



Eastminster United Church  
*An East End United Congregation*  
July 29, 2018

*\*Indicates please stand in body or in spirit*

*"We don't even know how strong we are until we are forced to bring that hidden strength forward. In times of tragedy, of war, of necessity, people do amazing things. The human capacity for survival and renewal is awesome."*

*-Isabel Allende*

**We Gather as God's People**

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Catherine Inglis

\*Opening Hymn:

Gentle God, When We Are Driven

Shirley Erena Murray

1. Gentle God, when we are driven  
past the limits of our love,  
when our hurt would have a weapon  
and the hawk destroy the dove,  
at the cost of seeming weak,  
help us turn the other cheek.

2. Gentle Spirit, when our reason  
clouds in anger, twists in fear,  
when we strike instead of stroking,  
when we bruise and sting and smear,  
cool our burning, take our pain,  
bring us to ourselves again.

3. In the mirror of earth's madness  
let us see our ravaged face,  
in the turmoil of all people  
let compassion find a place,  
touch our hearts to make amends,  
see our enemies as friends.

4. Let our strength be in forgiving  
as forgiven we must be,  
one to one in costly loving,  
finding trust and growing free,  
gentle God, be our release,  
gentle Spirit, teach us peace.

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Lighting the Christ Candle

One: With this small flame we kindle hope in our hearts.

All: **In this place we name that love is stronger than hate!**

Opening Prayer

**Holy God, Holy love,**

**We gather in a space touched by violence to proclaim your love.**

**We bring you our heartache, our grief, our shock and our pain.**

**We bring you our mixed up feelings, our laments and our anger.**

**Help us to support each other in our pain and reach out to others who are hurting.**

**Guide us to see connections to the pain of the world.**

**As we find our way, lead us with your love to rebuilding the world in hope.**

**Amen.**

\*Sharing the Peace

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you!**

Blessing for Rachel on behalf of all Special Olympians

*You are invited to share the peace of Christ with one another.*

### **We Share in Word and Song**

Hebrew Scripture

Genesis 9:8-16  
Psalm 46 (VU 770)

Ann McIlwraith

Sermon

After the Flood

Rev. Sarah Miller

Anthem

"I Hope"

Dixie Chicks, arr. Scott Pietrangelo

*Sunday morning, I heard the preacher say  
Thou shalt not kill  
I don't wanna hear nothing else about killing  
And that it's God's will*

*'Cause our children are watching us  
They put their trust in us  
They're gonna be like us  
So let's learn from our history  
And do it differently*

*I hope for more love, more joy and laughter  
I hope we'll have more than we'll ever need  
I hope we'll have more 'happy ever after'  
I hope we can all live more fearlessly  
And we can lose all the pain and misery*

*Preacher told me we should not live in fear  
'Cause by hope we are saved  
Well I don't know if I can see that light,  
But I hope I will someday*

*'Cause our children are watching us  
They put their trust in us  
They're gonna be like us  
It's okay for us to disagree  
We can work it out lovingly*

*There must be a way to change what's going on  
No, I don't have all the answers*

*I hope, I hope*

## We Respond with our Thanks and Prayers

Offering Hymn: MV #78 God Weeps

*Please stand in body or in spirit during the last verse for the presentation of the offering.*

\*Dedication Prayer

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer (sung VU #959)

Sung Prayer Response

### Guide My Canoe

Guide my canoe, Spir-it Wind, guide my canoe, Spir-it Wind. My  
boat is so small, the sea is so wide, guide my ca-noe, Spir-it Wind.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and common time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

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Ecumenical Prayer Cycle: Republic of Congo, Gabon, Sao Tome and Principe

Toronto Southeast Presbytery: St Mark's United Church

East End Prayer Cycle: Greeters and Ushers

## We Go Out to Be the People of God

Life and Work of the Congregation

\*Closing Hymn: MV #169 When Hands Reach Out Beyond Divides

Commissioning and Benediction

\*Sung Blessing Peace, Salaam, Shalom

Peace, salaam, shal-om, — Peace, salaam, shal-om, — Peace, salaam, shal-om,  
— Peace, sal aam, shal - om. —

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and common time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

Postlude

## Today

### \* **Welcome to Eastminster, an East End United Congregation**



If you're new, please fill out a contact card and drop it in the collection plate if you would like our weekly email newsletter or would like more information about Eastminster. Prayer requests can be added to the Prayer book also in the Narthex. Children 4+ are invited to church school after we pass the peace. Nursery is available for toddlers and infants.

## East End News/Announcements

### \* **Living into Right Relations Classroom Book Fund**

Ontario's newly elected government has dismissed a plan to revise the province's social studies and history curriculums to add Indigenous content. East End United is responding with The Living into Right Relation Classroom Book Fund initiative inspired by the response of Indigenous authors Cherie Dimaline, Monique Gray Smith, Tracey Lindberg who are donating their own books to Ontario classrooms.

We are seeking donations this summer to fund one set of classroom books by an indigenous author for use by any Ontario teacher.

This challenge not only responds to the government's choices but reaffirms our commitment to the United Church's Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

Envelopes marked Living into Right Relation Classroom Fund will be available in the narthex and can be placed in the offering plate. An online donation option will also be available soon.

We are all Treaty People.

### \* **Our own Rachel Boardman is travelling as a Ontario Special Olympic athlete to the 50th year of the National Summer Games!**

She will be competing in swimming events in Antigonish, Nova Scotia August 1-5 2018. Special Olympics fosters inclusion in sport for persons with intellectual disabilities.

The athlete's creed recited at the beginning of every event is "Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt". More information is available at:

<http://www.specialolympics.ca/events/tue-07312018-0000/special-olympics-canada-2018-summer-games>

- \* **Volunteers are needed to welcome, read Scripture, offer prayers of the people, and provide refreshments.** Summer is here, and that might mean vacations (or even staycations!) for many of our congregants! It also means we need more volunteers to sign up for providing refreshments, reading scripture, and welcoming us all Sunday mornings. Please sign up for any of these leadership roles in the Narthex. We'd love to have your voice in our service!
  
- \* **CATS: Community Art Time Studio**  
**Thursdays 1:00-4:00pm**  
**Cosburn United Church**  
Drop-in for art and community, all levels and interests welcome - bring a project you're working on,  
Or start something new. Some basic materials are available but participants are welcome to bring their own. For more information, contact Greta King 416-421-5711.
  
- \* **Glen Rhodes Outreach Ministry**  
  
**Drop-in Food Bank**  
Wednesdays 9:00-11:30am & 2:00-4:00pm  
Glen Rhodes United Church  
  
**Community Dinners**  
August 27 5:00-7:00pm  
Glen Rhodes United Church

## Community Events

- \* **COME AND SEE PALESTINE AND ISRAEL**  
**October 31- November 10, 2018**

Join Rev. Marianna Harris and George Bartlett on a pilgrimage to see for yourself what is happening in Palestine and Israel. Learn about the effects of the occupation on the lives of ordinary people. Discover how Jewish Israeli and Palestinian activists are seeking to create change. Visit key holy places as we reflect on Jesus' life and teachings. Cost \$2800 plus airfare. Contact George Bartlett at [g.bartlett@sympatico.ca](mailto:g.bartlett@sympatico.ca) for further information.

## Staff

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**Custodians:** Joshua Somers, Jordana Kuhn, Neil Powers, Benjamin Priede

**Soloists:** Laura Larson - soprano, Sarah Hallikas – alto, Jeff Schissler - tenor, Andrew Hodwitz - bass