

2022

# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



**COLLIER**  
—CENTRED—  
*with God • in Barrie • on You*

## WORSHIP & WORK

*Third Sunday of Lent, March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – 10:00 am*

*Holy Communion & Lunch*

*\*You are invited to say or sing the bold print*

### WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

*We believe in the Church, the society of the redeemed was brought into existence by God through the work and risen power of Christ.*

**ORGAN PRELUDE:** “Adagio Cantabile” by Beethoven

SANDRA RUTTAN

### LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

*Hewitt Holmes*

*We acknowledge with respect the history, spirituality, and culture of the people with whom the Three Fires Confederacy: the Ojibwe, Odawa, and Pottawatomi nations, was agreed upon.*

*We accept our responsibility as Treaty people on this territory wherein Collier Street United resides.*

*We honor the heritage and stewardship of this land.*

*As we gather to worship and work at Collier Street United,*

***we recognize that we have assembled on sacred ground,***

***a traditional gathering place for many peoples of Turtle Island.***

***We commit to honoring the covenantal relationship with the First Peoples: Métis and Inuit.***

***We move forward with reconciliation and good relations with all people.***



### LIGHTING OF THE WORSHIP CANDLE

*Hewitt Holmes*

**RESPONSE:** VU #87 “I Am the Light of the World” (chorus)

**WELCOME & NEWS**

*Lianne Patterson*

How are you today? **We are blessed and highly favored.**

**WE PRAISE AND PRAY**

*We believe that the Church is the organ of Christ's mind and redemptive will, the body of which Christ is the Head.*

**^SONG OF FAITH** (*United Church of Canada*)

*—Hewitt Holmes*

God is Holy Mystery,  
beyond complete knowledge,  
above perfect description.

Yet,  
in love,  
the one eternal God seeks relationship.

So God creates the universe  
and with it the possibility of being and relating.  
God tends the universe,  
mending the broken and reconciling the estranged.  
God enlivens the universe,  
guiding all things toward harmony with their Source.

Grateful for God's loving action,  
We cannot keep from singing.

With the Church through the ages,  
we speak of God as one and triune:  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
We also speak of God as  
Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer  
God, Christ, and Spirit  
Mother, Friend, and Comforter  
Source of Life, Living Word, and Bond of Love,  
and in other ways that speak faithfully of  
the One on whom our hearts rely,  
the fully shared life at the heart of the universe.

We witness to Holy Mystery that is Wholly Love.

**\*HYMN** VU #228 “Sing Praises to God” v. 1,2,4

*SANDRA RUTTAN/Choir*

God is creative and self-giving,  
 generously moving  
 in all the near and distant corners of the universe.  
 Nothing exists that does not find its source in God.  
 Our first response to God's providence is gratitude.  
 We sing thanksgiving.

Finding ourselves in a world of beauty and mystery,  
 of living things, diverse and interdependent,  
 of complex patterns of growth and evolution,  
 of subatomic particles and cosmic swirls,  
 we sing of God the Creator,  
 the Maker and Source of all that is.

Each part of creation reveals unique aspects of God the Creator,  
 who is both in creation and beyond it.  
 All parts of creation, animate and inanimate, are related.  
 All creation is good.  
 We sing of the Creator,  
 who made humans to live and move  
 and have their being in God.  
 In and with God,  
 we can direct our lives toward right relationship  
 with each other and with God.  
 We can discover our place as one strand in the web of life.  
 We can grow in wisdom and compassion.  
 We can recognize all people as kin.  
 We can accept our mortality and finitude, not as a curse,  
 but as a challenge to make our lives and choices matter.

\*HYMN MV #1 "Let Us Build a House" v.1

**WE CELEBRATE THE PAST**

*We believe that the theme of all Holy Scripture is the redemptive purpose and working of God and that herein lie its unity.*

**Annual General Meeting Booklet, Agenda Items 1-6, pg. 43**

**Board Chair**

#	Agenda Items	Person(s)	Comments
1	Constitution of Meeting, Regrets, and Courtesies  <i>In the name of Jesus Christ, the Head of the Church and by the authority of this court of the United Church of Canada, I now constitute this 2022 Annual General</i>	Lianne - Chair	

	<i>Meeting.</i>		
2	<b>Covenant</b>	<b>Together</b>	
3	<b>Adoption of Agenda</b>		<b>VOTING</b> - <i>Members-only vote</i>
4	<b>Allowing all to participate in Discussion</b>		<b>VOTING</b>
5	<b>Minutes of 2021 AGM</b>	<b>Steve</b>	<b>VOTING</b>
6	<b>In Memoriam (pg. 36)</b>	<b>Hewitt</b>	

## **SILENCE**

### **^SONG OF FAITH** (*United Church of Canada*)

– *Dave Lord*

Made in the image of God,  
we yearn for the fulfillment that is life in God.  
Yet we choose to turn away from God.  
We surrender ourselves to sin,  
    a disposition revealed in selfishness, cowardice, or apathy.  
Becoming bound and complacent  
    in a web of false desires and wrong choices,  
    we bring harm to ourselves and others.  
This brokenness in human life and community  
    is an outcome of sin.  
Sin is not only personal  
    but accumulates  
    to become habitual and systemic forms  
    of injustice, violence, and hatred.

We are all touched by this brokenness:  
the rise of selfish individualism  
that erodes human solidarity;  
the concentration of wealth and power  
without regard for the needs of all;  
the toxins of religious and ethnic bigotry;  
the degradation of the blessedness of human bodies  
and human passions through sexual exploitation;  
the delusion of unchecked progress and limitless growth  
that threatens our home, the earth;  
the covert despair that lulls many into numb complicity  
with empires and systems of domination.

We sing lament and repentance.

Yet evil does not—cannot—

undermine or overcome the love of God.  
 God forgives,  
 and calls all of us to confess our fears and failings  
 with honesty and humility.  
 God reconciles,  
 and calls us to repent the part we have played  
 in damaging our world, ourselves, and each other.  
 God transforms,  
 and calls us to protect the vulnerable,  
 to pray for deliverance from evil,  
 to work with God for the healing of the world,  
 that all might have abundant life.  
 We sing of grace.

**Agenda Items 7-11, pg. 43**

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**Board Chair**

#	Agenda Items	Person(s)	Comments
7	<b>Motion to Receive Reports in Booklet</b>	Lianne - Chair	<b>VOTING</b>
8	<b>Update from RBC (Investments)</b>  <i>Motion to receive report</i>	Hudson/Marg	<b>VOTING</b>
9	<b>Update from Morrison CPA re 2021 Reviewed Financial Documents</b>	Morrison CPA & Laurie	<b>VOTING</b>
10	<b>2022 Un-Audited Financials</b> <i>Motion to receive report</i>		
	<b>Appoint Morrison CPA as 2022 Reviewer</b> <i>Motion to appoint</i>		
	<b>2023 Budget</b> <i>Motion to receive Budget</i>		<b>VOTING</b>

**PIANO ANTHEM:** “God Leads Us Along” arr. Lisa Hoekstra

**^SONG OF FAITH** (*United Church of Canada*)

– Dick Moffat

The fullness of life includes  
 moments of unexpected inspiration and courage lived out,  
 experiences of beauty, truth, and goodness,  
 blessings of seeds and harvest,  
 friendship and family, intellect and sexuality,  
 the reconciliation of persons through justice  
 and communities living in righteousness,  
 and the articulation of meaning.

And so we sing of God the Spirit,

who from the beginning has swept over the face of creation,  
animating all energy and matter  
and moving in the human heart.

We sing of God the Spirit,  
faithful and untameable,  
who is creatively and redemptively active in the world.

The Spirit challenges us to celebrate the holy  
not only in what is familiar,  
but also in that which seems foreign.

We sing of the Spirit,  
who speaks our prayers of deepest longing  
and enfolds our concerns and confessions,  
transforming us and the world.

We offer worship  
as an outpouring of gratitude and awe  
and a practice of opening ourselves  
to God's still, small voice of comfort,  
to God's rushing whirlwind of challenge.

Through word, music, art, and sacrament,  
in community and in solitude,  
God changes our lives, our relationships, and our world.

We sing with trust.

Scripture is our song for the journey, the living word  
passed on from generation to generation  
to guide and inspire,  
that we might wrestle a holy revelation for our time and place  
from the human experiences  
and cultural assumptions of another era.

God calls us to be doers of the word and not hearers only.

The Spirit breathes revelatory power into scripture,  
bestowing upon it a unique and normative place  
in the life of the community.

The Spirit judges us critically when we abuse scripture  
by interpreting it narrow-mindedly,  
using it as a tool of oppression, exclusion, or hatred.

The wholeness of scripture testifies  
to the oneness and faithfulness of God.

The multiplicity of scripture testifies to its depth:  
two testaments, four gospels,

contrasting points of view held in tension—  
 all a faithful witness to the One and Triune God,  
 the Holy Mystery that is Wholly Love.

**Agenda Items 12-14, pg. 43**

- **Board Chair**

#	Agenda Items	Person(s)	Comments
11	<b>Nomination's Report - Appointment of:</b> <i>a) Church Board Members, LMG, and M&amp;P Teams</i> <i>b) Shining Waters Representatives</i>	Deb	VOTING
12	<b>Adjournment</b>	Lianne	
13	<b>Encircling Prayer &amp; The Prayer of Jesus</b>	Hewitt	

**WE SHARE A COMMON MEAL - HOLY COMMUNION**

*We believe that Holy Communion perpetuates the fellowship between Christ and Christ's disciples sealed in the upper room, that at Christ's table, Christ is always present, and Christ's people are nourished, confirmed, and renewed.*

**^SONG OF FAITH (United Church of Canada)**

—Anne Snell

We find God made known in Jesus of Nazareth,  
 and so we sing of God the Christ, the Holy One embodied.

We sing of Jesus,  
 a Jew,  
 born to a woman in poverty  
 in a time of social upheaval  
 and political oppression.

He knew human joy and sorrow.  
 So filled with the Holy Spirit was he  
 that in him people experienced the presence of God among them.  
 We sing praise to God incarnate.

Jesus announced the coming of God's reign—  
 a commonwealth not of domination  
 but of peace, justice, and reconciliation.  
 He healed the sick and fed the hungry.  
 He forgave sins and freed those held captive  
 by all manner of demonic powers.  
 He crossed barriers of race, class, culture, and gender.  
 He preached and practised unconditional love—  
 love of God, love of neighbour,  
 love of friend, love of enemy—

and he commanded his followers to love one another  
as he had loved them.

Because his witness to love was threatening,  
those exercising power sought to silence Jesus.  
He suffered abandonment and betrayal,  
state-sanctioned torture and execution.  
He was crucified.

But death was not the last word.  
God raised Jesus from death,  
turning sorrow into joy,  
despair into hope.  
We sing of Jesus raised from the dead.  
We sing hallelujah.

By becoming flesh in Jesus,  
God makes all things new.  
In Jesus' life, teaching, and self-offering,  
God empowers us to live in love.  
In Jesus' crucifixion,  
God bears the sin, grief, and suffering of the world.  
In Jesus' resurrection,  
God overcomes death.  
Nothing separates us from the love of God.

The Risen Christ lives today,  
present to us and the source of our hope.  
In response to who Jesus was  
and to all he did and taught,  
to his life, death, and resurrection,  
and to his continuing presence with us through the Spirit,  
we celebrate him as  
the Word made flesh,  
the one in whom God and humanity are perfectly joined,  
the transformation of our lives,  
the Christ.

Carrying a vision of creation healed and restored,  
we welcome all in the name of Christ.  
Invited to the table where none shall go hungry,  
we gather as Christ's guests and friends.  
In holy communion  
we are commissioned to feed as we have been fed,  
forgive as we have been forgiven,  
love as we have been loved.



The open table speaks of the shining promise  
of barriers broken and creation healed.  
In the communion meal, wine poured out and bread broken,  
we remember Jesus.  
We remember not only the promise but also the price that he paid  
for who he was,  
for what he did and said,  
and for the world's brokenness.  
We taste the mystery of God's great love for us,  
and are renewed in faith and hope.

## THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

*Hewitt Holmes*

- *The Thanksgiving & Institution*
- *The Consecration and Sharing*

## COMMUNION HYMN: MV #202 "Bread For the Journey"

### WE ARE HOPEFUL IN THE FUTURE

*We believe that all members of the Church are one in Christ and that the life of the Church in every age is continuous with that of the first apostolic company.*

## ^SONG OF FAITH (*United Church of Canada*)

– *Rob Murdock*

We sing of a church  
seeking to continue the story of Jesus  
by embodying Christ's presence in the world.  
We are called together by Christ  
as a community of broken but hopeful believers,  
loving what he loved,  
living what he taught,  
striving to be faithful servants of God  
in our time and place.  
Our ancestors in faith  
bequeath to us experiences of their faithful living;  
upon their lives our lives are built.  
Our living of the gospel makes us a part of this communion of saints,  
experiencing the fulfillment of God's reign  
even as we actively anticipate a new heaven and a new earth.

The church has not always lived up to its vision.  
It requires the Spirit to reorient it,  
helping it to live an emerging faith while honouring tradition,  
challenging it to live by grace rather than entitlement,  
for we are called to be a blessing to the earth.

We sing of God's good news lived out,  
a church with purpose:

faith nurtured and hearts comforted,  
gifts shared for the good of all,  
resistance to the forces that exploit and marginalize,  
fierce love in the face of violence,  
human dignity defended,  
members of a community held and inspired by God,  
corrected and comforted,  
instrument of the loving Spirit of Christ,  
creation's mending.  
We sing of God's mission.

## **^CLOSING BLESSING**

*Hewitt Holmes*

We place our hope in God.  
We sing of a life beyond life  
and a future good beyond imagining:  
a new heaven and a new earth,  
the end of sorrow, pain, and tears,  
Christ's return and life with God,  
the making new of all things.  
We yearn for the coming of that future,  
even while participating in eternal life now.

Divine creation does not cease  
until all things have found wholeness, union, and integration  
with the common ground of all being.  
As children of the Timeless One,  
our time-bound lives will find completion  
in the all-embracing Creator.  
In the meantime, we embrace the present,  
embodying hope, loving our enemies,  
caring for the earth,  
choosing life.

**Grateful for God's loving action,  
we cannot keep from singing.  
Creating and seeking relationship,  
in awe and trust,  
we witness to Holy Mystery who is Wholly Love. Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN:** VU #481 "Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

**POSTLUDE:** "Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above" arr. Cindy Berry



*(We remain grateful for the offerings given today and electronically)*

## **WORSHIP LEADERSHIP**

***Welcome to Worship at Collier Street United Church.***

*We are glad you have joined us today in person and online, our worship leaders are:*

**Hewitt Holmes** – Minister of Worship, Congregational Care and Leadership

**Sandra Lisa Ruttan** – Music Director

**Choir** – Music leadership

**Terry Tizzard** – Audio & Visual Projections

