

Rideau Park United Church, Ottawa
Sunday April 7, 2024 – Annual Meeting Sunday

Gathering Music

Welcome, Acknowledgement, Candlelighting

Opening Prayer

*Hymn: 26 MV – Your love is amazing

Responsive Reading: Psalm 84, p. 800, with sung refrain

Music

Scripture Reading/Reflection – Elizabeth Bryce

Sung response: 90 MV Veni Sancte Spiritus (Latin)

Scripture Reading/Reflection – Steve Clifton

Sung response: 90 MV Veni Sancte Spiritus (English)

Lighting the Memorial Candle

*Hymn: 494 VU – Those hearts that we have treasured

Prayer of Thanksgiving:

ONE: God be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

ONE: Let us lift up our hearts.

ALL: We lift them to God.

ONE: Let us give thanks to God.

ONE: It is right that we should give thanks to God, and offer a prayer of thanksgiving. For each one of us is blessed with a journey and God is our companion on that journey. God was with the people of Israel when Moses and Miriam led them; they followed a pathway from oppression, through wilderness, to the land of freedom. The people grumbled, and were not always faithful, but God was with them. God was with the people as they journeyed through history; as leaders changed from judges to kings to prophets. The people were exiled from their home, they struggled to remain faithful, and God did not abandon them. (Insert pastoral prayers)

TWO: God was with friends and followers of Jesus as they were called, and blessed on their journey of faith. They travelled from Good Friday to Easter, with fear and confusion in their hearts. They were filled with sorrow and confusion, until he came to them and said: "Peace be with you." Then they remembered the night they had gathered in the upper room, how Jesus

broke the bread, saying "This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." He also lifted the cup saying: "This cup is the new covenant, poured out for you."

ONE: We remember Jesus, our companion on the journey of faith, and pray that God's love may be revealed in our actions. We pray for God's blessing on all who are in particular need. We offer this bread and this cup as nourishment for God's children, in body and in spirit.

TWO: O God, Father and Mother and Friend of all, bless these things and these guests at your banquet. Send your Spirit upon them, and us, that we might be nourished with compassion, with justice and with hope. Amen.

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Jesus' Prayer

The Life and Work of the Church

Hymn: Isaiah 55, You Shall Go Out with Joy, p. 884 VU

Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude