

Eastminster United Church
May 8, 2016
Seventh Sunday of Easter
Mother's Day

*Indicates please stand in body or in spirit

*"We look with uncertainty beyond the old choices for
clear-cut answers to a softer, more permeable aliveness
which is every moment at the brink of death;
for something new is being born in us if we but let it.
We stand at a new doorway, awaiting that which comes...
daring to be human creatures, vulnerable to the beauty of existence.
Learning to love." -Anne Hillman*

We Gather as God's People

Prelude

*Gathering Songs Goodness is Stronger than Evil

words: Desmond Tutu;
adaptation & music: John L. Bell



Goodness is strong-er than e - vil; love is strong-er than hate;



light is strong - er than dark - ness; life is strong - er than death.



Vic-tory is ours, victory is ours through him who loved_ us. us.

Christ is Our Guiding Light

Eric H. F. Law



Christ is our guid - ing_ light;_ come, let us walk in the way of peace.

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

We gather today with curiosity and questions.

Hoping and trusting that there is room for our whole selves here.

We long for connection and understanding, for music and silence.

We give thanks that there is space for all this in our time together here.

Amen.

*Sharing the Peace

Children's Time

The Church School Explores Our Questions About God

We Share in Word and Song

Scripture

Psalm 100 (VU# 824)

Beverly Falk

One:

The word of Hope

All:

Thanks be to God!

Hymn

VU#268 Bring Many Names stanza 1

Faith Story

Exploring Questions We Ask Ourselves- Serving in Honduras

Meleah & Carol

Hymn

VU#268 Bring Many Names stanza 2 & 3

Meditation

Exploring Our Theological Questions & Questions for The Church

Sarah & Jane

Anthem

"Where is Love?" from *Oliver!*

Lionel Bart

*Where is love?
Does it fall from skies above?
Is it beneath the willow tree
that I've been dreaming of?
Where is she
who I close my eyes to see?
Will I ever know the sweet "hello"
that's only meant for me?*

*'Til I am bedside the someone who
I can mean something to?
Where is love?*

*Who can say where she may hide?
Must I travel far and wide
'til I am beside the someone who
I can mean something to?
Where is love?*

*Who can say where she may hide?
Must I travel far and wide?*

We Respond with our Thanks and Prayers

Invitation to Offer our Gifts and Ourselves

Offering Hymn VU#567 Will you Come and Follow Me

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

*Dedication Prayer

Hymn VU#268 Bring Many Names stanza 5

Prayers of People- Our Questions about Pain in the World

Mary Gerritsma

Hymn VU#268 Bring Many Names stanza 6

The Lord's Prayer (sung) VU#959

We Go Out to Be the People of God

Life and Work of the Congregation

*Closing Hymn VU#320 Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth

*Blessing & Sending Forth MV#219 Amen

Postlude

Today



Happy Mother's Day!!



Scripture: Psalm 100 (VU# 824)

* 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.



* Sound Operators Needed!

The worship committee is seeking 2 (two) more individuals to join our roster of Sound Operators. With a rotating schedule, you will be schedule once every six or seven weeks. We always have a back-up if you are unable to keep your shift at the last minute and you receive a friendly call from Joan to remind you of your scheduled Sunday. This service is highly valued by many in our congregation. We

provide training on the system and tips for keeping aware of personnel changes in the service. If you are interested in volunteering on this elite squad, contact Hilary Donaldson at:
music.eastminster@bellnet.ca

*** Fri. July 8 to Sun. July 10: Eastminster goes camping!! ... Mark your calendars!**



Grab your marshmallow sticks & Frisbees and get ready for a great weekend! A group campsite has once again been reserved at Sibbald Point Provincial Park. The park is located on the south shore of Lake Simcoe and has a nice sandy beach and lots of space to wander in nature, play games, or put up the chairs and relax. If you're planning on attending this amazing weekend, please fill out the specifics on the brilliant green sign-up sheet in the narthex. Please speak to Cameron (the "info" man) on Sunday's or email him at: cameron.thomson@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? May 15 is Pentecost when we host the East End Churches for a service together at Eastminster! On May 22 our service theme is Being Here Now: Living in the Moment. Our May 29 service focus is on Equanimity: Calm in the Storm.

*** Tues. May 10 @ 7:30pm: TCO Spring Concert: "From Furthest Base to Farthest Leap"**

The Toronto Community Orchestra, led by artistic director Leonidas Varahidas, is very pleased to extend a warm invitation to our spring concert "***From Furthest Base to Farthest Leap***", at Eastminster United Church, 310, Danforth Ave. (Chester Subway). The concert will include *Harry's Wonderous World*, from John Williams' Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone, *St. Paul's Suite* for strings and *First Suite* for winds by Gustav Holst. Alessia Disimino will be featured on violin playing Ralph Vaughan Williams' *The Lark*, and the program will finish with some wonderful Latin dance music! Admission is free, donations are gratefully accepted. Please join us afterwards for a reception in the Auditorium.

*** Thurs. May 12 @ 10.40am: Chester Village Service**

*** Fri. 13-Sun. May 15: 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 1.30 matinee) at 310 Danforth Ave. (Chester Subway). Tickets are \$20 per person and are available on Sundays after service or through the church office Tues-Fri 10.30-3.30 (cheque or cash only).

*** Sun. May 15: East End Churches Service at Eastminster!**

On Pentecost we welcome 4 East End United Churches for a joint service! Pentecost is the celebration of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the early church! To celebrate, we will have a cupcake potluck following the service! **Please bring cupcakes to share!**



* **Wed. May 18 @ 7.30pm: T.O. Choral Society - In the City: A Celebration of Toronto**
Location: Eastminster United Church, 310 Danforth Ave. (west of Chester Subway Station)
For years now the Toronto Choral Society has been presenting concerts that reflect the history and diversity of our great city. This year we are looking at the rich body of music created in and around Toronto, including "In the City," commissioned from Toronto composer Brian Finley, Eleanor Daley's "In remembrance", and music by iconic Canadian composer R. Murray Schafer. In addition to our 'Torontocentric' repertoire, our program will include Icelandic composer Jón Leifs' haunting Requiem, and Heyr Himna Smíður, a traditional and beloved Icelandic hymn, and story teller Brian Hetherington will grip us with Icelandic tales.
Info & Tickets: <http://www.torontochoralsociety.org/concerts/>

* **Wed. May 25: Church Night.... all the details coming soon!...**

* **Sun. May 29 @ 11.45am: Worship Committee Meeting**

* **June 5 Sunday Service: Baptism**

* **Tues. June 7 @ 7pm: Stewardship & Finance Committee Meeting**



* **Sunday June 12 @ 10.30am: Eastminster Picnic in the Park!**
Join us for worship & communion followed by a potluck picnic, fellowship, children's games in **Withrow Park** (Pape and Danforth near the shelter house -follow the sidewalk chalk!).
Please bring: food to share, juice if you want it, plates, cups, utensils, and a serving spoon for your potluck dish. Water will be supplied.
Volunteers are needed!: Can you help clean up after our potluck lunch? If so, please let Sarah know. In case of rain, we'll enjoy our event at the church, otherwise there will be no service there on June 12.

Announcement Deadline for Bulletins and Elbasts is **9am Wednesday**
Please send to Sue at: eastminster@bellnet.ca Thanks!

From Our Friends

* **May 9: Heart & Vision Awards Concert focuses on the Report of the Truth & Reconciliation Commission of Canada** at Metropolitan United Church, 56 Queen St. East,
Join Toronto United Church Council at the eighth annual *Heart & Vision Awards Concert*. Former Ontario Ombudsman and President of Inspire, 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. Doors open at 7 pm, curtain rises at 7:30 pm. Tickets \$60 for just the concert or \$150 including 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-churchcouncil/events/hv2016/>
or call Ali Hayes at 905-771-5124.

* **Fri. May 13 from 3-7pm & Sat. May 14 from 9am-Noon: "The Awesome Sale!!"**

Location: Leaside United Church - 822 Millwood Road (at McRae), Toronto. Donations are being accepted for this amazing Annual Sale of all kinds of bargains, from treasures & trinkets, books, clothing, linens, toys, furniture, small appliances, housewares, jewellery and more!! Snack Bar, recycled bargains and proceeds go towards funding both the church and Outreach Programs at Leaside United Church. If you are interested in volunteering or have questions about making donations and arranging pick ups please contact George at georgehurst@sympatico.ca 416 421 6491 or Bob at aelister@sympatico.ca 416 757 1491. Info at: www.leasideunited.org

* **Wed. May 18 from 7-9pm: The Blanket Exercise – Unlearning Racism and Colonialism**

Location: Glen Rhodes United Church, 1470 Gerrard St. East, Toronto.

Blankets needed! This is a participatory event that helps people of all ages understand our history, European colonialism and its effects on indigenous peoples, settlers and North American history and society. Recommended for those seeking truth and reconciliation among all inhabitants of Turtle Island (North America). **Leadership:** Liz Stone, Executive Director, Nijkiwendidaa Anishnaabekwag Services Circle, Peterborough, and members of the Glen Rhodes Truth and Reconciliation Group. All are welcome! Info: glenrhodesunited@bellnet.ca or **416.465.3755**

* **June 3-5: Jesus the Misunderstood Jew**

Location: College Street United Church 454 College Street, Toronto.

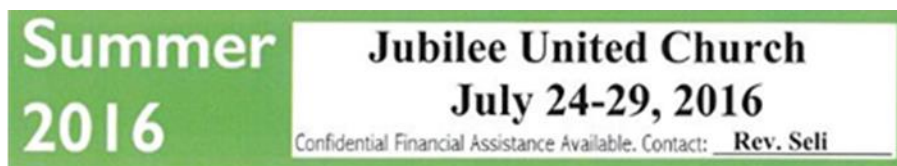
A very unique 2-Day Conference: Amy-Jill Levine: *Jesus: The Misunderstood Jew*. Amy-Jill Levine is a Jewish scholar who teaches Christian scriptures and she is speaking to Christians and Jews about the man we call "Jesus." Offering 8 lectures in all, her titles include: "How Jews and Christians Read Scripture Differently," "Jesus in his Jewish Context: Piety, Practice, Prayer, and Promise," and "Of Pearls and Prodigals: Hearing the Parables through Jewish Ears." For more information or to register contact Chris Levan at chris.levan4@gmail.com or go to chrislevanprojects.com/amy-jill-levine-conference. You can also call **416-929-3019** or **647-385-6661**. Cost \$110 per person with and special rates for groups of 5 or more.

* **Fri. June 10, 6–10 pm/Sat. June 11, 9– 4:30 pm: She Flies On**

Location: St. Andrew's United, 117 Bloor Street East

A celebration of the 80th anniversary of **Lydia Gruchy's** Ordination (*first woman ordained in The United Church of Canada*) and of the Life and work of ordained women within the whole people of God.

Registration is Limited! Register with Eventbrite. Cost: \$35



* **July 24-29 from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm: Summer Day Camp for Kids!!**

Location: 40 Underhill Drive (1 light east of the DVP, 2 blocks north of Lawrence)

For grades 2-7, this environment-based day camp is an action packed week for children and young teens. Trained staff and volunteers will lead programming, inspired by The GO Project along with traditional camp experiences (games, crafts, food, singing, fun!)

Confidential Financial Assistance available. Contact **Rev. Seli** **Cost for the week: \$100.00**

Phone: 416.447.6846



Read Beth Baskin's great "**Justice Note**" bi-weekly updates & events notice here: <https://torontoconference.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 <i>(last day May 12)</i>
	7:30 - 9.30pm	Adult Choir - meet in the Sanctuary <i>(last date June 16)</i>

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		
Soloists: Michelle Suzanne - <i>soprano</i> , Andrew Hodwitz - <i>bass</i> , Jeff Schissler - <i>tenor</i> , Joy Klopp - <i>alto</i>		