

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

“The anniversary of our church is a reminder that God’s love is eternal and our commitment to God’s work of love and compassion in the world is unwavering.”

ORGAN/TRUMPET PRELUDE: “Faith Leads Us Onwards” by Steven Scott

CENTERING AROUND THE LIGHT OF CHRIST:

Response: VU #87 “I Am the Light of the World” chorus

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.

WELCOME & NEWS

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

WE PRAISE AND PRAY

“Each year, our church’s foundation grows stronger, and its spirit shines brighter.”

^WORDS FOR THE GATHERED:

We gather, looking back to see the paths taken,
Looking forward to see our path.

We honour those who have gone before us,

Learning from their successes and failures.

We celebrate who we are today,

And welcome the possibilities and opportunities before us.

We gather to worship God,

the God of yesterday, today and tomorrow.

***HYMN:** VU #421 “Lead On O Cloud Of Presence”

SANDRA RUTTAN/Singers from choir

^OPENING PRAYER

Hewitt Holmes

^WORDS FOR THE RENEWED:

Hear now, O Church, who stand in the gap for the world as

representatives of God. We have been made clean.

As the angel touched the unclean lips of Isaiah and made the person whole in word and deed, ready to do good works, Christ does the same to us, cleaning us and giving us a new path.

In Jesus Christ, the disparity between our word and deed is made right.

In Christ, our unkindness in action and word has been forgiven. We go now in the purity of Jesus Christ, as co-creators to speak and do the Gospel through actions of justice, mercy, grace, and love. Amen.

***HYMN:** VU# 958 “Halle, Halle, Hallelujah” - CARIBBEAN

VIRTUAL CHOIR

WE GROW IN THE FAITH & PRAYER

“A church anniversary is a time to reflect on the past, embrace the present, and envision a future filled with God’s grace.”

^WORDS FROM THE BIBLE: Psalm 90:1-8; Matthew 25:14-30 (Inclusive Bible)

DAVE LORD

Let us listen to hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church...

¹ YHWH, you have been our refuge from one generation to the next.

² before the mountains were born, you brought forth the earth and the world; you are God without beginning or end.

³ You turn humankind back into dust and say: “Go back, creatures of the earth!”

⁴ For in your sight a thousand years are like yesterday, come and gone, no more than a watch in the night.

⁵ You sweep us away like a dream, fleeting as the grass that springs up in the morning-

⁶ In the morning it sprouts, but by evening it has withered and died.

⁷ In the same way, we are consumed terrified by your anger and indignation.

⁸ Our guilt lies open before you; our secrets are revealed in the light of your presence.

Matthew 25:14 “Again, it’s like a wealthy landowner who was going on a journey and called in three workers, entrusting some funds to them.

¹⁵ The first was given five thousand dollars, the second two thousand, and the third one thousand, according to each one’s ability. Then the landowner went away.

16 Immediately the worker who received the five thousand went and invested it and made another five.

17 In the same way, the worker who received the two thousand doubled that figure.

18 But the worker who received the one thousand instead went off and dug a hole in the ground and buried the money.

19 “After a long absence, the traveler returned home and settled accounts with them.

20 The one who had received the five thousand came forward bringing the additional five, saying, ‘You entrusted me with five thousand; here are five thousand more.’

21 “The landowner said, ‘Well done! You are a good and faithful worker. Since you were dependable in a small matter, I will put you in charge of larger affairs. Come, share my joy!’

22 “The one who had received the two thousand then stepped forward with the additional two, saying, ‘You entrusted me with two thousand; here are two thousand more.’

23 “The landowner said to this one, ‘Cleverly done! You too are a good and faithful worker. Since you were dependable in a small matter, I will put you in charge of larger affairs. Come, share my joy!’

24 “Finally the one who had received the one thousand stepped forward and said to the landowner, ‘Knowing your ruthlessness—you who reap where you did not sow and gather where you did not scatter—

25 and fearing your wrath, I went off and buried your thousand dollars in the ground. Here is your money back.’

26 “The landowner exclaimed, ‘You worthless, lazy lout! So you know that I reap where I don’t sow and gather where I don’t scatter, do you?’

27 All the more reason to deposit my money with the bankers, so that on my return I could have had it back with interest!

28 You, there! Take the thousand away from this bum and give it to the one with the ten thousand.

29 “ ‘Those who have will get more until they grow rich, while those who have not will lose even the little they have.

30 Throw this worthless one outside into the darkness, where there is wailing and grinding of teeth.’

*This is life-giving Word, for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.***

SERMON: “Risk Taking Discipleship”

Hewitt Holmes

SILENT REFLECTION

CHORAL ANTHEM: "Shine a Little Light" by Andy Beck

Sandra Ruttan

INVITATION TO OFFERING & DOXOLOGY: VU#541 Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

LITANY OF THANKSGIVING *(Celebrating Anniversary and Ministry at Collier)*

O Holy and Gracious One, for the vision of those who planned for this congregation and for the commitment and dedication of all who served together from the very beginning in 1836,

We give you thanks.

For those who have served so faithfully in positions as Ministers,

Student Ministers, Elders, Stewards, Trustees, Board Members, Lay

members, and Supporting Staff,

We give you thanks,

For those who have willingly given their efforts to teach, encourage, counsel and sponsor children and youths over the years.

We give you thanks,

For those who have been such a part of our fellowship in Jesus Walk,

Bethel Series, Brownies, Girls Guides, UCW, and Men's Group for so

many years and now serve you in the church triumphant in heaven,

We give you thanks,

For how we have been able to care for one another, support one another on the journey of life, and give strength to one another in the many teas, baking times in the kitchen, luncheons, receptions, gala dinners, and other events.

We give you thanks,

For baptisms we've celebrated, professions of faith we have heard,

and answers to prayer that we have experienced,

For a congregation that has always desired to worship you faithfully

and vibrantly, hearing your Word, singing your praise, and seeking

your strength,

We give you thanks,

For a commitment to remain true to your Word in a world of confusing and conflicting voices.

For generosity and a commitment to justice and service that has enabled us to reach our community through local missions and far beyond through Mission and Service as a witness of the Gospel,

We give you thanks,

For hundreds of people, boys, girls, young and older, who have been here as they were trained in the ways of the Christian faith and now bear witness near and far,

We give you thanks,

For a country, city and neighbourhood that has allowed us to thrive and worship and to dream of ways God is inviting us to Re-Imagine our work in this place and beyond, we give you thanks, Amen.

THE PRAYER OF JESUS (*Spoken, VU, pg. 916, B*)

WE GO TO BE GOD'S PEOPLE IN COMMUNITY

"May the flame of devotion continue to burn brightly within our church, inspiring generations to come."

***HYMN:** VU# 481 "Sent Forth by God's Blessing" SANDRA RUTTAN/Singers from choir

^BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG: MV#216 "Wherever You May Go"

PIANO POSTLUDE: "Lead Me Lord" by Patti Drennan

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

<https://collierunited.ca/Donate>



OUR HISTORY

Like Christianity, Collier United had its birth in a stable when, the summer of 1819, Mr. Peter White rowed across the lake and conducted the first religious service in a barn owned by Mr. William Mann. Mr. Mann circulated the first subscription list for the building of a church, and later he became the first Sunday School superintendent.

Many will claim that Collier United is older than 150 years, and rightly so. Years ago, our Session decided that 1836, the year the first building was used entirely for Divine service, and the first resident minister was appointed, should be the year of our origin. It is a history of a building:

1836—a log building at the northeast corner of Dunlop and Mulcaster Streets was converted to a meeting house.

1841—a frame building was built east of the present church

1864—the corner stone of our present sanctuary was laid

1896—the parsonage, later referred to as the manse, was built

1903—the Sunday School and parlour were erected

1907—the sanctuary was extensively remodelled (Rose windows)

1954—the corner stone for the Christian Education wing was laid
1957—Fellowship Hall, new kitchen and administrative offices were officially opened
1962—a new three manual Keates organ was installed in the newly created chancel
1985—the Collier Place apartment complex was started
1985—the Sunday School, parlour, kitchen and administrative offices were demolished in preparation for the construction of the \$1.5 million redevelopment project. The organ had to be dismantled.
1986—the new redevelopment project officially dedicated.
2019/20 - Capital Campaign fixed Steeple, installed Sound and Visual Systems.
2022 – New Elevator installed.
2023 – Re-Imagining our Building and usage.

Archie Ross, Editor
'150th Anniversary Book of Collier Street United Church'

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 & Senior Choir – Music leadership

Terry Tizzard and Jessica Wenzel – Audio & Visual Projections