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened,

4.

you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power.

The Holy One put this power to work in Christ when raised from the dead and seated him at in the position of authority in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And has put all things under the Christ's feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

**Anthem**

Coronation  
Scott Wevers – French Horn

Craig Courtney (b. 1948)

Crown Him, the King of Kings, the Lord of Lords, the Prince of Peace.  
Crown Him, the one who died and rose again to live forevermore.  
Crown Him, the Bread of Life, High and Holy Priest, Bright and Morning Star.  
He holds the keys of death. He holds the keys of hell.  
He is ruler of the kings of earth. Crown Him, behold your King.  
See Him coming with the clouds. Ev'ry eye shall see Him whom they have pierced.  
See Him who is the first and is the last, Alpha and Omega.  
He is the Living One. He who is and was and who is to come.  
He has loved us unto death. He has freed us by His blood.  
He is the mighty Son of God. Crown Him, behold your King.  
Behold Him! Behold the Lord of Lords and King of Kings.  
(Based on texts from Isaiah, John, Hebrews and Revelation)

**Reflection**

The Geography of Prayer

Rev. Dr. Cameron Watts

**Preparation for Prayer<sup>1</sup>**

Sara Teasdale

I shall gather myself into myself again,  
I shall take my scattered selves and make them one,  
I shall fuse them into a polished crystal ball  
Where I can see the moon and the flashing sun.

I shall sit like a sibyl, hour after hour intent,  
Watching the future come and the present go-  
And the little shifting pictures of people rushing  
In tiny self-importance to and fro.

**Silent Prayer**

We open ourselves ever more fully to that Eternal Mystery  
which lures us onward toward life and creativity.

***May we find the courage to live our faith,  
to speak our truth, and to strive together for a world  
where freedom abounds  
and justice truly does roll down like water.***

We would know the fullness of love without fear,  
and the serenity of peace without turmoil.

***We hold one another  
in the deep and tender places with compassion,  
and we grace one another  
by sharing our own vulnerabilities,  
being ever mindful of the divinity within  
that makes soulmates of us all.***

**\*Hymn**

You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd

VU #210

***You, Lord, are both lamb and shepherd.  
You, Lord, are both prince and slave.  
You, peacemaker and sword-bringer  
of the way you took and gave.  
You, the everlasting instant;  
you, whom we both scorn and crave.***

***Clothed in light upon the mountain,  
stripped of might upon the cross,  
shining in eternal glory,  
beggared by a soldier's toss.  
You, the everlasting instant;  
you who are both gift and cost.***

***You, who walk each day beside us,  
sit in power at God's side.  
You, who preach a way that's narrow,  
have a love that reaches wide.  
You, the everlasting instant;  
you, who are our pilgrim guide.***

6. ***Worthy is our earthly Jesus!  
Worthy is our cosmic Christ!  
Worthy your defeat and victory.  
Worthy still your peace and strife.  
You, the everlasting instant;  
you, who are our death and life.***  
(Sylvia Dunstan, 1955-1993)

## **Living Our Mission and More Than one Story**

### **Peace of the Christ Candle**

### **Introduction of Offering**

### **Offertory Anthem To the Lamb on the Throne**

Dan Forrest (b. 1978)

(The congregation is invited join in singing the last verse.)

*Worthy the Lamb.*

Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim,  
And publish abroad His wonderful name;  
The name all victorious of Jesus extol;  
His kingdom is glorious, and rules over all.  
*Worthy the Lamb.*

“Salvation to God, who sits on the throne!”  
Let all cry aloud, and honour the Son:  
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,  
Fall down on their faces, and worship the Lamb.  
*Worthy the Lamb.*

God rules in the height, almighty to save,  
Though hid from our sight, His presence we have;  
The great congregation His triumph shall sing,  
Ascribing salvation to Jesus our King.  
*Worthy the Lamb.*

***Then let us adore and give Him His right,  
All glory and pow’r, all wisdom and might,  
All honour and blessing, with angels above,  
And thanks never ceasing, and infinite love.***

*Worthy the Lamb!*  
(Charles Wesley, 1744)

### \*Presentation of the Offering

*In gratitude and humble trust  
We bring our best today,  
To serve your cause and share your love  
With all along life's way.  
O God, who gave yourself to us  
In Jesus Christ, your Son,  
Teach us to give ourselves each day  
Until life's work is done.*

### \*Sending Out<sup>3</sup>

Once every hundred years,  
Jesus of Nazareth meets Jesus of the Christians  
in a garden among the hills of Lebanon.  
And they talk long;  
And each time Jesus of Nazareth goes away  
saying to Jesus of the Christians,  
'My friend, I fear we shall never, never agree'.

### \*Choral Commissioning

E. Daley

(The choir will sing through once, and then the congregation is invited to join in.)

*May God's love surround you,  
may God's wisdom guide you,  
may God's light shine upon you,  
until we meet again.*

### Postlude

Après un Rêve  
Scott Wevers – French Horn

Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)

<sup>1</sup> *The Crystal Gazer*, from "Two Songs for Solitude" by Sara Teasdale

<sup>2</sup> C. Meyer, with permission

<sup>3</sup> "Sand and Foam" By Kahlil Gibran

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**Scott Wevers** was appointed Principal Horn with the Canadian Opera Company in 2019 and has been a member of the National Ballet Orchestra horn section since 2006. As a freelancer, he has performed with many Symphony Orchestras including the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony, Hamilton Philharmonic and The Quebec Symphony Orchestra. As an early horn specialist, he has performed regularly with Tafelmusik since 2001, participating in several of their tours and recordings (including the complete Beethoven Symphonies). In 2019 he had the privilege of playing Mozart's 4<sup>th</sup> horn concerto as soloist with Tafelmusik for Jeanne Lamont's farewell concert. Other early music ensembles for which he has played include Aradia (Toronto), Ensemble Caprice (Montreal), Apollo's Fire (Cleveland) and American Bach Soloists (San Francisco). *Thank you Scott, for sharing your gifts with us this morning!*

## CAROLS AROUND THE CRÈCHE

Bring a mug for hot chocolate and join us on the lawn  
Sunday, December 3 4:45 – 5:30pm

Fairlawn Avenue United Church  
28 Fairlawn Avenue

We invite you to support  
**Fairlawn's Annual Red Door Holiday Gift Drive**  
with donations of NEW clothing (coats,  
boots, snowpants) and unwrapped gifts  
for boys and girls (ages 9-13)

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