



SYDENHAM STREET UNITED CHURCH



PERSISTENT ADVOCATES

Adele Halliday

February 7, 2021

Since time immemorial, Indigenous peoples have occupied and cared for this land. In acknowledging this land, the traditional home of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee, we seek to rebuild right relations with First Nations, Metis and Inuit peoples, to learn from them, and to live on this land with respect and gratitude for its bounty.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

At this time we do not have a minister for the congregation.

If you have a pastoral care concern, please contact Reverend Nan Hudson at 613-539-3751



CHURCH

Sydenham Street United Church as an Affirming Congregation seeks to be a vital faith community within The United Church of Canada engaged in spirituality, justice and creativity, informed by Jesus Christ and the Bible, and discerning the call of the Trinity as we celebrate diversity, inclusivity and abundant life.

OFFICE HOURS

The Spire/SSUC Office: Monday-Thursday 9:00 am-1:00 pm

82 Sydenham St. Kingston ON K7L 3H4

SSUC Administrator: [613-542-9616 x 202](tel:613-542-9616)

Email: sydenham@kos.net

Rentals/Room Bookings @ The Spire: [613-542-9616 x 201](tel:613-542-9616)

Web: www.sydenhamstreet.ca/ssuc1/

Online Sunday Services: www.youtube.com/user/SydenhamStreet



<https://www.thespirekingston.org/>

Bold Text indicates the parts that everyone reads together

GATHERING IN COMMUNITY



PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

CANDLE LIGHTING

CENTERING MUSIC

CALL TO WORSHIP

**As we join in worship with persons of faith from across
The United Church of Canada,
other faith traditions, and those seeking a faith community,
may we be open to the movement
of the Spirit in and among us this day.
Open us to new insights.
Open us to new understandings of the need
for persistence and advocacy.
Open our hearts to hear God's call.**



INTROIT VU 87

I Am the Light of the World

**“I am the light of the world!
You people come and follow me!”
If you follow and love you’ll learn the mystery
of what you were meant to do and be.**

Words & Music: Jim Strathdee 1967
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GATHERING PRAYER

Gracious and generous God, you are indeed holy mystery, wholly love. In this season of epiphany, may we take our guidance from the wise ones in the ancient story, who opened themselves to new insights, new insights and understandings as they gazed on the babe, this Jesus, who shows us the way of wholly love. Amen

HYMN VU 671



I Need Thee Every Hour

- 1 I need thee every hour, most gracious Lord;
no tender voice but thine can peace afford.
I need thee, O I need thee;
every hour I need thee.
O bless me now, my Saviour;
I come to thee.**

- 2** I need thee every hour; stay thou near by;
temptations lose their power when thou art nigh. **Refrain**
- 3** I need thee every hour, in joy or pain;
come quickly and abide, or life is vain. **Refrain**
- 4** I need thee every hour; teach me thy will;
and thy rich promises in me fulfil. **Refrain**

Words: Annie Sherwood Hawks (1872) Music: Robert S. Lowry
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LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**We open now to Sacred Mystery, to the Holy One,
infinitely greater than words can express,
whose love for us and all creation
exceeds our capacity to imagine. Amen**



SCRIPTURE

Luke 18:1-8

**Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church
Thanks be to God**



REFLECTION

Adele Halliday



SPECIAL MUSIC

VU 701

What Does the Lord Require of You

RESPONDING TO GOD'S LOVE

MINUTE FOR MISSION

SHARING OF OUR GIFTS

Offerings are gratefully received through:

Canada Helps:

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/sydenham-street-united-church/>

e-transfers:

givingssuc@kos.net

or **Canada Post**

VU 541

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures high and low;
Give thanks to God in love made known;
Creator, Word and Spirit, One

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER OF JESUS

A Prayer in the form of The Lord's Prayer by G. Epp, Edmonton AB

God, who gives birth to the world, who gives us breath,
fill us with your light, and help us to usher in
your reign of love, justice and peace here on earth.
Tune us to the harmony of the heavens.
Teach us to sing your name.
Grant us wisdom, hope and compassion
for all living things, and feed us what we need each day.
Free us from what binds us,
as we release others from guilt and shame.
Help us to focus on what is good, and to do what is right.
Teach us how to love.
Renew our hearts, our minds, our strength,
and make us whole, and wholly yours. Amen

HYMN MV 169



When Hands Reach Out Beyond Divides

1 When hands reach out beyond divides
and hope is truly found,
each chain of hate will fall away
and bells of peace shall sound,
and bells of peace, of peace shall sound,
and bells of peace shall sound,
each chain of hate will fall away
and bells of peace shall sound.

2 When fear no longer guides our steps
and days of war are done,
God's dream for all shall live anew;
our hearts will heal as one,
our hearts will heal, will heal as one,
our hearts will heal as one,
God's dream for all shall live anew;
our hearts will heal as one.

3 When race and creed blind us no more,
a neighbour's face we'll see,
and we shall dance the whole world round,
for love will set us free,
for love, yes love will set us free,
for love will set us free,
and we shall dance the whole world round,
for love will set us free.

Words: Keri K. Wehlander arr: Melva Treffinger Graham
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COMMISSIONING



BENEDICTION



POSTLUDE



THANK YOU FOR TALENTS SHARED

Music Director & Organist

Michael T. Fenn

Worship Leaders

**Bruce Hutchinson
Vicki Ruthven**

Guest Preacher

**Adele Halliday, Equity and Anti-Racism Officer
of The United Church of Canada**

Adele Halliday works at the General Council Office of The United Church of Canada as the denomination's Anti-Racism and Equity Officer. An experienced anti-racism educator who also holds a theological degree, she brings personal passion and a deep dedication to this work. She has been involved in anti-oppression work with churches in Canada and beyond for many years, and is deeply committed to working towards systemic change as well as to creating better places of belonging for people of all identities in church and society.

Some of her writings have recently been featured in *Broadview* magazine, including: "What I need from white people right now" (<https://broadview.org/what-i-need-from-white-people>) and "How a 5 a.m. Christmas service deepened my resolve to fight for justice" (<https://broadview.org/st-kitts-christmas/>). This month, she is featured on the cover of the *Anglican Journal*, in an article called "Rethinking darkness and light"

(<https://www.anglicanjournal.com/rethinking-darkness-and-light>).

Adele lives in Toronto (Treaty 13) with her spouse and their two children.

Cover image:

**"A Friend in a Need and the Widow and the Judge"
by Kazakhstan Artist Nelly Bube**

NOTICES

Our Two Church Lunch and Learn Group will meet by ZOOM on Tuesday February 9th 2021

We are very pleased to have as our speaker Stephanie Simpson, Associate Vice Principal Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion at Queen's University. The title of Stephanie's talk is "**Racism and remembrance: Stories of a small-town anti-racism advisor.**"

You are invited to sign in earlier than previously to facilitate those who would like to have more time for conversation before the meeting.

Signing in will now commence at 12.45 pm. At 1.10 pm we will have congregational announcements and then introduce our speaker.

Everyone from Sydenham St. and Chalmers and your friends are invited to attend. If you wish to attend this event, please contact Meikle Turner at 613-542-7744 or meikle_irish@yahoo.com, preferably before Sunday evening Feb. 7th. Meikle will send you the link to the Zoom session on Monday Feb 8th. There will be no charge for attending this Lunch & Learn session.

Stephanie Simpson has been a member of the Human Rights Office at Queen's University since 1996, starting in the portfolios of anti-racism advisor and education coordinator and increasing in responsibility since. She was most recently appointed in November 2018 as the Associate Vice Principal (Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion). Check out this video URL from the Human Rights and Equity Office at Queen's: <https://stream.queensu.ca/hapi/v1/contents/permalinks/Mb74Bxj8/view>

Our next Lunch and Learn meeting will be on March 9, 2021 with Tina Bailey, Executive Director of the Community Foundation for Kingston & Area, as our speaker.



A group has begun plans for a spoken-word tribute to SSUC's Poet Laureate, the late **Norm Eadon**, featuring a selection of his poems. We're discussing various formats, and various media, while we assemble a draft script, and we're recruiting participants. If you're willing to be a reader, or can recommend a particular poem by Norm which should be part of the tribute, please contact Ian Malcolm at ianRWMalcolm@gmail.com.