



# Richmond Hill United Church

An Affirming Ministry



**January 13, 2019: Baptism of Jesus Sunday  
(First Sunday after Epiphany)**

We're very happy you could be here this morning. If you are here for the first time, there is some helpful information at the end of the printed service. Today's scripture reading is available in various languages. Please ask an usher. A \* by a heading means you are invited to stand as you are able.

## Called by God and Centred in the Teachings of Christ

Chimes Prelude

Kathleen Crosbie

Lighting of Community Candle

Acknowledgement of the Land/Affirmation of Inclusion

Church at Work and Worship: *We share ways we worship beyond these walls.*

\* Hymn: "When Jesus Comes to be Baptized" (*Voices United* #100)

Call to Worship (*based on Psalm 29*):

One: We have come to join our voices with the choruses of heaven!

**All: We sing "Praise to the living One, praise to all that is holy!"**

One: We join with all creation in a song of thanksgiving and praise.

**All: We shout "Praise to the living One, praise to all that is gracious!"**

One: We offer our hearts and our lives as a gift of love.

**All: We cry "Praise to the living One, to all that was, is and still to be."**

Prayer of Approach

## Reflecting Together As a Community

Learning Together: *Children come to the front to explore the day's message.*

\* Hymn: "Seek Ye First the Kingdom" (*Voices United* #356, verses 1 and 2)

Centring Prayer: *As we listen to the tone of the singing bowl, we take time to centre ourselves in preparation to hearing the readings of the day.*

Reading: Luke 3:15-22

Lynn Townsend

Anthem: "There Is a Crown" (Jill Gallina)

Chancel Choir

Reading: Excerpt from Annie Dillard's *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek*

Time of silent reflection: *We pause to meditate on what has been proclaimed.*

Message: "Embodying the Kin-dom"

Rev. James Ravenscroft

Presentation of Candidate for Baptism: *We celebrate with Katayoon Nasirimajd.*

Profession of Faith, Promises and Commitment of Mentor

Congregational Commitment

One: Let us pledge... our continued support and care.

**All: We will continue to support you, walk with you, and grow with you. With God's help, we will live out our baptism as a loving community: nurturing one another in faith, upholding one another in prayer, encouraging one another in love.**

Prayer Over Water, Celebration of Baptism and Laying on of Hands  
*We welcome Katayoon into the Body of Christ through baptism and prayer.*

Baptismal Blessing: "Benediction" (*see insert*)

## Sharing in a Spirit of Gratitude

Prayers of the People: *We pray for people both near and far.*

Lynne Saul

Offering: *In support of the church we share our gifts. Tax receipts are given.*

Offertory: "Andantino" (Leon Boellmann)

\* Doxology: "When Heaven's Bright With Mystery" (*Voices United* #93, v. 4)  
**When heaven's bright with mystery and stars still lead an unknown way, when love still lights a gentle path where courts of power can hold no sway, there with the Magi, let us kneel, our gifts to share, God's world to heal.**

Offering Prayer

Minute for Council (*Chair of Council*)

Brandon Moore

## Called beyond Ourselves to Minister to the World

\* Hymn: "God Who Gives to Life Its Goodness" (*Voices United* #260)

\* Blessing and Sending Forth

One: As we go forth from here:

**may we be strong in spirit, courageous in will, and gentle of heart.**

One: Each day may our actions:

**be rooted in wisdom, nurtured by hope and open to love.**

One: May we meet others as we would wish to be met:

**with a heart of compassion, in a spirit of healing and grounded in joy.**

Postlude: "Toccatina" (Douglas Wagner)

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***For your comfort and convenience please note the following:***

- ❖ Large print bulletins and a Hearing Assist system are available.
- ❖ A red square on the hymn board means the hymn is in Voices United.
- ❖ An accessible, gender neutral washroom with changing table is available just through the door to the left of the choir loft.
- ❖ We have a rocking chair in the back of sanctuary for those needing to feed or otherwise care for infants. (Or if you just need a bit of a rock.)
- ❖ We have a nursery for children under 4. Please ask an usher for help.
- ❖ We generally have programs for children and youth during the service. Please refer to the order of service for more information.
- ❖ Our church is scent-sensitive for the care of people with allergies.
- ❖ All are welcome for refreshments after worship. To be identified as a newcomer who would like conversation, please choose a blue mug.
- ❖ For information about our congregation and ways to get involved, please drop by our “Welcome Table” located in Centennial Hall.
- ❖ Please turn all cellphones and other electronic devices to silent.
- ❖ If you would prefer, the order of service is online. Go to [www.rhuc.org](http://www.rhuc.org) and look under the heading “Spirit”, and then “worship services”.

Sound board operator: Chris Teixeira

**Members of our Ministry Team**

Reverend James Ravenscroft, Minister

Jennifer Townsend, Coordinator of Nursery and Discovery Time

Barry Peters, Director of Music      Anne Leyton-Brown, Youth Choir Director

Dan Plourde & Paulette Paul, Custodians      Deb Fratin, Office Administrator

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