

WELCOME TO
YORKMINSTER PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

April 10, 2016



A SERVICE OF
Prayer
FOR THE
PERSECUTED CHURCH

Evening Worship Service – 7:00 pm

The service of worship begins with the music of the organ at 6:45pm.

Preludes

Adagio

Denis Bédard

Andante

Charles Wood

Processional Hymn 180 - All hail the power of Jesus' name! (Miles Lane)

Call to Worship

The Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes

Introit - Celtic Prayer (congregation seated)

Mark Sirett

May the Christ who walks on wounded feet walk with you on the road.

May the Christ who serves with wounded hands stretch out your hands to serve.

May the Christ who loves with a wounded heart open your hearts to love.

May you see the face of Christ in ev'ryone you meet,

And may ev'ryone you meet see the face of Christ in you. Amen.

Invocation and The Lord's Prayer (*seated*) (*sung Amen*)

The Rev. Dale Rose

Please see inside cover of the hymn book.

Welcome

Testimony

Rev. Israel Obieje & Mrs. Christiana Obieje

Song — Goodness is stronger than evil (Goodness is Stronger)

Goodness is stronger than evil;

love is stronger than hate;

light is stronger than darkness;

life is stronger than death.

Victory is ours, victory is ours,

through him who loved us.

(repeat)

Window on the World—Canadian Baptist Ministries

The Rev. Dr. Terry Smith

Executive Minister, Canadian Baptist Ministries

Prayer

The Rev. Tim McCoy

Executive Minister, Canadian Baptist Ministries of Ontario and Quebec

Choral Response

W. Maddox

Say to them that are of a fearful heart: be strong, fear not; behold, your God will come and save you. Amen.

Announcements and Offering

Anthem - The Secret of Christ

Richard Shephard

For a long time I have held my peace, but now will I speak. I will lead the blind in a way they know not, in paths that they have not know I will guide them. I will turn their

darkness into light, and I will not forsake them. And he showed me a pure river of the water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God; and on either side of the river was there a tree of life, and the leaves of the trees were for the healing of nations. Help us, Lord, to persevere in prayer with minds awake and thankful hearts, that we may share the secret of Christ with those we meet on our earthly pilgrimage, following in the steps of Jesus, our Master and our friend. Amen.

Dawn King, soprano

Prayer of Dedication

The Rev. Dale Rose

Holy Scripture - 1 Peter 2:4-17 (NT p.251)

Father Damian MacPherson

Matthew 5:3-12 (NT p.4)

The Rev. Dr. Karen Hamilton

Hymn—Faith of our Fathers (St. Catherine)

Faith of our fathers, living still in spite of dungeon, fire and sword;
O how our hearts beat high with joy, whene'er we hear that glorious word:
Faith of our fathers, holy faith, we will be true to you till death.

Faith of our mothers, daring faith your work for Christ is love revealed,
Spreading God's word from pole to pole, making love known and freedom real:
Faith of our mothers, holy faith, we will be true to you till death.

Faith of our sisters, brothers too, who must still bear oppression's might,
Raising on high, in prisons dark, the cross of Christ still burning bright:
Faith for today, O Living Faith, we will be true to you till death.

Faith born of God, O call us yet, bind us with all who follow you,
Sharing the struggle of your cross until the world is made anew.
Faith born of God, O living faith, we will be true to you till death.

Sermon - The Blood of the Martyrs is the Seed of the Church

His Eminence Thomas Cardinal Collins, Archbishop of Toronto

Song — Goodness is stronger than evil (Goodness is Stronger)

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love is stronger than hate;
light is stronger than darkness;
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Victory is ours, victory is ours,
through him who loved us.
(repeat)

Concert of Prayer - *Please turn to a few people seated with you and pray together using the prayer printed on page 6 as your guide.*

Prayer

The Rev. Dale Rose and the Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes

The prayer is offered as a reflection on: Isaiah 43:2-3a; Romans 8:35-39; 2 Corinthians 4:8-10; and Psalm 23:4-5.

Response: *(The response will be sung by the congregation between the voices of the prayer.)*

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Prayer of St. Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness joy. O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Hymn - Earth's fragile beauties we possess (Kingsfold)

Earth's fragile beauties we possess as pilgrim gifts of God,
And walk the slow and dangerous way his wounded feet have trod.
Though faith by tragedy is rocked, and love with pain is scored,
We sing the pilgrims' song of hope: 'Your kingdom come, O Lord!'

Earth's human longings we possess by grief or love compelled
To take and bear the heavy cross Christ's wounded hands have held.
By cloud and fire he leads us on through famine, plague or sword,
Singing with faith the pilgrims' song: 'Your kingdom come, O Lord!'

God's own true image we possess in innocence first known,
Now tainted by the hate and spite to Christ's own body shown.
By that same wounded heart of love God's image is restored,
To sing again the pilgrims' song: 'Your kingdom come, O Lord!'

Benediction

The Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes

Choral Amen—de Séverac

Choir Recessional—Nunc Dimittis with Antiphon

(Mode III.4, chant C.M. Palmer)

Save us, O Lord, while waking, and guard us while sleeping; that awake we may watch with Thee, and asleep we may rest in peace.

*Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word, For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; to be a light to lighten the Gentiles, and to be the glory of thy people Israel.
Gloria.*

Goodness is stronger than evil: copyright words Desmond Tutu; music John Bell. Used by permission.

Earth's fragile beauties we possess: copyright words Robert Willis. Used by permission.

Faith of our Fathers: copyright Joseph R. Alfred vs. 2, 3 & 4. Used by permission.

Soloists:

Jessica Willingham, soprano; **Dawn King**, soprano; **Margaret Terry**, mezzo soprano
Martin Houtman, tenor; **Stephen King**, baritone

Christel Wiens, Associate Musician

Please join us for a reception in the Friendship Room after the service.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

*The flowers in the Chancel today are dedicated to the glory of God
and placed in loving memory of*

JOAN W. AND NORMAN M. ROGERS—PARENTS

ARTHUR ELLIOTT ROGERS—BROTHER

by the Rogers family—Brian, Carol and their families, and Dean

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ALL hail the power of Jesus' name !
Let angels prostrate fall ;
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown Him Lord of all.

2 Crown Him, ye martyrs of our God,
Who from His altar call ;
Extol the stem of Jesse's rod,
And crown Him Lord of all.

3 Ye seed of Israel's chosen race,
A remnant weak and small,
Hail Him who saves you by His grace,
And crown Him Lord of all.

4 Ye Gentile sinners, ne'er forget
The wormwood and the gall ;
Go, spread your trophies at His feet,
And crown Him Lord of all.

5 Let every kindred, every tribe,
On this terrestrial ball,
To Him all majesty ascribe,
And crown Him Lord of all.

6 O that with yonder sacred throng
We at His feet may fall,
Join in the everlasting song,
And crown Him Lord of all !

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A Prayer for the Persecuted Church

“When reviled, we bless; when persecuted, we endure; when slandered, we speak kindly.” (1 Corinthians 4:12)

O God, we bring before you this night your servants around the world who face opposition, persecution, torture, imprisonment, and even death because of their loyalty to Christ and His teachings. We cannot begin to fully understand their sufferings, but we seek to stand with them in solidarity and prayer. Spur us on to action, O God. Tonight we seek to be a voice for the voiceless; to work for an end to the suffering caused by religious intolerance; and to be faithful in our daily walk as disciples of Jesus. May Your transforming love call us to prayer, to compassion, and to action. We pray these things in the strong and holy name of Jesus. Amen.

As you pray and reflect this night, remember our brothers and sisters in Christ who suffer around the world. In particular, remember Christians in these countries (listed by Open Door USA as the top 12 countries where Christians are persecuted):

1. North Korea
2. Iraq
3. Eritrea
4. Afghanistan
5. Syria
6. Pakistan
7. Somalia
8. Sudan
9. Iran
10. Libya
11. Yemen
12. Nigeria

We are honoured to welcome **His Eminence, Thomas Cardinal Collins**, Archbishop of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Toronto to the Yorkminster Park pulpit. His Eminence is a neighbour and friend of Yorkminster Park. Let us keep him in our prayers as he continues to lead our Roman Catholic sisters and brothers and offer his wisdom to the whole church. The Cardinal shares a deep concern for the persecuted church. He has stated that, “persecution has been a stimulus to the ecumenical movement in recent years.”

We are also honoured to welcome the **Rev. Dr. Karen Hamilton**, General Secretary of the Canadian Council of Churches, an ecumenical organization of Christian churches which was founded in this church in 1944.

We are also so pleased to welcome **Father Damian MacPherson**, the Ecumenical Officer of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Toronto, and a friend of Yorkminster Park.

It is also a privilege to welcome two of our Baptist leaders in this country, the **Rev. Dr. Terry Smith**, Executive Minister of our national church, and the **Rev. Tim McCoy**, Executive Minister of the Canadian Baptists of Ontario and Quebec.

We are delighted that you have joined us!

Here is some information which we hope will be helpful to you.

Parking: Parking is FREE on Sunday mornings until 12:45 pm. at City Parking at Alvin Ave. (one street east of Yonge & St. Clair). Don't forget to have your ticket stamped in the Narthex.

Accessibility: A limited number of large-print Bibles and calendars are available for use in worship on the Narthex information table. If you would like one, please ask an usher. Hearing assistance is also available. Please speak with our volunteer at the Welcome Table in the Sanctuary Entrance Hallway.

For Children: Nursery is available for newborn to 2 years old from 10:50 am and classes for toddlers to Grade 5 after the Children's Prayer. Parents are reminded to pick up a pager before the service, or when the children head to classes. Youth are encouraged to join Doxa Youth Worship in Cameron Hall today.

Fellowship: Following each morning worship service, we serve coffee and refreshments in the Sanctuary Entrance Hallway. We invite you to participate with us.

Stay Connected: The morning service is webcast live and archived on our website. All morning and evening worship services are recorded on CDs, which may be obtained from the Audio Desk in the Narthex.

If you wish to know more about Yorkminster Park or if you have questions about baptisms, weddings, membership, or any other need we can respond to, please contact the Church Office at info@yorkminsterpark.com or 416-922-1167.

The Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes
Minister of the Congregation

The Rev. Dale Rose
Minister of Pastoral Care

Mr. William Maddox
BMus, FTCL, FCAM

Mrs. Miriam Little
Director of Children's Ministries

The Rev. Deborah A. Ban
Minister of Discipleship

Organist and Director of Music

Mr. Brennan Rabbets
Director of Youth

The Rev. John Torrance
Minister Emeritus, Pastoral Care

The Rev. Dr. William A. Sturgess
Minister Emeritus, Pastoral Care



Yorkminster Park
BAPTIST CHURCH

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