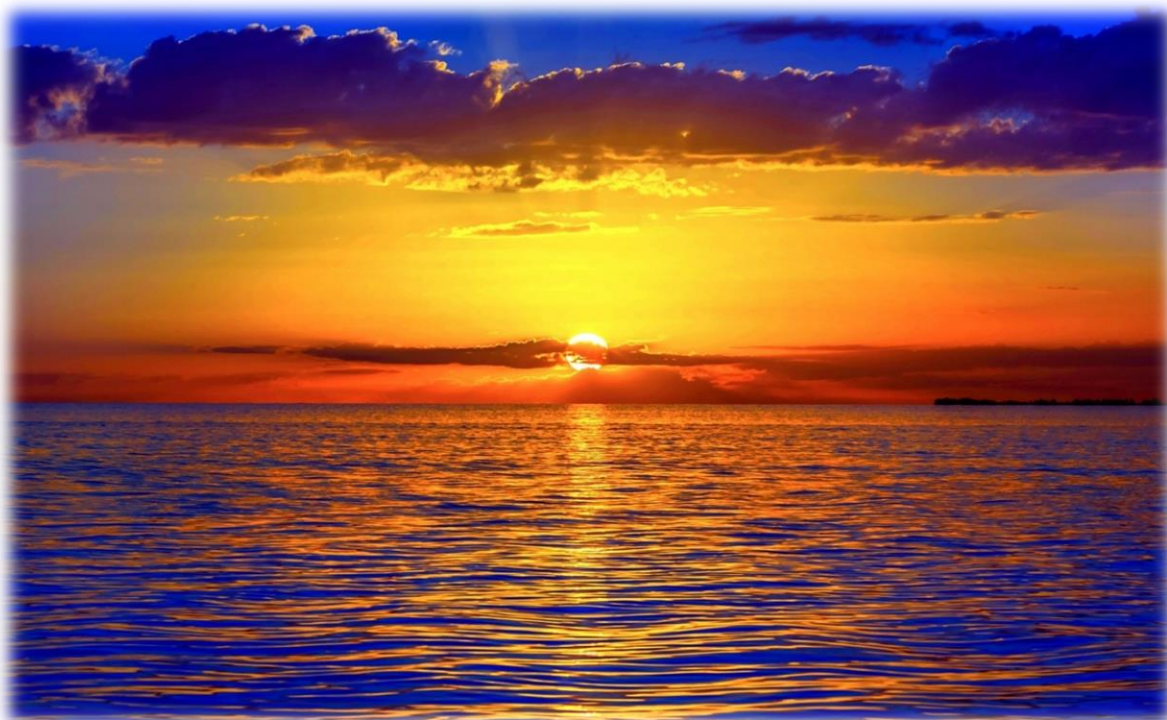




FAIRLAWN

Connect with what matters in life.



**Fairlawn Avenue United Church
Special Music Sunday
Sunday, April 21, 2024 10:30am**

**Rev. Dr. Cameron Watts
Rev. Jean Ward
Eleanor Daley, Director of Music
Fairlawn Avenue Senior Choir and Guests
with Chamber Orchestra**

***Requiem*
by Mark Hayes**

2.

Welcome

***Processional Hymn** Lord, Thou Hast Been Our Dwelling Place

**Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place
through all the ages of our race;
before the mountains had their birth,
or ever thou hadst formed the earth,
from everlasting thou art God,
to everlasting our abode.**

**O teach us thou to count our days,
and set our hearts on wisdom's ways;
turn, Lord, to us in our distress,
in pity now thy servants bless;
let mercy's dawn dispel our night,
and all our day with joy be bright.**

**O send the day of joy and light,
for long has been our sorrow's night;
afflicted through the weary years,
we wait until thy help appears;
from age to age with us abide;
in us let God be glorified.**

**So let there be on us bestowed
the beauty of the Lord our God;
the work accomplished by our hand
establish thou, and make it stand,
yea, let our hopeful labour be
established evermore by thee.**

(J. G. Wagner, 1742)

***Gathering Prayer**

**The Word you spoke, and keep speaking, O God
is the life, the sustenance,
of all that is – seen and unseen.**

**The Life you gave, and keep giving, O Christ
is the recreation, the renewed birth
of every broken, wounded and lost creature.**

**The breath you breathed, and keep breathing, O Spirit
is the inspiration for creativity, compassion and community
that connects and unites all that God has made.**

**Life-giving, Life-restoring, Life-fulfilling God,
our worship seeks to honour you
our hearts are devoted to you
and our days are joined in the dance with you.
Amen.**

***Introit**

I am the Resurrection and the Life

E. Daley

“I am the resurrection and the life”, says the Lord.
“Whosoever believes in me shall never die.”
(John 11:25, 26)

Sharing Peace

Scripture Reading

Revelation 21:1, 3-4, 22:5
and *Lux Aeterna* from the *Requiem Mass*

Reader: Sylvia Dixon

***Hymn**

Give Thanks for Life

VU #706

**Give thanks for life, the measure of our days,
mortal, we pass through beauty that decays,
yet sing to God our hope, our love, our praise,
Hallelujah, hallelujah!**

**Give thanks for those who made their life a light
caught from the Christ-flame, bursting through the night,
who touched the truth, who burned for what is right,
Hallelujah, hallelujah!**

**And for our own, our living and our dead,
thanks for the love by which our life is fed,
a love not changed by time or death or dread,
Hallelujah, hallelujah!**

4.

**Give thanks for hope, that like the wheat, the grain
lying in darkness does its life retain
in resurrection to grow green again,
Hallelujah, hallelujah!**

(Shirley Erena Murray, 1931-2020)

Requiem

Mark Hayes (b. 1953)

(Please see insert for choristers, instrumentalists, text, translation and programme notes)

***Hymn**

O Lord of Life, Where'er They Be

**O Lord of life, where'er they be,
safe in their own eternity,
our dead are living unto thee.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**All souls are thine, and here or there
they rest within thy sheltering care;
one providence alike they share.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Thy word is true, thy ways are just;
above the requiem, "Dust to dust,"
shall rise our psalm of grateful trust.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**O happy they in God who rest,
no more by fear or doubt oppressed:
living or dying, they are blest.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

(Frederick Lucian Hosmer, 1840-1929)

Introduction of Offering

Offertory Anthem

In Remembrance (from *Requiem*)

E. Daley

Do not stand at my grave and weep,
I am not there, I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow,
I am the diamond glint on snow.
I am the sunlight on ripened grain.

I am the gentle morning rain.
 And when you wake in the morning's hush,
 I am the sweet uplifting rush
 Of quiet birds in circled flight.
 I am the soft stars that shine at night.
 Do not stand at my grave and cry,
 I am not there, I did not die.
 (attributed to Mary Elizabeth Frye, 1905-2004)

***Presentation of the Offering**

E. Daley

**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.**

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

***Hasten to us, O Holy One.
 Hasten to be by our side.
 Be our friend
 Our Advocate
 Our Accompanier.***

Life's journey is long:
 it is full of potential, full of mirth.
 It is full of joy and celebration.
 In the quiet we rejoice with those who rejoice.

[Keep Silence]

***Hasten to us, O Holy One.
 Hasten to be by our side.
 Be our friend
 Our Advocate
 Our Accompanier.***

6.

Life's journey is long:
It is fraught with peril, with uncertainty.
It is full of grief and sorrow.
In the quiet we weep with those who sorrow.

[Keep Silence]

***Hasten to us, O Holy One.
Hasten to be by our side.
Be our friend
Our advocate
Our accompanier.***

Life's journey is long:
It is filled with boredom, with ennui.
It is full of reasons to despair for its sameness.
In the quiet we sit with those who hope for nothing.

[Keep Silence]

***Hasten to us, O Holy One.
Hasten to be by our side.
Be our friend
Our advocate
Our accompanier.***

Life's journey is long,
And that we may walk it with a sense of purpose,
In the Ancient Words we offer this prayer we learned from the Christ,

***Our Father, Who art in heaven,
Hallowed be Thy Name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done,
On earth as it is in heaven.***

***Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass
against us.***

***Lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil,***

***For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,
Forever and ever.
Amen.***

***Recessional Hymn**

Those Hearts That We Have Treasured

VU #494

**Those hearts that we have treasured,
those lives that we have shared,
those loves that walked beside us,
those friends for whom we've cared,
their blessing rests upon us,
their life is memory,
their suffering is over,
their spirits are set free.**

**They still give hope and comfort,
they did not lose the fight,
they showed us truth and goodness,
they shine into our night.
Remember days of gladness;
remember times of joy;
remember all the moments
that grief can not destroy.**

**From hearts that we have treasured,
from lives that we have shared,
from loves that walked beside us,
from friends for whom we're cared,
we've learned to treasure kindness,
we've learned that grace provides,
we've learned to be together,
we've learned that love abides.**
(Sylvia Dunstan, 1955-1993)

***Blessing**

Rest.
Rest in love.
Rest in the Love of God.
Rest in the Love of God who teaches us to love.
Rest in love with the souls of those who taught us to love
as God loves.

Postlude

Fairlawn acknowledges the sacred land on which our church stands. It has been a site of human activity for 15,000 years. This land is the territory of the Huron-Wendat and Petun First Nations, the Seneca, and the Mississaugas of the Credit River. The territory was the subject of the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement between the Iroquois Confederacy of the Ojibwe and allied nations to peaceably share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes. Today, the meeting place of Toronto is still home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island, and we are grateful to have the opportunity to meet and work in the community, on this territory. We are also mindful of broken covenants and the need to strive to make right with all our relations. The original nations continue to cry out for justice, and as treaty people, we commit to listen, learn, and work toward justice and reconciliation.



Thank you to Eleanor Daley, the Fairlawn Avenue Senior Choir, guest choristers and instrumentalists who inspired us this morning.

A Donation to the Special Music Fund may be made by using the envelope provided in your bulletin or securely via the QR Code. If you wish to donate to the Fund in memory of a loved one, please provide the name(s) so honoured, in order that we may appropriately acknowledge the donation.



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