



MEDITATION

We are worth far more to God than what we own. We are worth far more than what we can wear.... If you want to know contentment – the answer isn't more, more, more – it's understanding that your value as a person doesn't rest in anything as flimsy as fashion or as passing as possessions or as momentary as money. Instead, your value as a person comes from the never stopping, never giving up, always and forever love of God in Jesus Christ.

– Rev. Barry Unwin, Priest, St. James Church, Welland Parish, Church of England

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASTOR MELINDA VEATCH

PRELUDE *Instrumental Music*

KATY KRISTOFFERSEN, PIANO

CALL TO WORSHIP *adapted from Psalm 104*

JOAN MOYER

Leader: Praise the God who makes springs gush forth in the valleys and flow between the hills, giving drink to every wild animal. By streams the birds of the air have their habitation; they sing among the branches.

People: We lift grateful hearts to the Lord, our God!

Leader: Praise the God who causes grass to grow for the cattle, who brings forth food from the earth and wine to gladden the human heart, who gives oil to make the face shine and bread to strengthen the human heart.

People: We lift grateful hearts to the Lord our God!

Leader: May the glory of the Lord endure forever. May our time of worship be a time of rejoicing in the goodness of God.

People: Let us give thanks and celebrate! Let us worship the Lord our God!

WELCOMING SONG* *Precious Lord* (Thomas A. Dorsey)

CONGREGATION

HYMN NO. 500

Marge & Vince will sing Verse 1

Women sing Verse 2

Men sing Verse 3

ALL sing Verse 1

PRAYER OF PRAISE

JOAN MOYER

Gracious God, in Jesus Christ Your Spirit binds us together and gives us life. Each day you walk with us. Each day your Spirit guides us. Each day you provide for our every need. We give you thanks for your gracious care. Lead us in your Way and teach us to keep growing our trust in you. Give us eyes to see you at work. Give us ears to receive your guidance and direction. Give us minds to comprehend your counsel. And give us hearts to receive and follow you with our whole lives. Amen.

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

ANTHEM *He's Always Been Faithful*

UCSJ CHOIR

(Thomas O. Chisholm and William M. Runyan; Sara Groves, new words and music; Arr. Tom Fettke)

*Morning by morning, I wake up to find
The power and comfort of God's hand in mine
Season by season, I watch Him, amazed
In awe of the mystery of His perfect ways
All I have need of, His hand will provide
He's always been faithful to me*

*I can't remember a trial or a pain
He did not recycle to bring me gain
I can't remember one single regret
In serving God only and trusting His hand
All I have need of, His hand will provide
He's always been faithful to me*

*This is my anthem, this is my song
The theme of the stories I've heard for so long
God has been faithful, He will be again
His loving compassion, it knows no end
All I have need of, His hand will provide
He's always
He's always been faithful
He's always been faithful to me*

²⁴ No one can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

²⁵ Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁸ And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹ yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? ³¹ Therefore do not worry, saying, “What will we eat?” or “What will we drink?” or “What will we wear?” ³² For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³ But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

³⁴ So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

SERMON

Grace-full Gratitude

REV. MELINDA VEATCH

RESPONDING TO GOD’S GRACE WITH OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Thank you for your continued support of the church and our mission.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

DOXOLOGY*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen**

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE

JOAN MOYER AND REV. MELINDA VEATCH

THE 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

CLOSING SONG* *Great is Thy Faithfulness* (Thomas O. Chisolm, words; William M. Runyan, music) CONGREGATION

HYMN NO. 72 All Verses

CLOSING PRAYER

JOAN MOYER

Gracious and Loving God, we give you our deepest thanks for all the ways you care for us. We give you thanks for the ways you invite us to care for others. May we speak and act with your love in this hurting world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

POSTLUDE *Instrumental Music*

KATY KRISTOFFERSEN, PIANO

CHARGE AND BLESSING

REV. MELINDA VEATCH

SENDING SONG* *From "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" – verse 3*

CONGREGATION

*Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,
well-spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother — all who live in love are thine;
Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.*

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***Indicates we stand - if it is comfortable**



WE ARE AFFILIATED WITH

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH USA ~ THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ~ THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA



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