



FAIRLAWN

Connect with what matters in life.



**Fairlawn Avenue United Church
Sunday, April 7, 2024 10:30am
What Colour Comes After Pink?**

Rev. Dr. Cameron Watts
Rev. Jean Ward
Eleanor Daley, Director of Music
Soloist – Kevin Doe
Fairlawn Avenue Senior Choir

2.

*Indicates when the congregation is to stand, as able.

Congregational responses, singing and readings in unison are indicated in bold text.

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Acknowledgement and Welcome

***Opening Hymn** Alchemy of Healing

**The courage we borrow, the courage we bring
shall bind us in strength to the healing we sing.
The courage to face any wound that we fear
shall bind us in beauty and bless every tear.**

**Bring grace and bring kindness to all that you sing,
to heal and to honour each fierce tender thing.
Each shame left unspoken may yet shine a light,
a place that seemed broke, that place can give life.**

**The darkness we banish, the shadow we blame
though hidden, may help us to find our true name.
So bring all your courage that all be made whole,
transforming your story in body and soul.**

**Come gather your power with good friends around.
Together we stand in the truth of this ground.
Our courage can make us, can heal and can mend,
a wound can be sacred, any wound we transcend.**

***Gathering Prayer**[1] Creating God—God beyond Gender,

***who makes no mistakes,
who surprises us always,
who molded the first person both male and female,
who molded the first non-gendered human
who loves all creation.***

Help us love the diversity of your creation.

***Help us accept all varieties of gender in ourselves
and in others.***

***That we may learn to love each other as you love us,
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ,
both human and divine. Amen.***

***Introit**

Clothe Yourselves with Love

E. Daley

Clothe yourselves with love,
which binds us all together in perfect harmony.
(Colossians 3:14)

Children's Story

You Need to Chill

Written by Juno Dawson
Illustrated by Laura Hughes

Scripture

1 John 3:1-7

See what love the Creator has given us,
that we should be called children of God,

and that is what we are!

The reason the world does not know us
is that it did not know the Creator.
Beloved, we are The Holy One's children now;
what we will be has not yet been revealed.

What we do know is this:
when They are revealed, we will be like Them,
for we will see Them as They are.

And all who have this hope in Them purify themselves,
just as They are pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that Jesus was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him.

Little children, let no one deceive you.
Everyone who does what is right is righteous,
just as he is righteous.

4.

Solo

You Will Be Found
(from *Dear Evan Hansen*)
Kevin Doe – Tenor

Music and lyrics: Benj Pasek and Justin Paul

Have you ever felt like nobody was there?
Have you ever felt forgotten in the middle of nowhere?
Have you ever felt like you could disappear?
Like you could fall, and no one would hear?
Well, let that lonely feeling wash away
Maybe there's a reason to believe you'll be okay
'Cause when you don't feel strong enough to stand
You can reach, reach out your hand
And oh, someone will come running
And I know, they'll take you home
Even when the dark comes crashing through
When you need a friend to carry you
And when you're broken on the ground
You will be found
So let the sun come streaming in
'Cause you'll reach up and you'll rise again
Lift your head and look around
You will be found

Reflection

What Colour Comes After Pink?

Rev. Dr. Cameron Watts

Unison Confession for Bullies[2]

**When we laugh at someone, they feel pain.
When we pick on someone,
they are angry but also afraid.
When we don't stick up for someone who is being bullied,
they are alone.**

We confess that we bully because we want to feel strong, the boss.

**But are we?
What have we done?**

**We have forgotten our own fear by making others frightened.
We have forgotten our own loneliness by leaving one of us alone.
We have hidden our own nightmare in another's terror.**

**It is no longer enough to be sorry.
It is no longer enough to boast and swagger.**

**These attitudes are hollow,
skating on the thin ice of our own fears, our own hates.**

**May we have the courage to confront ourselves in the 'not me',
'don't want to know',
'it's their problem',
'I'm not involved'.**

**May we have the courage to confront ourselves in the 'I'm right',
'She's black',
'He's stupid',
'They aren't a they',
I'm me and it's my world, not theirs'.**

**We are all hurt, all afraid, all alone, all different,
all me,
and the world is all ours.
We all have only one life.**

***Hymn**

As Colors in the Sky

**As colors in the sky, we move and blend in love,
a touch of this, a mix, a match, as gifts from heaven above.
Our genders may seem fixed, but even these may change
as we find beauty in-between that may at first seem strange.**

**Our bodies may not match the way we feel inside,
but we can change, transform, and find your love still deep and wide.
So if we break the mold traditions put in place,
let us with courage live our lives with kindness, love, and grace.**

**Creating God, you dance, you move as one in three.
Come show us, by your rainbow light, our shared humanity.
The heavens and the earth are made new every day,
help us discover by your grace, new truth, new life, new ways.
(Daniel Charles Damon, b. 1955)**

6.

Introduction of Offering

Offertory Anthem

Lord of the Empty Tomb

Craig Courtney (b. 1948)

Lord of the empty tomb, visit the tomb of my heart.
Roll from its entrance the stone of defeat with Your victory.

Lord of the empty tomb, enter the tomb of my heart.
Bring to the darkness the Light of the World with Your purity.

Raise me to know You, to stand in Your presence,
to walk in Your freedom, to dance to the beat of forgiveness, to worship
your holiness.

Lord of the empty tomb, transform the tomb of my heart.
Bring to the emptiness fullness of joy as You make it your home.
(Susan Bentall Boersma)

*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^[3]

This morning we lit a candle:
It burns brightly,
it burns with the spectrum of colours,
including pink and blue.
It burns with Christ's joy in females and males,
and white for those who are transitioning.

We are called to live these brilliant colours in our lives—
in the conversations and interactions at home,
at work, and at play—
as we go out into our community and the world
to share the message that God's love is for everyone!

*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

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[1] Rev. Cindy Bourgeois, Wesley United Church, Regina, SK, with permission

[2] Adapted, with permission, Centre for Christian Studies

[3] Linda Hutchinson, adapted, with permission

You Need to Chill – A Story About Love Written by Juno Dawson, Illustrated by Laura Hughes. Harper Collins Publishers, 2022

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Fairlawn. Thank you.



VISIBILITY

THE ANNIVERSARIES TOUR

Fairlawn Avenue
United Church

28 Fairlawn Avenue, Toronto

Saturday, April 13
2:00pm

Celebrate Visibility in All Its Forms

Fairlawn Avenue United Church, allying with International Day of Pink for the second year, celebrates visibility in all its forms – being seen, welcomed, acknowledged, accepted, respected, and listened to. This public event recognizes the 25th anniversary of the Trans Flag and the 50th anniversary of the Brunswick Four, a key event in the queer women's movement.

We welcome you to join us for incredible discussions with 2SLGBTQIA+ community leaders who have shaped our history and are trailblazing our future.

Featured speakers include:

- Monica Helms, creator of the Trans Flag
- Adrienne Rosen and Lamar Van Dyke, activists from the Brunswick Four
- Omid Razavi, Executive Director of It Gets Better Canada
- Earth Guillaume, TEACH Coordinator for Planned Parenthood Toronto

To learn more and register for this free event, visit

fairlawnchurch.ca/dayofpink

Fairlawn supports programming for queer youth in the North Toronto community. If you wish to support this work, please scan the QR with your phone to securely donate to Fairlawn's Affirm Ministry.

Please donate:



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