

Welcome to Sunday Worship at  
St. Stephen's on-the-Hill United Church  
First Sunday After Epiphany, Baptism of Our Lord Sunday  
January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 10:30 a.m.

*In order to unite with one another, we must love one another, in order to love one another, we must know one another, in order to know one another, we must go and meet one another.*

*A warm welcome is extended to all. In the midst of the busy-ness of life, God gives us this space as a gift. Our gathered presence enriches us and this time of worship. As a community of faith, we seek to discern what God is asking us in regard to: personal support and encouragement; Christian education; enhancement of family life; the alleviation of poverty; to identify, prioritize and respond in a caring way to the needs of people in our congregation and beyond; and contributing to the improvement of quality of life in its varied manifestations.*

*Our aim is spiritual growth, a deeper faith and a loving community.*

**Please note:** Sections preceded by a “●” are times when those who are able may stand.

## We Gather as God's People

*The organ chimes call us to prayer and meditation.*

### Prelude

- **Processional Hymn:** “I Am the Light of the World”

*(The Processional Hymn begins unannounced. All are invited to sing.)*

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### Welcome and Announcements

### Moment of Silent Rest

- **Gathering Hymn:** “Epiphany Hope”

*Tune 20*

1. Here in this land of frosty air,  
We clear the ice, the snow we bear.  
The stars they fill the wintry night,  
And shimmer with Epiphany light.

4. In silent moments . . . contemplate,  
And on God's Word we meditate,  
Till we are filled with healing grace,  
To share with love beyond this place.

2. The sun it heralds God's new day,  
With dawn comes hope, our fears allay.  
From houses warm to city street,  
God's face we see in all we meet.

5. Upon us now may God's light shine,  
Illuminating hearts and minds.  
Revealing Christ's affirming ways,  
Of justice, love, and hope filled days.

3. It's Christmastide, a brand New Year,  
God beckons us - come gather here.  
Let go your fears, your conflicts cease.  
That hearts and homes may be at peace.

*Words by Rev. Debra McGill*

## • Call to Worship

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God  
And the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

**And also with you.**

God of Grace, you are a life-giving God,  
And in gratitude we bless you and praise you.

**You take the ordinary and make it extraordinary.**

**You bless us with life-changing moments.**

You called Noah to journey through rough waters of change,  
You called the Israelites to wade into the waters of the Red Sea,

**Granting courage in the face of fear,**

**Support as they faced the unknown,**

John the Baptizer invited ordinary people  
to wade into the waters of the Jordan River,

**Transforming spirits, healing wounds,**

**Reconciling hearts to you God and to others.**

And then Jesus . . . the beloved, God Light,  
Waded into the baptismal waters of change,

**Overflowing with God's radical grace,**

**Unconditional mercy and divine love.**

Inviting us . . . come in . . . for the water is fine.

**Seeking, yearning, wondering, we come.**

Amen. And Amen.

## Opening Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

## For The Child In All Of Us

### We Listen for God's Word

**Scripture:** Isaiah 43: 1 - 7      Hebrew Scriptures p. 672  
Luke 3: 15 - 18, 21-22    N.T. p.37

*read by Jon McDonald*

**Chancel Choir:** "The Light of The World"

*-Don Besig*

## Reflection on the Word

## Moment of Silent Rest

**Solo:** "Here I Am Lord"

*Christina Yun*

# **We Respond In Faith**

*Stewardship Seconds*

*“The ultimate test of a moral society is the kind of world that it leaves to its children.”*

*- Dietrich Bonhoeffer*

*“Courage my friends, ‘tis not too late to make a better world.”*

*- Tommy Douglas, Baptist Minister, Premier of Sask.*

## **Offering Invitation**

### **The Offering:**

*We of St. Stephen’s on-the-Hill are committed to the life and work of the church.  
Weekly offerings, pre-authorized remittance (PAR), sharing time and talent,  
and reaching out to friend and stranger are but some of the ways we give*

### **• Offertory Hymn: “Grateful”**

Grateful for the life you give us,  
Thankful for your Holy Son,  
Joyful in your Spirit flowing overall, O God of love.  
Grateful for the Bread of Heaven,  
Thankful for your Holy Word,  
Joyful in your mercy flowing, we will praise you.

### **• Offertory Prayer**

#### **Pastoral Prayers**

### **• Closing Hymn: “A Light is Gleaming”**

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### **• Sending Forth and Blessing**

#### **Organ Postlude**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS, Week of January 13, 2018**

**Sunday, January 13<sup>th</sup> is the First Sunday After Epiphany** in the liturgical year. The Revised Common Lectionary readings for this Sunday are: Isaiah 43: 1 -7, Psalm 29, Acts 8: 14 – 17, Luke 3: 15 – 17, 21-22.

### **Territorial Acknowledgement**

As we gather together, we acknowledge the sacred land upon which St. Stephen's on-the-Hill United Church stands. This land is the territory of the Huron-Wendat and Petun First Nations, the Seneca, and most recently, the Mississaugas of the New Credit. May we be mindful of broken covenants and our need to strive to make right with in all of our relationships. We are grateful to be here, today, in this place.

**SHOUT OUT to all at SSOTH - A "BIG" THANK YOU to everyone for the welcome, the time spent together in ministry, chats, fun and the send-off. With appreciation and much love, (Rev.) Dale**

### **Notice: January 14 - 26 Inclusive Except For Sundays**

The Royal Conservatory of Music Exams will be held at St. Stephen's from 9:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. during these dates. The church is a "Quiet Zone" during this rental period and the kitchen is off limits. The exams will take place in the Sandy Grant Room and the Sanctuary. When entering or leaving the premises, please ensure the doors close quietly. Your cooperation is appreciated.

### **Kidzone**

Today, January 13<sup>th</sup>, all teachers and children are invited to stay in the service to help offer a warm welcome to Rev. McGill.

Sunday, January 20<sup>th</sup> Kidzone, back in action, with hot chocolate Sunday! Normal programming will resume.

### **Fidelios**

The Fidelios will meet on Thursday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 am at Beth Taylor's home.

### **Reverend Debra McGill's Office Hours**

Mondays: 9 am – noon, Tuesday: 12 – 3, Thursday: 9 - 12

### **Journey to the Lands of the Bible** May 5 - May 18, 2019

Rev. Dale Skinner and Rev. Maryann Skinner would like to invite you on a journey like no other this May 2019. If you have often desired to travel to the lands of the Bible, this is a great opportunity to join a medium-sized group with leaders and guides experienced in travel to this part of the world. Journey itinerary and registration forms can be accessed by visiting [http://christian-journeys.com/destinations/israel-2/?event\\_id1=1670](http://christian-journeys.com/destinations/israel-2/?event_id1=1670). Deadline for registration with secure pricing is January 15.

### **Annual Giving Campaign For 2019**

Please keep in mind that our annual financial campaign is now underway. Stewardship packets are available for pick-up on the display table near the front entrance. The donations and pledged giving received through this campaign help the Church to build a financial plan for the year to come. Thanks to all members, adherents and friends of St. Stephen's on-the-Hill United Church for their continued support.

## **St. Stephen's Church Kitchen**

How fortunate we are to have such a great kitchen that is easy to work in for the many wonderful events that take place throughout the year.

There are a few things that need to be brought to the attention of our congregation:

1. The kitchen is fully stocked so please don't drop off extra sharp knives, mugs and plates. We have no space for them. Please just keep them for the garage sale.
2. Whatever items you use in the kitchen please wash, dry and put away. This includes plastic tablecloths.
3. Please leave the counters as you find them. Please put items from all special events away.
4. There are all new, easy to read labels on the drawers and cupboards so no excuse for not knowing where the items go.
5. **Nothing** is to be taken from our kitchen without asking.
6. Thank you everyone for doing your part in keeping St. Stephen's kitchen clean, tidy, and a pleasant place to work.

## **Save the Date! Save Your Stuff!**

The 2019 Garage Sale will take place on Saturday, May 4, 2019! The GS Steering Committee will be scheduling a kick off meeting in January 2019 - date TBD. We invite one and all to attend, and we look forward to launching another successful St. Stephen's-on-the-Hill Garage Sale.

**Dancing for The Compass** returns for a 12th year to the Port Credit Legion (upstairs), 35 Front St. N. on Saturday January 26 2019. Doors upstairs open at 7:00 pm and dancing from 8:00 pm to 12:00 am. The ticket price for this fundraiser is \$25/person and \$30 at the door. Please contact the church office or phone Peter Toller at 905-274-6131 to order your tickets. It will be a fun night of 50s and 60s music with the local 8-piece band, **Little Peter and the Elegants**. A light buffet will be served. Fabulous raffle prizes, too!

## **Next Fundscrip Order**

The next Fundscrip order will be placed on **January 14, 2019**. Please have your orders and payment into the church office (in person, or by email) by noon on Monday, January 14<sup>th</sup>. To date, we have raised over \$1000.00 dollars through the Fundscrip program. We are hoping that everyone will continue to support the campaign in the new year!

## **New Lunch Bridge & Euchre**

GOOD NEWS! St. Stephen's on-the-Hill has a new group to host the Lunch Bridge & Euchre, on April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Please pick up some of the **bright pink flyers** from the Narthex table & share the event details with your card groups! Funds raised will help support needed improvements at St. Stephen's on-the-Hill – such as improving storage areas for the church committees & replacing the front doors. For tickets, or for more information, please contact the church office.

## **"A New Kind of Christian" Book Talk**

Are you interested in delving deeper into faith issues in a small group setting? Searching for a way to energize your walk with Christ in the middle of the work week? Perhaps a Book Talk is right for you?!?

We will meet casually on the occasional Tuesday evening from 6:45-7:45 pm to discuss a Christian text. Our first read will be "A New Kind of Christian: A Tale of Two Friends on a Spiritual Journey" by Brian D. McLaren. Winner of the "Christianity Today Award of Merit," this "stirring fable captures a new spirit of Christianity" wherein personal, daily interaction with God is at the core.

If you are interested in learning more, please contact Kim Schnarr at [kimjsummers@yahoo.ca](mailto:kimjsummers@yahoo.ca)

## **New or Visiting?**

You are welcome here. If you have any questions, please speak to the minister or Elder on Duty. There are welcome pamphlets on the table near the church entrance about the life and work of St. Stephen's on-the-Hill.

## **Please Stay for Coffee Time Following the Service**

Coffee and tea are served from the kitchen after the service. Please stay for a social time of connecting and reconnecting with our neighbours both old and new.

## **Nursery Care**

We welcome parents with infants and young children and invite them to use the nursery located in the back hall. Caregivers are on duty starting at 10:00 am. Children can play in a warm, welcoming environment while parents enjoy worship service.

## **Junior Youth Group**

SSOTH offers a program for all Junior High aged youth, as well as special events and activities through the year. Contact Jennifer Auty for details.

## **Prayer Group and Bible Study**

The Prayer Group meets at the Port Credit Residences, 33 Hurontario St. on Tuesday at 10:30am. There is plenty of underground parking. All are welcome.

## **Have an Announcement for the Weekly Bulletin?**

Please have all announcements you wish to have appear in the weekly bulletin submitted to the office in writing by NOON Thursday. Thanks!

## **Lights Out to Conserve Energy**

A friendly reminder to please ensure that all lights have been turned off when you are the last to leave the church. Let's work together to conserve energy!

## **No Scents Please!**

In consideration of those who are sensitive or allergic to perfumes, it is requested that you refrain from wearing perfumes and/or heavily scented personal care products while attending Sunday Service. Thank you for your understanding!

## **Stamps for Leprosy**

Our used stamps can be put to good use for the Leprosy Mission; the stamps are sold and the proceeds are used to buy medicines for the treatment and cure of leprosy. Please put your stamp donations in the basket marked "stamps" in the kitchen.

## Upcoming Meetings & Events

**Hatha Yoga** – Tuesday, January 15, 10:00 am, Common Room.

**Aerobics** – Wednesday, January 16, 7:00 pm, Common Room.

**Church Council Meeting** – Tuesday, January 15, 7:00 pm, Sandy Grant Room.

**Worship Committee Meeting** – Tuesday, January 15, 8:00 pm, Sandy Grant Room.

**Choir Rehearsals** – Thursday, January 17, 6:30 pm Jr/7:15 pm Youth/8 pm Chancel.

**Elders Meeting** – Sunday, January 20, after service.

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## St. Stephen's on-the-Hill Staff Contact Information

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