



# FAIRLAWN

Connect with what matters in life.



**Fairlawn Avenue United Church  
Third Sunday of Lent  
Communion  
Sunday, March 23, 2025 10:30am**

**Rev. Dr. Cameron Watts  
Eleanor Daley, Director of Music  
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**.

## Welcome and Acknowledgements

**\*Opening Hymn** Let All Creation Bless the Lord

VU page 870

**Let all creation bless the Lord,  
till heaven with praise is ringing.  
Sun, moon, and stars peal out a chord,  
stir up the angels' singing.  
Sing, wind and rain! Sing, snow and sleet!  
Make music, day, night, cold, and heat:  
exalt the God who made you.**

**All living things upon the earth,  
green fertile hills and mountains,  
sing to the God who gave you birth;  
be joyful, springs and fountains.  
Lithe waterlife, bright airborne birds,  
wild roving beasts, tame flocks and herds;  
exalt the God who made you.**

**O men and women everywhere,  
lift up a hymn of glory;  
all you who know God's steadfast care,  
tell out salvation's story.  
No tongue be silent; sing your part,  
you humble souls and meek of heart:  
exalt the God who made you.**

## A Responsive Confession

When we are overwhelmed with the world  
And cannot see our way clear,  
When life seems a struggle between tedium and apathy  
Or frenzy and exhaustion;  
When today seems a punishment and tomorrow a torment,  
***May we find the courage of patience.***

May we recognize courage in ourselves and our companions;  
 That is not dramatic, that elicits no fanfare;  
 That commands little notice by the world,  
 That is forgotten and taken for granted.

***May we learn how to cope.***

Like those who live one day of pain at a time,  
 Who see the long path of suffering and do not despair,  
 Who inspire us by their patient courage,  
 When we are impatient and afraid.

***May we know such courage,  
 And quietly celebrate its presence among us.***

**Introit**

Incline Your Ear and Come to Me

E. Daley

Incline your ear and come to me;  
 hear, that your soul may live.  
 (Isaiah 55:3a)

**Scripture**

Isaiah 55:1-9

New Revised Standard Version

Ho, everyone who thirsts,  
 come to the waters;  
 and you that have no money,  
 come, buy and eat!  
 Come, buy wine and milk  
 without money and without price.

Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,  
 and your labour for that which does not satisfy?  
 Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,  
 and delight yourselves in rich food.

Incline your ear, and come to me;  
 listen, so that you may live.  
 I will make with you an everlasting covenant,  
 my steadfast, sure love for David.  
 See, I made him a witness to the peoples,  
 a leader and commander for the peoples.

4.

See, you shall call nations that you do not know,  
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,  
because the Holy One of Israel,  
for has glorified you.

Seek the Holy One while they may be found,  
call upon them while they are near;  
let the wicked forsake their way,  
and the unrighteous their thoughts;  
let them return to the Holy One for mercy,  
and to our Creator who abundantly pardons.

For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
nor are your ways my ways, says the Holy One.  
For as the heavens are higher than the earth,  
so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

**Anthem**

Christ the Way of Life Possess Me

K. Lee Scott (b. 1950)

Christ the way of life possess me, lift my heart to love and praise;  
guide and keep, sustain and bless me, all my days.

Well of life, for ever flowing, make my barren soul and bare  
like a watered garden fresh and fair.

May the Tree of life in splendour from its leafy boughs impart  
grace divine and healing tender, strength of heart.

Path of life before me shining, let me come when earth is past,  
sorrow, self and sin resigning, home at last.  
(Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926-2024)

**Reflection**

The Thirst of Lent

Rev. Dr. Cameron Watts

**Passing of the Peace**

**The Sacrament of Communion**

Welcome to the Table  
The Elements of Commensality

**Communion Anthem** Ave Verum

Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

Ave verum corpus natum de Maria Virgine,  
 vere passum immolatum in cruce pro homine,  
 cujus latus perforatum unda fluxit sanguine,  
 esto nobis praegustatum mortis in examine.  
 O clemens, O pie, O dulcis Jesu, Fili Mariae.  
 (Latin, circa 1198-1254)

Translation:

Hail, true Body, born of the Virgin Mary,  
 who has truly suffered on the cross for mortals,  
 whose side was pierced, whence flowed water and blood:  
 be for us a foretaste of heaven during our final examining.  
 O merciful, O pure, O sweetest Jesus, Son of Mary.

**Introduction of the Offering and the Offertory****\*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.**

**Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer [1]**

O Birther! Father-Mother of the Cosmos  
 Focus your light within us - make it useful.  
 Create your reign of unity now.

Through our fiery hearts and willing hands  
 Help us love beyond our ideals  
 and sprout acts of compassion for all creatures.

Animate the earth within us: we then  
 feel the Wisdom underneath supporting all.

Untangle the knots within  
 so that we can mend our hearts' simple ties to each other.

6.

Don't let surface things delude us,  
But free us from what holds us back from our true purpose.  
Out of you, the astonishing fire,  
Returning light and sound to the cosmos. Amen.

**\*Closing Hymn** Deck Yourself, My Soul, with Gladness

VU #463 (verses 1, 3 and 4)

**Deck yourself, my soul with gladness,  
leave the gloomy haunts of sadness,  
come into the daylight's splendour,  
there with joy your praises render  
unto Christ, whose grace unbounded  
has this wondrous banquet founded;  
high o'er all the heavens reigning,  
yet to dwell with you is deigning.**

**Sun, which all my living brightens;  
Light, which heart and soul enlightens;  
Joy, most sweet and spirit freeing;  
Fount, the source of all my being;  
at your feet I cry, my Maker,  
let me be a fit partaker  
of this blessed food from heaven,  
for our good your glory given.**

**Jesus, bread of life, I pray you  
let me gladly here obey you;  
never to my hurt invited,  
be your love with love requited;  
from this banquet let me measure,  
God, how vast and deep its treasure;  
through the gifts you here now give me,  
as your guest in heaven receive me.**

**\*Unison Sending Out**

**We hunger, not just for spiritual food,  
but for that hope which strengthens us as your people.  
We thirst, not just for spiritual refreshment,  
but for that grace which fills us  
so we can overflow in service.**

**So pour out your Spirit upon  
the gifts of the bread and the cup  
and on your children gathered here.**

**We would not waste your gifts  
of grace and hope,  
but share them with those  
who hunger for them in their lives.  
We would not hoard your gifts  
of peace and justice,  
but use them to lift up  
all tossed aside by the world.**

**\*Choral Commissioning**

E. Daley

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

**O Lord, throughout this time of Lent,  
may we close by you stay,  
we walk with you, as we await  
the joy of Easter Day.**

(E. D.)

**Postlude**

This morning's anthem text is reprinted under onelicense.net #A-717945.

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[1] An Aramaic Version, translated by Neil Douglas Klotz, with permission



The flowers in the chancel are in loving memory  
of Beth Taylor Stobie, late wife of Bob Stobie.

**Minister** – Rev. Dr. Cameron Watts email: cameron.fairlawn@gmail.com

**Director of Music** – Eleanor Daley email: eleanor@fairlawnavenueunited.ca



The Senior Choir of Fairlawn Avenue

Eleanor Daley, Director of Music

presents

# Requiem

by K. Lee Scott

with

Chamber Orchestra

Sunday, March 30 at 10:30am

28 Fairlawn Avenue, Toronto

Register NOW! [www.fairlawchurch.ca](http://www.fairlawchurch.ca)

INTL.  
DAY OF  
PINK

Saturday  
April 5  
2:00pm



## Last Day for Book Sale Donations is Monday, April 7

Our sorters have worked through the many donations we've received so far. Thank you so much for your generosity! However, we're unable to accept and process any more items after Monday, April 7. Please look over your bookcases and get any last donations to us by then.

Help us promote the sale! Pick up a lawn sign during coffee hour to advertise Fairlawn's 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Book Sale, April 24-26. Posters are also available for you to put up in your apartment building, condo, gym or workplace.

## 2025 Book Sale Volunteers Needed!

Volunteer for a three-hour shift, connect with other Fairlawners and community members, and help ensure the success of this year's book sale. Sign up during coffee hour today or next Sunday.

Questions? Visit our website at [www.fairlawchurch.ca/booksale](http://www.fairlawchurch.ca/booksale) or email Tom or Kathy Salisbury at [booksale@fairlawavenueunited.ca](mailto:booksale@fairlawavenueunited.ca).