



# FAIRLAWN

Connect with what matters in life.



Salt of the Earth by Nat In Plein Air

**Fairlawn Avenue United Church  
Sunday February 8, 2026 10:30am**

**Rev. Dr. Cameron Watts  
Eleanor Daley, Director of Music  
Fairlawn Avenue Senior Choir  
Guest: Charlotte Alexander – French Horn**

\*Indicates when the congregation is to stand, as able.  
 Congregational responses indicated in ***bold italics*** and unison in **bold** text.

## Welcome and Acknowledgement

### Responsive Entry into Worship from Isaiah 58

These are words of Judgement from 2 Isaiah:

Shout loudly; don't hold back;  
 raise your voice like a trumpet!  
 Announce to my people their crime,  
 to the house of Jacob their sins.  
 Yet they ask me for righteous judgments,  
 wanting to be close to God.

This silenced the people,  
 until they heard of the possibility of new life ...

Isn't this the fast I choose:  
 releasing wicked restraints, untying the ropes of a yoke,  
 setting free the mistreated,  
 and breaking every yoke?

Isn't it sharing your bread with the hungry  
 and bringing the homeless poor into your house,  
 covering the naked when you see them,  
 and not hiding from your own family?

Then your light will break out like the dawn,  
 and you will be healed quickly.

Your own righteousness will walk before you,  
 and the Lord's glory will be your rear guard.

***And we will be like a watered garden,  
 like a spring of water that won't run dry.  
 Ancient ruins will be rebuilt,  
 We will restore the foundations of generations past.  
 We will be called Menders of Broken Walls,  
 Restorers of Livable Streets.***

**\*Opening Hymn** God, Whose Almighty Word

VU #313

**Responsive Confession**[1]

It's much easier, Jesus,  
 to point fingers and speak with horror  
 about the darkness in our world,  
 than to live ablaze with light,  
 revealing the truth of systems and situations,  
 bringing the colours of those around us into vibrant life,  
 warming the hearts of all we meet with compassion and love,  
***We do not choose what is easy,  
 We ask you to flood us with your light,  
 and make us light-bringers in our world.***

It's much easier, Jesus,  
 to separate ourselves  
 from those who believe and act differently from us,  
 to judge and exclude them  
 and preach about the bland lifelessness of our world,  
 than to live with salty spiciness,  
 preserving what is good and true and beautiful,  
 revealing the varied and exciting flavours  
 of different cultures and peoples,  
 healing and cleansing what is wounded and stained,  
***We do not choose what is easy,  
 We ask you to fill us with your saltiness,  
 and make us spice-bringers in our world.***

***We celebrate your grace and truth,  
 your compassion and self-giving,  
 your justice and righteousness,  
 and we offer ourselves to be those who follow your ways,  
 who become light and salt,  
 bringing life, justice and praise  
 wherever we may find ourselves.***

***In Jesus' Name, Amen.***

4.

<b>Introit</b>	Let Your Light So Shine Before All	E. Daley
	Let your light so shine before all, that they may see your good works and give glory to God in heaven. (Matthew 5:16)	
<b>Scripture</b>	Matthew 5:13-20	(NRSV)
<b>Anthem</b>	O Christ the Same Charlotte Alexander – French Horn	Craig Courtney (b. 1948)
	O Christ the same, through all our story's pages, Our loves and hopes, our failures and our fears; Eternal Lord, the king of all the ages, Unchanging still amid the passing years: O living Word, the source of all creation. Who spread the skies and set the stars ablaze; O Christ the same, who wrought our whole salvation, We bring our thanks for all our yesterdays.	
	O Christ the same, the friend of sinners, sharing Our inmost thoughts, the secrets none can hide; Still as of old upon your body bearing The marks of love in triumph glorified: O Son of all, who stooped for us from heaven, O Prince of Life, in all your saving power; O Christ the same, to whom our hearts are given: We bring our thanks for this the present hour.	
	O Christ the same, secure within whose keeping Our lives and loves, our days and years remain; Our work and rest, our waking and our sleeping, Our calm and storm, our pleasure and our pain: O Lord of love, for all our joys and sorrows, For all our hopes when earth shall fade and flee; O Christ the same, beyond our brief tomorrows, We bring our thanks for all that is to be. (Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926)	

**Reflection** "Salty. And Spicy"

Rev. Dr. Cameron Watts

## **Introduction of Offering**

**Offertory Anthem** Eternal God

John Rutter (b. 1945)

Eternal God, we give you thanks for music,  
 Blest gift from heav'n to all your servants here on earth:  
 In time of joy a crown, in sorrow consolation;  
 Companion through our days of tears and mirth.

We give you thanks for ev'ry sound of beauty;  
 For sweetest harmony that echoes in our hearts,  
 For melodies that soar on high like birds at morning,  
 For voice and instrument in all their parts.

As we are blest, so may our gift bless others;  
 May hearts be touched and spirits lifted up anew.  
 Let music draw together those who live as strangers,  
 Bring joy to those we love, in thankfulness true.

And when at last we come into your kingdom,  
 All discord over and all earthly labour done,  
 Then sound and silence yield before one equal music,  
 And with the Giver shall our souls be one.  
 (John Rutter)

## **\*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.**

## **Passing the Peace**

**\*Closing Hymn** I Am the Light of the World

VU #87 (refrain at beginning and end only)

6.

**\*Unison Sending Out[2]**

**Our gratitude stirred us to praise and sing our thanksgiving.  
Our loneliness drew us into the company of others.  
Our restlessness drew us into these moments of quiet.  
Our longing for the spirit brought us before the mystery of the holy.  
Our desire to heal our own wounds and the wounds of our world  
brought us here to renew our strength and hope.**

**We leave this space because we have gifts to share:  
words of healing and encouragement for those who are burdened;  
songs of praise and hope;  
smiles of comfort and affection;  
deeds of love and kindness.**

**\*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**

[1] John van der Laar, adapted, with permission

[2] Rex A E Hunt, adapted, with permission

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We welcome **Charlotte Alexander** to this morning's worship service. Charlotte is an up and coming Toronto-based brass musician, specializing in French Horn. She performs across Ontario in genres from classical to jazz, hip hop to musicals, and brass band to klezmer. Her performances have taken her to the stages of many venues in Toronto, including the Meridian Arts Center, Jane Mallet Theater, The Opera House, Lee's Palace, The Rex Hotel Jazz and Blues Bar, and The Garrison. With many performances and recordings under her belt, she "bolsters [Goudy's] argument that there's simply not enough French horn on modern jazz recordings" - Marie Goudy, *The Republic of Jazz*. Charlotte started a Masters in French Horn Performance at the University of Toronto in September 2025, studying under Nicholas Hartman, and is set to graduate in June 2027. On a more personal note, Charlotte's mother Kim sings soprano in the Senior Choir.



## A Celebration for Rev. Dr. Cameron Watts Sunday, February 15, 2026

Please plan to join us for lunch after  
worship service to celebrate  
Cam's ministry with Fairlawn  
and to wish him well in retirement!

Please RSVP to:  
[rsvp@fairlawnavenueunited.ca](mailto:rsvp@fairlawnavenueunited.ca)



### A Celebration for Rev. Dr. Cameron Watts

Sunday, February 15 will mark Rev. Dr. Cameron Watts' final worship service at Fairlawn Avenue United Church before his retirement. Following the service, all are invited to remain for lunch in the sanctuary as we offer our thanks for Cam's ministry and extend our best wishes as he enters this next chapter.

If you have not already, please RSVP by Monday, February 9 to [rsvp@fairlawnavenueunited.ca](mailto:rsvp@fairlawnavenueunited.ca) with the subject line "RSVP Feb 15 Lunch", and include the names of all those attending.

We hope you will join us for this meaningful time of celebration.

**Minister** – Rev. Dr. Cameron Watts  
[cameron.fairlawn@gmail.com](mailto:cameron.fairlawn@gmail.com)

**Administrator** – Joanne Christie  
[joanne@fairlawnavenueunited.ca](mailto:joanne@fairlawnavenueunited.ca)

**Bookkeeper** – Heather de la Rua  
[heather@fairlawnavenueunited.ca](mailto:heather@fairlawnavenueunited.ca)

**Director of Music** – Eleanor Daley  
[eleanor@fairlawnavenueunited.ca](mailto:eleanor@fairlawnavenueunited.ca)

**Admin. Support** – Xin Li  
[xinli@fairlawnavenueunited.ca](mailto:xinli@fairlawnavenueunited.ca)

**Fairlawn Website**  
<https://www.fairlawnchurch.ca>



**Fairlawn Avenue  
United Church**  
28 Fairlawn Avenue  
Toronto, ON M5M 1S7  
T: 416-481-6848



[www.fairlawnchurch.ca](http://www.fairlawnchurch.ca)

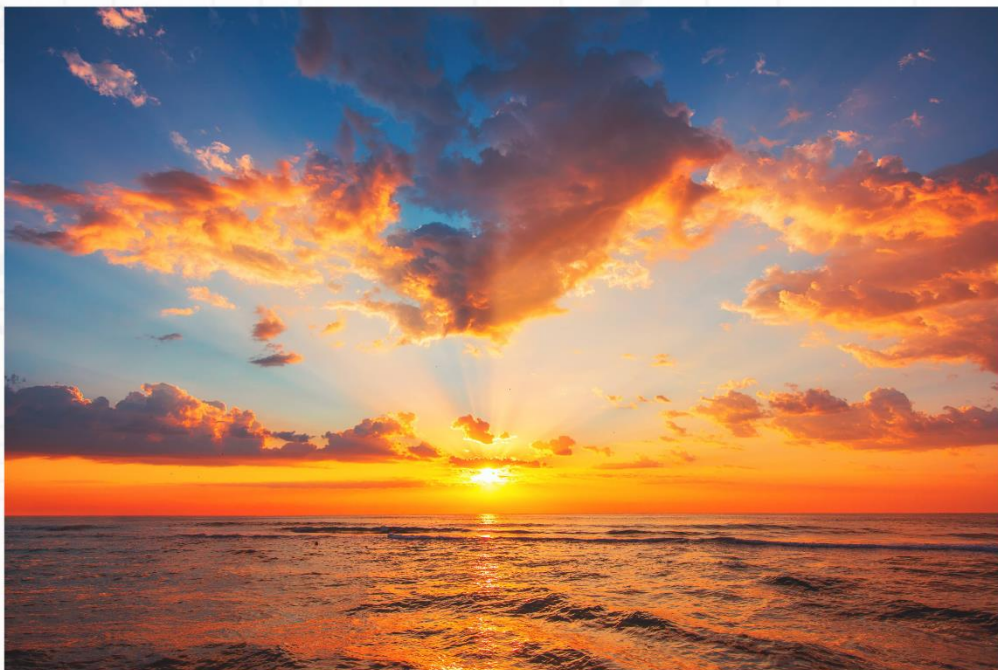
[churchoffice@fairlawnavenueunited.ca](mailto:churchoffice@fairlawnavenueunited.ca)

**The Senior Choir of Fairlawn Avenue  
Eleanor Daley, Director of Music**

presents

# *Requiem*

by John Rutter  
with  
Chamber Orchestra



**Sunday, March 1 at 10:30am**



28 Fairlawn Avenue  
[www.fairlawnchurch.ca](http://www.fairlawnchurch.ca)