

**- University Hill Congregation -
The United Church of Canada
Chapel of the Epiphany
10:30 am - August 29, 1999**

A warm welcome to all! If you are a visitor, please take a moment to fill out a blue card located in the pocket of the chair in front of you and place it in the offering plate or hand it to the Minister at the door on your way out. Infant & toddler care is provided in the Auditorium downstairs. There are materials available at the back of the Chapel for older children to work with after the time with the children.

Gathering in God's Name

Preparing for Worship

- ❖ We sing together and exchange greetings with one another.
- ❖ We are silent for the ringing of the bell as the Bible and flame enter.

Invitation to Worship

Hymn "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" --220
❖ We remain standing for the prayers.

Prayers of Approach & Confession

"Kyrie eleison ... -- 946
Christe eleison ...
Kyrie eleison ...

Assurance of Grace

"Hallelujah"
-- see back page

Proclaiming God's Word

A Time with the Children

- ❖ Our children bring forward our offerings of food.

The Lord's Prayer

- ❖ Following the Lord's Prayer infants & toddlers move to child care.

Preparation for the Word

Scripture Reading Romans 12:9-21
Matthew 16:21-28

Psalms 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c -- 828

Sermon "Helping God-Talk work"

Time of Silent Meditation

Hymn "O Love, How Deep" -- 348

Prayers of the People

- ❖ We offer names of those to be held in prayer

Giving Thanks to God

Offering Our Gifts to God

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sending Forth in God's Name

Hymn "When All Your Mercies, O My God" -- 219

Commissioning & Blessing

"Amen" -- 974

Postlude

- ❖ We share announcements of our life together.

After the service all are invited to join in a time of conversation and refreshment in the breezeway or in the lounge of the adjoining building.

Preacher:	Jack Shaver
Presider:	Janice Love
Worship Elder:	Lorraine Beckett
Lector:	Shona Donaldson & Carl Mindzak
Ministry of Music:	Len Lythgoe
Hospitality:	Bernice Balfour
Co-ordinator:	Audrey Fell
Infant/Toddler Care	Shelley Jones

Invitation to worship -

Come unto me, all you who labour & are
heavy laden, and I will give you rest,
Take my yoke upon you and learn of
me and you will find rest for your souls

Hymn. 220

Assurance of Grace

Nothing greater can happen to us than
that we are forgiven. Let the power
of Almighty God assure you that
that wonderful gift is yours.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gracious God.

you surround us with gifts and
uphold us with steadfast love.

Here we return to you a portion of that
bounty and make offering with it the
work of our hands and the love of our
hearts.

Receive this offering of our souls & bodies
and bless our broken efforts to serve you
well - Through J.C.

Hymn 219

HELPING GOD-TALK WORK

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How sad a state prevails when God-Talk
 doesn't work; When sentences containing the
 word GOD, convey no sense of God. How
 sad it is when God language runs on without
 becoming the occasion of an encounter with
 God, no knowing yourself better,
 no living word heard penetrating
 the division of soul & spirit, of joints
 & marrow
 no having your bluff called
 no insight into the state of things & your
 responsibility in it,
 no rest for your soul.

Considering the POTENTIAL

It's a disaster when God language
 doesn't work.

One cause for language that isn't working
 is for the communication to switch to
 a different language, ... to translate.

Our Scripture lessons this morning present us
 with an opportunity to do just that.

The lesson from the Hebrew Scriptures tells
 the story of the Call of Moses.

ALL language has a chance of becoming
 God-talk that works.

When we use the word CALL

- no escaping the association with being addressed
- no excepting that in this relationship, the initiative is not yours. Call call you
- one association with having your name called.

Called by name, — Baptism — Christian Name.

Recognition of your unique individuality

- Called somebody contribute to your identity.
- Called for — to "creation"

ought to be there but isn't. Truly regained requires a response & continued to be dimension ~~to~~ called for whether our responses are successful or not.

Calling :- a life role — contributing to identity
 — important in the history of things.
 — Call not to be identified with accomplishment

Creation, Identity & Role — God STUFF
 Responsible to what ought to be

Call of Moses : formulating how these elements tell the story of their origins. From what source and at what point did all the significant components get put there. Were these components added because some one saw their significance or where the insights gained after the story was put together —

oppression of Israel

- Moses ~~had~~ been on his heart for a long time, Ever since he was aware of his compatriots' ill treatment,
- In flight from any responsibility in
- Called the first time he undertakes a response fingered by God

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2 leg of Tobin's response to Jesus' expression
of his love
Georgel - not just flight.
outright resistance.

Cartoon showing Universal Christian Mission
Smile on face of lamb behind a Rock
"LOST HELL NO WE'RE HIDING."

→ One possible account - God language that
isn't working,
no sign of God
Opposition to dealing with God } We are
presenting
RESISTANCE

EASTLE LESSON contains a short text
invites some reflection.
We have a notion here that just might get under
our guard.

Let Love be authentic -

K.I., without dissimulation

The task of translation from one language to ~~another~~ ^{another} full

How do translators know when they are making
it sound. To us like it sounded to them -
what if it is better for it to sound like it was
coming from a different age & culture.

- even when one language has appropriated
a word from another language, how can we
be sure the new usage has not changed its
meaning?

Anyway - the ^{verb} ~~verb~~ word is a word English
has adopted as the word hypocrisy -
act of playing a part on a stage

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Let Love be without hypocrisy

I was saying - this call of God just might get
under our guard.

Thus an appeal as a state desirably to
be without

I could get caught wanting it to be true of me
My Love would be without hypocrisy -

Loving - not be selective -

applied to that person

- ~~Below~~ hot + then Cold

Feels like the morning dew

in face of pain or rejection.

- not self serving -

- not possessive

- not manipulating. - girl at day
school

Appealing about it.

in the midst of vast confusion of Calls

- overwhelming. ~~World wide~~ ^{world wide} ~~ingests~~ ^{ingests} ~~suffering~~ ^{suffering}
& destructive practices

or I could undertake.

Let love be without hypocrisy

Under that call - the other calls would better
sort out.

- their burden would be more bearable

For the Call to be appealing doesn't mean for it

to be without pain

or even doable.

Summons that just might sustain me through
Pain & Pain

Especially when I take note
of the presence of the operational word LET
LET have be without hypocrisy.
It is not up to me to create the love that
called for, that's God's gift.

My Task is to
Let it be without hypocrisy.

It sounds to me like a task that could
bear much fruit.