



# Richmond Hill United Church

An Affirming Ministry



**July 18, 2021: Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**

The following resource is offered to help you worship at home, either on your own or online. Worship is livestreamed on Zoom. Log-in details are sent weekly by email to those on RHUC's contact list. For a recording of the service, click the following link: [www.facebook.com/RichmondHillUnitedChurch/](https://www.facebook.com/RichmondHillUnitedChurch/). This will take you to our Facebook page. We may be apart physically but we are still a community of faith spiritually, and digitally.

## Centred in Christ

Welcome

Acknowledgement of the Land: *We take time to give thanks for the land and for the Indigenous communities who continue to steward it.*

Lighting the Christ Candle: *As the candle in the sanctuary is lit, please light your own at home.*

*Blessed are you, God, the Maker of all things.*

*You have brought all things into being.*

*You give us light,*

*You give us love,*

*You give us yourself.*

Call to Worship (*based on Psalm 29, traditionally ascribed to David, as rendered by Nan Merrill*)

One: Give praise to the Beloved, O heavenly hosts,

Sing of Love's glory and strength.

**All: The mercy of the Beloved breaks the bonds of oppression,  
shatters the chains of injustice.**

One: Love invites all to the dance of freedom,

to sing the Beloved's song of truth.

**All: The Beloved lives in our hearts;  
Love dwells with us forever.**

One: Let us worship God.

Hymn: "*Come and Find the Quiet Centre*" (*Voices United #374*)

I Come and find the quiet centre

in the crowded life we lead,

find the room for hope to enter,

find the frame where we are freed:

clear the chaos and the clutter,

clear our eyes, that we can see

all the things that really matter,

be at peace, and simply be.

2 Silence is a friend who claims us,  
    cools the heat and slows the pace,  
God it is who speaks and names us,  
    knows our being, face to face,  
making space within our thinking,  
    lifting shades to show the sun,  
raising courage when we're shrinking,  
    finding scope for faith begun.

3 In the Spirit let us travel,  
    open to each other's pain,  
let our loves and fears unravel,  
    celebrate the space we gain:  
there's a place for deepest dreaming,  
    there's a time for heart to care,  
in the Spirit's lively scheming  
    there is always room to spare!

Opening Prayer

**Reflecting Together as a Community.**

Hebrew Scripture Reading: II Samuel 7:1-14 (a) (read by Harry Ramsaran)

Gospel Lesson : Taking Time (*based on Mark 6:30-34*)

Anthem: "Lead Me God" Samuel Wesley

Message: Focus on David, Part One: *Am I the One?*

*Linda M. Butler*

Hymn: "*I the Lord of Sea and Sky*" (*Voices United #509*)

1 I, the Lord of sea and sky,  
I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save.  
I who made the stars of night,  
I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them?  
Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?  
I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.  
I will hold your people in my heart.

2 I, the Lord of snow and rain,  
I have borne my people's pain,  
I have wept for love of them; they turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone,  
give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my word to them.  
Whom shall I send? R

3 I, the Lord of wind and flame,  
I will tend the poor and lame,  
I will set a feast for them; my hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide  
till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give my life to them.  
Whom shall I send? R

### **Sharing in a Spirit of Gratitude**

Prayers of the People

The Prayer of Jesus

*(from A New Zealand Prayer Book; written by Jim Cotter, [www.cottercairns.co.uk](http://www.cottercairns.co.uk))*

**Eternal Spirit,  
Life-giver, Pain-bearer, Love-maker,  
Source of all that is and that shall be,  
Father and Mother of us all,  
Loving God, in whom is heaven:  
The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!  
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!  
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!  
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and  
come on earth.  
With the bread we need for today, feed us.  
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.  
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.  
From trials too great to endure, spare us.  
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.  
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,  
now and forever.  
Amen.**

Hymn: "I Heard the Voice of Jesus" (*Voices United* #626)

1 I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
'Come unto me and rest;  
lay down, O weary one, lay down

your head upon my breast.'  
I came to Jesus as I was,  
weary and worn and sad;  
I found in him a resting place,  
and he has made me glad.

2 I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
'Behold, I freely give  
the living water; thirsty one,  
stoop down, and drink, and live.'  
I came to Jesus, and I drank  
of that life-giving stream;  
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,  
and now I live in him.

3 I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
'I am this dark world's light;  
look unto me, your morn shall rise,  
and all your day be bright.'  
I looked to Jesus, and I found  
in him my star, my sun;  
and in that light of life I'll walk  
till travelling days are done.

### **Called beyond Ourselves to Minister to the World**

Blessing and Sending Forth:

Ian: Now may the Spirit of God  
who brooded over the waters,  
and brought order out of chaos,

Linda: find a home in our hearts,  
drawing us into stillness to listen for the Spirit's breath  
and stirring us into action to follow God's leading.

Both: Amen

Postlude: "Go On Your Way Rejoicing" Douglas Wagner

Liturgist: Ian Wilgus

Preacher: Linda M. Butler