



**P**ARKDALE  
UNITED CHURCH  
*COME • GROW • SERVE*

**Rally Sunday**  
Intergenerational worship service  
**Season of Creation**

**A Home for All?**  
Renewing the Oikos of God



**September 12, 2021 10:30 am**  
**Sunday Worship Service (Parkdale Park)**

**Worship Leaders: Rev. Dr. Anthony Bailey,  
Rev. Alcris Limongi, Huda Kandalaft**  
**Musician: Dr. Keith Hartshorn-Walton**

**PARKDALE UNITED CHURCH**  
**429 Parkdale Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario, K1Y 1H3**  
Tel: 613-728-8656 Fax: 613-728-9686

*Welcome to Parkdale! We hope that this service will be a blessing to you wherever you are. We welcome all to join us in worship!*

*We are glad you've joined us to celebrate the mystery and gift of God's love for the world in the gift of Jesus Christ, a rich Christian tradition, and a loving community of faith. We hope that in this time of worship you will experience at least a moment when God, who is Love, encourages you in faith, and breaks through the realities of everyday life surrounding you with the assurance of peace and joy which God so wants us to experience.*

**PARKDALE UNITED CHURCH MINISTRY TEAM**

***Ministers: The People of Parkdale***

**Rev. Dr. Anthony Bailey**

*Coordinating Minister*

[abailey@trytel.com](mailto:abailey@trytel.com)

(off on Fridays)

**Norman Reid**

*Caretaker & Custodian*

(off on Tuesdays)

**Rev. Alcris Limongi**

*Minister of Pastoral Care*

[alcris@parkdaleunitedchurch.ca](mailto:alcris@parkdaleunitedchurch.ca)

(off on Mondays)

**Jo-Anne McGuire**

*Office Manager*

**Huda Kandalajt Kanawati**

*Congregational Designated Minister*

*for Youth and Families*

[huda@parkdaleunitedchurch.ca](mailto:huda@parkdaleunitedchurch.ca)

(off on Mondays)

**Dr. Keith Hartshorn-Walton**

*Music and Worship Arts Director*

[keith@parkdaleunitedchurch.ca](mailto:keith@parkdaleunitedchurch.ca)

[pdale@trytel.com](mailto:pdale@trytel.com)

[www.parkdaleunitedchurch.ca](http://www.parkdaleunitedchurch.ca)

**Our Vision Statement:**

**“To form followers of Jesus in such a way as to transform our community and our world.”**

**Are You New To Parkdale? To be added to our email list, please send your email address to Jo-Anne McGuire at [pdale@trytel.com](mailto:pdale@trytel.com).**

**To sign up for our monthly eNewsletter, visit our website.**

*We acknowledge that the land on which we gather for worship is the traditional, unceded, unsundered territory of the Algonquin nation. We are grateful for their stewardship of this territory for thousands of years.*



Sing praise, cells, chromosomes and genes.

**Praise God, atoms, electrons and quarks.**

**Sing praise, microchips and microsurgery**

Praise God, Chief Justice, indigenous elder,  
and Prime Minister.

Sing praise, painter, musician and comedian.

**Praise God, synagogues, mosques and cathedrals.**

**Sing praise, rabbi, pastor and imam.**

Let everything praise the goodness of the Creator,  
for God alone is love

and to God alone all glory and praise is given.

**Sing praise, everything and everywhere!**

**Hallelujah!**

**Hymn:**

**How Great Thou Art**

**VU#238**

- 1 O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
consider all the works thy hand hath made,  
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,  
thy power throughout the universe displayed.**

**Refrain: Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,  
How great thou art! How great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,  
How great thou art! How great thou art!**

- 2 When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze. R**
- 3 But when I think that God, his Son not sparing,  
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,  
that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
he bled and died to take away my sin. R**
- 4 When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration  
and there proclaim, 'My God, how great thou art!' R**

“Praise be to you, my Lord, through our Sister, Mother Earth, who sustains and governs us, and who produces various fruit with coloured flowers and herbs”. With these words, Saint Francis of Assisi reminds us that our common home is like a sister with whom we share our life and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us. This sister now cries out to us because of the harm we have inflicted on her by our irresponsible use and abuse of the goods with which God has endowed her...This is why the earth herself, burdened and laid waste, is among the most abandoned and maltreated of our poor; she “groans in childbirth” (Rom 8:22). And so we confess. (adapted from Laudato Si')

Jesus Christ could not find a place to lay his head. Because of our will to dominate, millions of our human family are displaced from their homes. Many lack access to clean water, sanitation and dignified places for personal hygiene.

**All: Have mercy on us, for the sake of the Earth and all that is in it.**

Foxes of the field and birds of the air have a place to call home. Because we misuse the land, the soil, water and air, habitats are desecrated, and millions of species no longer have a home.

**All: Have mercy on us, for the sake of the Earth and all that is in it.**

Your promise was to be a blessing for all the peoples of the Earth. But when we exploit the gifts of creation, Indigenous lands are devastated and those who live close to the Earth lose their ways of life.

**All: Have mercy on us, for the sake of the Earth and all that is in it.**

The mustard seed is great because it provides shelter for many. But we seek security for ourselves, instead of mutual care and faithful hospitality towards our co-creatures.

**All: Have mercy on us, for the sake of the Earth and all that is in it.**

Let us remember “that we ourselves are dust of the earth” (cf. Gen 2:7); our very bodies are made of her elements, we breathe her sacred air and we receive life and refreshment from her sacred waters. May we hear it as a promise and a calling.

**All: Turn us O God, from our desire to unroot ourselves from our home in the garden, and from our will to dominate your Earth. Call us again, to till and to keep. Gather us into the power of just relationships that heal and sustain. Enlighten us by your Spirit that renews the face of your Earth and safeguards a home for all. Amen.**

*(In silence, we offer our own confessions)*

**WE HEAR A KIND WORD ABOUT GOD'S LOVE**  
**AND FORGIVENESS**

Words of Grace and Forgiveness

Rev. Bailey

Sung Response: **Halle, Halle, Halle**

**Blessing of the backpacks**

Huda Kandalaft Kanawati

Dear God, thank you for new beginnings, a new school year, new classes, new teachers, and new friends. As we carry these backpacks and devices every day, help us to remember that we are surrounded by your love and the care and prayers of the Parkdale community of faith. This we pray through Jesus Christ our teacher and our friend. Amen.

**Commissioning of the teachers and Leaders:**

**Liz Harrison:**

Eternal God, who is mighty in power but tender in love; we humbly seek to teach the children of your love. Help us to remember your strength, instead of our own weakness. Strengthen us so we may teach in the light of your promises, rather than from the darkness of our frailties. As we gather before you, we dedicate ourselves to the task you have set before us. We pray for a new energy, a greater skill, and a deeper love of teaching and leading, so that we may truly reach the hearts of these, your children. Give to us an understanding of the young generations, a comprehension of their needs, and a revelation of your Holy Spirit to lead by example. Infect us with a joy for your work, and remind us that as we teach, you teach with us. Give us the words to say and the thoughts to share. May all our teaching bring glory to your wonderful name; for we pray in the name of the Great Teacher, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **Tristan and Felix Dos Santos:**

Dear God, you have made us after your own image of love and gave us all special gifts and talents. Like a body that has many parts, we are a community with many members.

We pray for our Sunday School teachers and youth leaders — those who serve by helping us grow in faith, to know you better, follow you closer, and to love you dearer.

We thank you for each one of them — and we ask your blessing on their life. In the name of Jesus we pray, Amen.

Hymn:

### **God of the Sparrow**

VU #229

- 1 God of the sparrow God of the whale  
God of the swirling stars  
How does the creature say Awe  
How does the creature say Praise
- 2 God of the earthquake God of the storm  
God of the trumpet blast  
How does the creature cry Woe  
How does the creature cry Save
- 3 God of the rainbow God of the cross  
God of the empty grave  
How does the creature say Grace  
How does the creature say Thanks
- 4 God of the hungry God of the sick  
God of the prodigal  
How does the creature say Care  
How does the creature say Life
- 5 God of the neighbour God of the foe  
God of the pruning hook  
How does the creature say Love  
How does the creature say Peace
- 6 God of the ages God near at hand  
God of the loving heart  
How do your children say Joy  
How do your children say Home

# WE LISTEN TO A STORY FROM THE WORD OF GOD

Psalm 104

Rev. Dr. Bailey

First Testament Lesson: Genesis 2:1-9,15-25

Faye Beaufort

Moving in Spirit: “Spirit of Life”

Dale Song

*Words: Carolyn McDade, 1981, Music: Carolyn McDade, 1981, harm. Grace Lewis-McLaren 1992, alt.,  
Words and music copyright © 1981 Carolyn McDade. Harmony © 1992 Unitarian Universalist Association.  
Used by permission., One License A-733294*

The Gospel: Matthew 6: 25-33

Huda Kandalaft Kanawati

**The Gloria**

**Gloria, Gloria in Excelsis Deo  
Gloria, Gloria, Alleluia, Alleluia (2x)**

VU#37

*Type: Words and Music; First Line: Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!, Language: Latin, Contributors: Jacques  
Berthier, Taizé, Tune: © 1979, 1988, Les Presses de Taizé, GLA Publications, Inc. Text: Luke 2:14; Taizé  
Community; © 1979, 1988, Les Presses de Taizé, GLA Publications, Inc, One License #A733294*

Message: ***The Oikos of God***

Huda Kandalaft Kanawati

**Affirmation of Faith in the Triune God:**

**Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer**

We believe that God creates all things,  
renews all things, and celebrates all things.  
We believe Earth is a sanctuary,  
a sacred planet filled with God’s presence,  
a home for us to share with our kin.

We believe that God became flesh and blood,  
became a part of Earth,  
a human being called Jesus Christ,  
who lived and breathed and spoke among us,  
suffered and died on a cross,  
for all human beings and for all creation.  
We believe that the risen Jesus  
is the Christ at the core of creation  
reconciling all things to God,  
renewing all creation, and filling the universe.



We believe the Spirit renews life in creation  
groans in empathy with a suffering creation,  
and waits with us for the rebirth of creation.  
We believe that with Christ we will rise  
and with Christ we will celebrate a new creation.

## WE RESPOND IN FAITHFULNESS

The Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Rev. Bailey

We are grateful for the prayers and financial support of Parkdale's ongoing ministry. Please continue. You are invited to take some time at home to write a cheque, or make a promise to go to the Parkdale Website: [parkdaleunitedchurch.ca](http://parkdaleunitedchurch.ca). You will see on the home page a button/link that says "Donate Now through CanadaHelps.org". Click on that and make your offering.)

Announcements

Anthony/Alcris/Huda

Musical Reflection: *"All Who Are Thirsty"*

Dale Song

*Words and Music: Brenton Brown and Glenn Roberts, CCLI Song # 2489542, © 1998 Vineyard Songs (UK/Eire), CCLI License # 3140600*

Dedication of Tithes and Offerings

Rev. Bailey

Prayer of the people

Rev. Limongi/ Rev. Dr. Bailey

Whenever we join together, we should give thanks. So let us join our hearts and minds together and think of all creation and the Creator's gifts. Loving God.

**We give our thanks.**

Let us think of our Mother, the Earth, upon whom we walk and who supports us and nurtures life in all its forms. We think of the minerals, the fungi, and bacteria that give life to soil, bodies and systems. We pray we can learn to walk on Earth with more respect. Loving God.

**We give our thanks.**

Let us think of the reasons why we are gathered. For this place in which we gather, and for all of the animals and plants that call this place home. Loving God.

**We give our thanks.**

Let us think of the whole human family whose livelihood and well-being depends on the well-being of the Earth. We lift up the men, women and children who are displaced from their homes. Loving God.

**We give our thanks.**

Let us turn our minds to the sacred waters of the world, the great oceans, aquifers, lakes, rivers and streams, the life that lives in the waters and those that give itself to be our food. Loving God.

**We give our thanks.**

Let us now turn our thoughts to the plant life of the Creator's world. That which is below ground; the roots and vegetables. That which puts just its head above the ground: the grasses, medicines, plants and bushes. All of the many kinds of good fruit the Creator has given us. And finally, the great trees of the forest that we know of as the "Standing Ones." Loving God.

**We give our thanks.**

Let us think of all our kindred animals, those that crawl, walk, swim and fly. We give thanks for those that provide food for us, those that sustain cycles in their work and living, those that provide companionship and beauty. Loving God.

**We give our thanks.**

Let us think of the birds of the air. The feathered ones that are the messengers between us and the Creator. Loving God.

**We give our thanks.**

*(Inspired by the Haudenosaunee Thanksgiving Prayer and passed through, among others, Archbishop Mark MacDonald, National Indigenous Anglican Archbishop)*

Creator God, look upon the creatures gathered here together and send us where you would have us go, so that we may embody the ministry of justice for your Creation through our being and acts. Walk with us so that we may face the winds of change and walk the good road. Protect and renew our common home. Enlighten us. Sustain us. May God our Creator be with us this day and always. Amen.

*(Adapted from Celebrating Creation: Honoring Indigenous People, Kelly Sherman-Conroy, ELCA)*

## The Lord's Prayer:

(spoken)

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 trespasses as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and let us not fall into temptation, but deliver us from evil;  
for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen

### AND WE GO FROM THIS WORSHIP SERVICE IN PEACE TO SERVE AND LOVE GOD'S CREATION

Hymn:                    In the Bulb There is a Flower                    VU #703

1     In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;  
in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!  
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,  
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

2     There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;  
there's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.  
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,  
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

3     In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;  
in our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.  
In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,  
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

Type: Words and Music; © 1986 Hope Publishing Company,  
Contributors: Natalie Sleeth, One License #A733294

Commissioning and Benediction

Huda Kandalaft Kanawati

Musical Blessing:

*"This is the Day"*

Dale Song

Language: English, C Restoration Music Ltd Used by permission [sovereignmusic@aol.com](mailto:sovereignmusic@aol.com), Contributors: Jon Rigby, One License #A733294