

February 27, 2011
Epiphany VIII Year A
Welcome to
Ellesmere United Church


Unit 160-8960 University High Street, Burnaby V5A 4Y6

If this is your first time with us, thank you for coming. Your presence is a blessing for us.

We hope you find a community for worship and a place for personal prayer.

If you have any questions about the order or nature of our community worship, feel free to ask your greeter today, the minister, or the people around you.

We want you to be comfortable and unburdened in our midst, and at peace in your experience of God in worship.

*  Indicates the community standing as able.

@ indicates the text the minister is reading and reflecting on this Sunday.

What's Happening in Our Faith Community

Thought for the Day

Caesars quelled the masses from revolt with the state police and what became coined bread and circuses.

Have things changed?

Opening of Worship

Leader: We light a simple candle and not a huge blazing fire to symbolize the presence of God in our worship. The presence of God is not here to impress us, but to remind us of our true allegiances.
(Lights Christ Candle)

Community: **Holy One, abide with us in this time of worship that**

we may be enlightened and reflective on our values!

Silent Prayer of Centering

(Let the sounding of the singing bowl lead you into a time of silent centering prayer and with its second sounding bring you back to community.)

Holy Greeting

Minister: The grace of our Sovereign Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Community: **And also with you.**

♪ **Song** VU #256 *O God Beyond All Praising*

Prayer

VU# 257

St. Augustine

♪ **Invitation to the Scriptures:** MV#22 *God of All the World*

Early Christian Writings

1 Corinthians 4: 1 - 5

Lay Reader: This is the witness of the Early Church.

Community: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: 131 VU p. 854

Read responsively with refrain sung at places marked 'R'.

@Gospel: Matthew 6: 24 - 34

Minister: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Community: **Write these words on our hearts dear God!**

Musical Reflections

Theological Reflection- What are we pursuing?

♪ **Song:** VU #582 *There's a Spirit in the Air*

Invitation to Give

♪ **Song of Praise and Dedication**

*In gratitude and humble trust
we bring our best today
to serve your cause and share your love
with all along life's way.
O God, who gave yourself to us
in Jesus Christ, your Son,
teach us to give ourselves each day
until life's work is done!*

Prayers of the Community – Voiced and Silent
(If Voiced)

Individual: God hear our prayer.

Community: And in your love answer.

Prayer of Jesus (Ecumenical Version)

**Our Father in heaven
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come,
your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and
the glory are yours, now and forever.
Amen and Amen.**

♪ **Song: VU # 426** *Saviour, Again to Your Dear Name*

Closing of Worship

Leader: We extinguish the symbolic candle but the light and love of God shines on. (Puts out Christ Candle)

Community: **O God, may your love bless and keep us, your presence shine upon us, and your peace strengthen us in the week ahead.**

Closing Blessing

♪ **Choral Amen**

