

July 17, 2011

Pentecost 5 Year A

Welcome to Ellesmere United Church


Unit 160-8960 University High Street, Burnaby, BC, 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 (from 10:45 until 11:00)

Thought for the Day

Do your dreams change the way you live?

Opening of Worship

Leader: The candle illumines our imagination this day to see things through the eyes of faith that otherwise might not be apparent.

Community: **Let the Light of the Christ shine in this space and through us in this world!**

(Lights the Christ Candle)

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 #288 *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* Prayer

Minister: God who is life, God of our ancestors and God who will be, we assemble in worship this day. We bring the experiences of the week past and the struggles that have preoccupied us.

Community: **Guide us, loving God, in the way to be present to our concerns but not limited by them. Help us to find more to life than that available to only our senses.**

Minister: Enlighten us, Holy One, that we could become more than what we appear. Enable us to walk the path that has been set before us with an inner strength and an outward look and loving.

Community: **Amen.**

♪Invitation to the Scriptures: MV #170 *Ubi Caritas et Amor*

@Hebrew Scripture: Genesis 28: 10-19

Minister: This is the witness of your people Israel.

Community: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: 139 VU p.861

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

Gospel: Matthew 13: 24-43

Lay Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

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

Musical Reflections

Theological Reflections – Rock On!

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 today 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 MV #83 *Let My Spirit Always Sing***

Closing of Worship

Leader: This Christ Candle is a symbol of the presence of Christ that is the mystery of the Church. This light now leaps from this time and place to so dance in your hearts that it might be a source of inner joy as you continue to grow in the Spirit.

(Puts out Christ Candle)

Leader: Gentle flame, you have been the symbolic centre of our worship this day, may you become the gentle spirit that illuminates our hearts to the ways of compassion.

Community: May we be kind in deed as well as word. May we listen with a focused mind. And may the Holy Spirit help us to shun the ways that cause harm both to our neighbour and to ourselves.

Closing Blessing

♪**Choral Amen.**

