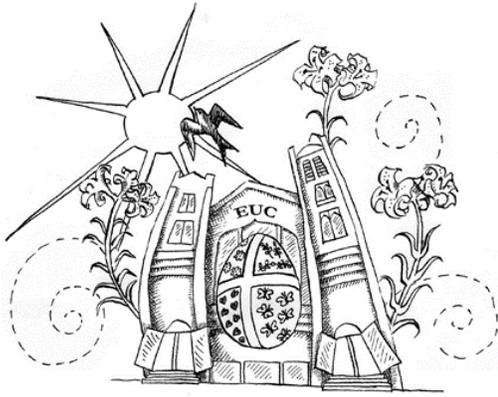


Eastminster United Church

April 17, 2016

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Baptism



**Indicates please stand in body or in spirit*

"Everyone needs beauty as well as bread, places to play and pray, where nature heals and gives strength to body and soul alike." - John Muir

We Gather as God's People

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Norman Tanaka

**Opening Hymn* VU#402 We Are One

Lighting the Christ Candle

adapted from U.U. Words for Worship

One: We light this candle to affirm that new light is ever waiting to break through to enlighten our ways

All: **May we be open to this light, and to the rich possibilities that it brings us.**

Opening Prayer

Nurturing God, you call us into relationship with you and with one another. You call us to make a joyful noise, but we grumble and complain. You call us to sing a new song, but we cling to familiar words, afraid to turn the page and to see that you are still doing marvelous things. Heal us and challenge us with your word and with your love. Amen.

**Sharing the Peace*

The Sacrament of Baptism

Introduction

Parents' Promise and Commitment

Godparents' Promise and Commitment

**Congregational Promise and Commitment*

Let us pledge our support and care to those who we have welcomed today.

As your brothers and sisters in Christ, we rejoice in the gifts you bring to this congregation. We pledge to you our love and our support. With God's help, we will together live out and celebrate the life and ministry of Christ's church.

**Affirmation 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.

Blessing of the Water and the Act of Baptism

Baptismal Blessing: VU#454 May God Who Creates You

The Children are invited to Church School.

We Share in Word and Song

| | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Scripture | John 21-1-19 | Kate Stewart |
| One: | The word of Hope | |
| All: | Thanks be to God! | |
| Meditation | Rituals of Faith | Rev. Sarah Miller |
| Invitation to Question | | Jane Sanden |
| Anthem | We Are Not Alone | Pepper Choplin Solo: Jeff Schissler |

*We are never alone,
for God is with us.
Now, through all our days, always.
Forever and ever, we are never alone.*

God will make us strong,

*for God is with us.
We will press on,
for God is with us.*

*We are not alone; God is with us.
We are never alone; our God is with us now.*

We Respond with our Thanks and Prayers

Invitation to Offer our Gifts and Ourselves

Offering Hymn VU#449 Crashing Waters at Creation

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

*Dedication Prayer

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

We Go Out to Be the People of God

Life and Work of the Congregation

*Closing Hymn MV#138 My Love Colours Outside the Lines

*Blessing & Sending Forth

*Sung Blessing MV#219 Ameni

Today

Scripture: John 21-1-19 p. 121

* **Welcome to Eastminster**

Please sign the guest book in the Narthex and include your email address if you'd like to receive the weekly eblast announcements from Eastminster. Prayer requests can be added to the Prayer book also in the Narthex. Children are invited to Nursery (up to age 4) and Church School following the Children's Time. Please pick up children from Church school and Nursery following the service.



* **Today we welcome through baptism:** Thomas Talaga, son of Maureen McCullough and Yuri Talaga, brother of Joseph. If you are interested in baptism for yourself or your child, please speak to Rev. Sarah.

* **Justice Ministries Committee** meets after the service.

* **Worship Committee** meets after the service

* **Scripture Readers Needed:**

Please see the Worship Sign Up binder if you would like to sign up to read scripture on Sunday!



* **Eastminster United Church Presents: Agnes of God Fundraiser!**

Eastminster is proud to announce our production of the play, *Agnes of God*, as part of our accessibility project fundraising efforts!

Agnes of God, explores fundamental issues of spirituality vs. obsession, miracles vs. magical thinking, and faith vs. doubt. The play will run for several nights: **Friday, May 13; Saturday, May 14; and Sunday, May 15 (the latter date we include two performances, one being a matinee)** at 310 Danforth Ave. (Chester Subway).

Tickets are \$20 per person and will be available on Sundays after service or through the church office Tues-Fri 10.30-3.30 (cheque or cash only).

All performances will be followed by talk-back sessions. Our hope is that this will give audience members an opportunity to engage with the play in a meaningful way. *(See poster on last page)*

* **Eastminster Complaint Free Challenge**

We have started a Facebook Group for the Complaint Free Challenge as a place to share challenges, ask for help, support each other and celebrate successes on the journey. All are welcome! If you would like to join the group, please just contact Cathy Forrest cathy.4est@gmail.com or **Barbara Strang** bestrang@gmail.com

Eastminster Events

* **Worship Services**

The Easter season continues with a series focused on Living in Hope as Easter People: In light of all the information, negative news, scheduling, daily challenges...how do we foster a life lived in hope and

spirit filled expectation? On April 24 we celebrate Earth Day! Our May 1 service focusses on themes from the play *Agnes of God*. May 8 our theme is Living the Questions! You don't want to miss a minute of worship at Eastminster!



* **Friday April 22**
Earth Day!

and....

* **April 22-24**
Community Clean Up Days!

Clean Toronto Together, the City's annual spring clean-up event, will take place on **April 22 - 24**.

Fri. April 22 - Corporate & School 20-minute Makeover

Sat. April 23/Sun. April 24 - Community Clean-up Days

Get out with the kids, friends, family, co-workers or on your own and help clean up your area! Reach out and offer to help a neighbour, a senior or someone who needs a hand...every little bit counts! Details at: livegreentoronto.ca



- * **Tues. April 26 @ 7pm: Newcomers & Seekers: Exploring Faith, Doubt, Questions & Struggles**
Final Meeting - starts at 7pm until 8.30pm at Eastminster United Church – 310 Danforth Ave. (in the Parlour) Presented by East End United, and led by Rev. Sarah Miller (Eastminster) & Rev. Robin Wardlaw (Glen Rhodes United Church).

Announcement Deadline for the Eblast & Sunday Bulletin is: Wednesday at 9am.

Please send to Sue at: eastminster@bellnet.ca Thanks!

From our Friends

- * **Thurs. April 28 from 6.30-8.30pm: Dine and Discover for Faith Communities**
You are invited to CRC's (Christian Resource Centre) Dine and Discover for Faith Communities on Thursday, April 28, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at 40 Oak Street. Please join us for an evening of great food and good conversation where we will let you know what we're up to and how you might get involved. **Please R.S.V.P. to Bruce Voogd by April 14** to advise how many guests you will be bringing. You may reach him at 416-363-4234 ext. 238 or at brucev@tcrc.ca. Info: <http://tcrc.ca/archives/5590>.
- * **Wed. May 4 @ 7pm: Meditation**
The Danforth Multifaith Committee is invited to a Special Wednesday Meditation hosted by Neighbourhood UU Congregation, 79 Hiawatha Road (South of Gerrard E., west of Coxwell). The meditation begins at 7:30pm, and the multifaith community is invited to arrive at 7pm for an introduction to meditation in the Unitarian Universalist Church.
- * **May 9 - 2016 Heart & Vision Awards Concert focuses on the Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada**
On Monday May 9 2016 join Toronto United Church Council at the eighth annual *Heart & Vision Awards Concert*. Former Ontario Ombudsman and President of Indspire, Dr. Roberta Jamieson and Truth and

Reconciliation Commission Commissioner, Dr. Marie Wilson will be honoured for their contributions to the process of reconciliation between Canada and First Nations peoples. The Hon. Bob Rae will host a musical celebration featuring Inuit throat singers, Nukariik, Jackie Richardson, Aboriginal Music Award winner Christa Couture, Medicine Song Woman Brenda Macintyre, and many others. The concert will be at Metropolitan United Church, 56 Queen St. E. in Toronto. Doors open at 7 pm, curtain rises at 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$60 for the concert alone or \$150 including a post-performance reception. Proceeds support the Council's Community Relief Fund, which funds United Church social ministries. Reserve your ticket online at <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/the-toronto-united-church-council/events/hv2016/> or call Ali Hayes at 905-771-5124.



Read Beth Baskin's great "**Justice Note**" bi-weekly updates & events notice here: <https://torontconference.ca/torontosoutheast/outreach-social-justice-project.php> or contact Beth at: BBaskin@united-church.ca

Weekly Events

| | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|---|
| Mondays: | 1:00pm | Prayer Shawl Knitters - meet in Sarah's Office |
| Thursdays: | 6:00 - 6:45pm | Children's Choir - meet in the Parlour |
| | 7:30 - 9.30pm | Adult Choir - meet in the Sanctuary |

Staff

Rev. Sarah Miller, sarah.bmiller@bellnet.ca Office: 416-463-2179 ex. 100 Cell: 416-209-1181

Hilary Donaldson, Pastoral Musician music.eastminster@bellnet.ca

Scott Pietrangelo, Music Leader

Jane Sanden, Youth & Intergenerational Ministry janesanden@bellnet.ca 416-463-2179 ex. 102

Sue Swann, Church Administrator eastminster@bellnet.ca 416-463-2179 ex. 103

Gerald Gordon, Property Manager property.manager@bellnet.ca 416-463-2179 ex. 104

Alex Sinclair, Bookkeeper pmsinc@interlog.com 416-463-2179 ex. 105

Custodians: Alison LeGrow, Jessica Aguiar, Joshua Somers, Rodney David

Soloists: Michelle Suzanne - *soprano*, Andrew Hodwitz - *bass*, Jeff Schissler - *tenor*, Joy Klopp - *alto*