



January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021 ~ 10:30 AM ~ 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany

Watch this service on our website: [www.graceunitedthornbury.ca/live](http://www.graceunitedthornbury.ca/live)

or directly on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/lp3paltffGc>

Leading us today in Worship

**Minister:** Rev. Thérèse Samuel

**Music Director:** Dr. Christopher Burton

**Lay Leader:** Phyllis Fleming

**Scripture Reader:** Jim Dolmer

~ Leader: regular font ~ All: bold font ~ Sung words: bold italics

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## *We Join One Another to Worship God*

**PRELUDE:** Sonata in E Flat Major 2<sup>nd</sup> Mov't Haydn

**GREETING** (2 Cor 13:14)

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**WELCOME**

**SUNG VERSE** VU 82 A Light is Gleaming (refrain only)

***A light is gleaming, spreading its arms throughout the night,  
living in the light.***

***Come share its gladness, God's radiant love is burning bright,  
living in the light.***

"In the brightness God has given," we worship.

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

AWA

Did you hear the good news?

**The kingdom of God has drawn near.**

Do you trust the good news?

**We place our trust in Jesus,  
The one who calls us to follow him.**

Do you have the courage  
to leave your former lives behind?

**We put our faith in the Lord,  
Our rock and our salvation.**

Trust the Lord.

**We will follow Jesus.**

## **OPENING PRAYER**

AWA

**Teach us anew, rock of our salvation,  
how your kingdom has come near.  
As you called Simon and Andrew long ago,  
call us to be your disciples this day,  
that we might find refuge and strength  
as we face the destructive forces of our lives.**

**Grant us the strength to wait for you in silence,  
that we might meet you  
in the subterranean chambers of our souls.  
For in you we rest secure,  
in you we abide in holy love. Amen.**

**HYMN** VU 262 A Mighty Fortress is Our God

1.

***A mighty fortress is our God,  
a bulwark never failing;  
our helper sure amid the flood  
of mortal ills prevailing;  
for still our ancient foe  
doth seek to work us woe;  
with power and malice great,  
and armed with cruel hate,  
on earth he has no equal.***

2.

***Did we in our own strength confide,  
our striving would be losing,  
were not the right man on our side,  
the man of God's own choosing:  
dost ask who that may be?  
Christ Jesus, it is he;  
Lord Sabaoth his name,  
from age to age the same,***

***and he must win the battle.***

3.

***And though this world, with devils filled,  
should threaten to undo us,  
we will not fear, for God has willed  
the truth to triumph through us:  
the prince of darkness grim,  
we tremble not for him;  
his rage we can endure,  
for lo! his doom is sure,  
one little word shall fell him.***

4.

***That word above all earthly powers,  
no thanks to them, abideth;  
the Spirit and the gifts are ours  
through Christ, who with us sideth:  
let goods and kindred go,  
this mortal life also;  
the body they may kill:  
God's truth abideth still,  
God's kingdom is for ever.***

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

AWA

**Mighty God, the words of your son echo in our ears:**

**“The kingdom of God has come near;  
repent and believe in the good news.”**

**How long we set aside the advice of others**

**And put our trust firmly in you.**

**How we yearn for the faithfulness of James and John,**

**Who immediately left their boats to follow Jesus**

**We know our fearful hearts, O God.**

**We know how far we are from being able to trust  
a complete stranger...**

**especially with our very lives.**

**We hope to one day have their devotion,**

**even as we cannot find the nerve  
to leave familiar paths behind.**

**Renew us, Holy One,**

**and bless us with your steadfast love,**

**that we might truly live as people**

**who have seen your kingdom draw near.**

**Amen.**

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

AWA

Just as God forgave the people of Nineveh  
when they repented and turned from their ways,  
so God will forgive us also,  
when we turn to walk in the paths of life.  
Pour out your hearts before God,  
our refuge and our strength.  
Pour out your hearts and find peace.

*God Speaks, We Listen*

**INVITATION TO THE WORD**

Let us hear the word of God  
as those for whom the kingdom has drawn near.  
Let us heed the word of God  
as those for whom light has dawned.  
Let us live the word of God  
as those for whom the ways of God  
are deeply lived.

**SCRIPTURE:**

**Psalm 62: 5-12 VU 779** Be still, my soul, and wait for God.

*Refrain*

***Rest in God alone; rest in God alone, my soul, my soul.***

How long will all of you set upon me and batter me,  
as though I were a tottering wall or a leaning fence?

**Their purpose is to thrust me down  
from my eminence;  
they delight in lies;  
they bless with their lips  
but curse me in their hearts.**

Yet be still, my soul, and wait for God,  
**from whom comes my hope of deliverance.**

*Refrain*

***Rest in God alone; rest in God alone, my soul, my soul.***

In God is my deliverance and my honour,  
the rock of my strength and my place of refuge.

**Put your trust in God always, you people;  
pour out your hearts before the One who is our  
refuge.**

*Refrain*

***Rest in God alone; rest in God alone, my soul, my soul.***

For we mortals are only a puff of wind;  
the great among us are but illusion;

**placed in the balance,  
we weigh less than a breath.**

Put no trust in extortion, set no vain hopes on plunder;  
**if riches increase, do not set your heart upon them.**

Once God has spoken, and twice have I heard it said:  
"Power belongs to you, O God. Steadfast love is yours."

**You reward us all according to our deeds.**

*Refrain*

***Rest in God alone;  
rest in God alone,  
my soul, my soul.***

## **SECOND READING:**

**MARK 1: 14-20** John calls Simon, Andrew and John.

14. Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the good news of God,
15. and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."
16. As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea - for they were fishermen.
17. And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people."
18. And immediately they left their nets and followed him.

19. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of  
 Jebedee and his brother John, who were in their boats  
 mending their nets,  
 20. immediately he called them; and they left their father  
 Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed  
 him.

**RESPONSE:**

The word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PRAYER OF PREPARATION**

**SERMON** "Leave What? For What?!"

**HYMN** MV 113 Jesus Saw Them Fishing

1.

***Jesus saw them fishing by the shore of Galilee,  
 casting out their nets into the sea.***

***Simon Peter, Andrew and the sons of Zebedee,  
 waiting in their boats so patiently.***

*Refrain*

***And Jesus said,***

***"Oh, come and follow me.***

***Oh, leave behind your nets. I call you.***

***Oh, come and fish with me, and your life  
 will never be the same again."***

2.

***rich young person came to Jesus looking for advice.***

***"How can I obtain eternal life?"***

***Jesus told him, "Honour the commandments of the Lord.***

***Then sell off all your riches for the poor."***

*Refrain*

***And Jesus said,***

***"Oh, come and follow me.***

***Oh, leave behind your nets. I call you.***

***Oh, come and fish with me, and your life  
 will never be the same again."***

3.

***If you want to follow me, deny your very self.  
Take up your cross and walk the walk with me.  
This might seem a hardship, an impossibility,  
but nothing is impossible with God."***

*Refrain*

***And Jesus said,  
"Oh, come and follow me.  
Oh, leave behind your nets. I call you.  
Oh, come and fish with me, and your life  
will never be the same again."***

## *We Join God in the World*

### **PROFESSION OF FAITH** A New Creed

**We are not alone,  
we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God:  
who has created  
and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus,  
the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others  
by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:  
to celebrate God's presence,  
to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus,  
    crucified and risen,  
    our judge and our hope.  
In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us.  
We are not alone.  
Thanks be to God.**

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

AWA

Call to Silent Prayer:

For God alone our souls wait in silence,  
    for our souls are restless  
    until they find their rest in God.  
Into this holy presence, known only in silence,  
    let us come before the Lord,  
    our rock and our salvation;  
let us find shelter in the lord,  
    our refuge and our strength.  
Let us pray.

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** (*Spoken, traditional words, VU 921*)

As a child turns to a loving caregiver who watches over them, we turn in prayer to you, O God, who are our heavenly parent, our mother,

**Our Father, who art in Heaven...**

**PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

The Peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

*Share the peace by typing in the chat box. Or think of one person with whom you would like to share the peace of Christ.*

MUSIC Sheep May Safely Graze J.S. Bach

**OFFERING** *We honour all the ways we give as we dedicate our offering.*

INVITATION TO OFFERING

With an offering stone to honour all the ways we give as we dedicate our offering let us pray:

PRAYER OF DEDICATION OF GIFTS AND SELF

**God of abundance, you teach us the dangers  
of setting our hearts on earthly riches.**

AWA

**May these offerings be symbols  
of our faith in your bounty,  
and of our commitment to follow  
your call in our lives,**

**wherever you may lead. Amen**

*A single stone placed in the offering plate honours all our gifts.*

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Join us by Zoom following this service for: **Coffee Hour**

***We Go Out to Share God's Love!***

**HYMN** VU 713 I See a New Heaven

*Refrain*

***I see a new heaven,***

***I see a new earth***

***As the old one will pass away,***

***Where the fountain of life flows***

***and without price goes***

***to all people who abide in the land.***



1.

***There, there on the banks of a river bright and free,  
yielding her fruit, firm in her root,  
the Tree of Life will be.***

***I see a new heaven.***

***Refrain***

***I see a new earth  
as the old one will pass away,  
where the fountain of life flows  
and without price goes  
to all people who abide in the land.***

2.

***There, there where death dies and our lives are born again,  
body and soul, struggling but whole  
like flowers after the rain.***

***Refrain***

***I see a new heaven.  
I see a new earth  
as the old one will pass away,  
where the fountain of life flows  
and without price goes  
to all people who abide in the land.***

3.

***There, there where the darkness brings visions from above.  
There where the night, bearing new light,  
reveals the promise of love.***

***Refrain***

***I see a new heaven.  
I see a new earth  
as the old one will pass away,  
where the fountain of life flows  
and without price goes  
to all people who abide in the land.***

4.

***There, there where we work with the love of healing hands.  
Labour we must, true to our trust  
to build a promised new land.***

***Refrain***

***I see a new heaven.  
I see a new earth  
as the old one will pass away,  
where the fountain of life flows  
and without price goes  
to all people who abide in the land.***

**SENDING**

TS

Go from this time of worship  
with the old songs in your ears,  
and a new song in your hearts.

Go from this time knowing that every song you need is within  
you and around you.

Go into the world to bring the song  
that the world longs to sing.

Go, and may the everlasting song go with you,  
now and always.

**SUNG BLESSING** Go Now in Peace

***Go now in peace. Never be afraid.***

***God will go with you each hour of every day.***

***Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true,***

***Know God will guide you in all you do.***

***Go now in love, and show you believe.***

***Reach out to others so all the world can see.***

***God will be there, \* within, around, above.***

***Go now in peace, in faith and in love.***

***Amen, amen, amen.***

\* alternate words: watching from above

In response to congregation feedback, the Worship Committee has decided that, a sending or blessing other than Go Now in Peace will be sung one Sunday a Month.

**POSTLUDE** Sonata in E Flat Major 1st Mov't Haydn

**COFFEE HOUR** Join us via Zoom for community time.

The Zoom Link was sent in the eblast.

**RESOURCES USED:**

**LITURGY SOURCES: The following are used with permission:**

- Affirmation of Faith: **"A New Creed,"** The United Church of Canada, General Council 1968, alt. 1998
- Call to Worship, Opening Prayer, Prayer of Confession, Invitation to the Word, Prayers of the People, Prayer of Dedication by B.J. Beu from The Abington Worship Annual 2021.
- Sending: Thérèse Samuel, 2020.
- Sermon: Thérèse Samuel, 2021.

**Hymns and Sung Verses:**

**- Psalm Refrain:**

Robert Batastini

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**- "Jesus Saw Them Fishing"**

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