

SERVICE DETAILS AND PARTICIPANTS

Date: Sunday, May 5, 2013

Title of Service: Labour's Legacy

Description: May 1st is the International Day of the Worker, and this Sunday, we look at the contributions people who work have made to our lives – from weekends to the eight hour workday, from benefits to vacations, from on-the-job safety to child labour laws. Much we take for granted was earned the hard way, and forgetting this legacy put us in danger of losing much we hold dear.

Speaker: Rev. Victoria Ingram

Service Leader/Storyteller: Lyla Miklos

Music Ministers: Jeff Druery & Marybeth Leis Druery

Special Guest: Mary Long

OVERTURE

Musical Selections from The Men of The Deeps on CD

(To be played starting at 10:15am once the Sanctuary doors are opened.)

BELL

GATHERING MUSIC

There Is Power In The Union

Written by Joe Hill

Performed by the Wisconsin Pickers' Local 608

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gbIWJyoA- I>

(To be played on to the projection screen starting at about 10:27am, just a little before the service officially starts and congregants are still coming into the Sanctuary.)

SINGING TOGETHER

Solidarity Forever

Lyrics by Ralph Chaplain (new lyrics by Steve Suffet)

(Tune: *The Battle Hymn of The Republic*, Music: *Traditional*)

(Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solidarity_Forever)

(To be played at 10:30am sharp.)

LYLA: Good Morning! Welcome to the First Unitarian Church of Hamilton. My name is Lyla Miklos and I will be your Service Leader this morning. I have been a part of this congregation for over a decade. Currently, I am one of the Co-Chairs of our Lay Chaplaincy Committee. Outside of this church, I am the Political Action Committee Chair for District 21 of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation and represent OSSTF on the Ontario Federation of Labour's Solidarity and Pride Committee.

Please rise as you are able and let us join our voices together in song. This morning in honour of our worship theme, Labour's Legacy, and International Worker's Day or

Mayday, we will sing Solidarity Forever. You can find the lyrics to this song in your order of service and projected against the wall.

CONGREGATION:

Solidarity forever,
Solidarity forever,
Solidarity forever,
For the union makes us strong.

It is we who plowed the prairies; built the cities where they trade;
Dug the mines and built the workshops, endless miles of railroad laid;
Now we stand outcast and starving midst the wonders we have made;
But the union makes us strong.

Solidarity forever,
Solidarity forever,
Solidarity forever,
For the union makes us strong.

They have taken untold millions that they never toiled to earn,
But without our brain and muscle not a single wheel can turn.
We can break their haughty power, gain our freedom when we learn
That the union makes us strong.

Solidarity forever,
Solidarity forever,
Solidarity forever,
For the union makes us strong.

They divide us by our color; they divide us by our tongue,
They divide us men and women; they divide us old and young,
But they'll tremble at our voices, when they hear these verses sung,
For the Union makes us strong!

Solidarity forever,
Solidarity forever,
Solidarity forever,
For the union makes us strong.

WELCOME AND SINGING BOWL

LYLA: Thank you. Please be seated.

Whoever you are, whomever you love, wherever you are on your journey of faith or search for meaning, today you are one of us, and you are welcome in this house of worship.

I invite you all to be comfortable, turn off any cell phones, close your eyes if you wish, and listen to the singing bowl until the sound disappears.

(Play singing bowl.)

CALL TO WORSHIP

From John F. Kennedy and Tommy Douglas

(Source: <http://laborquotes.weebly.com/index.html>)

(Source: http://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Tommy_Douglas)

LYLA: Our Call To Worship Words come from an American and a Canadian political leader.

First from former US President John F. Kennedy

Our labor unions are not narrow, self-seeking groups. They have raised wages, shortened hours, and provided supplemental benefits. Through collective bargaining and grievance procedures, they have brought justice and democracy to the shop floor.

And from Our Greatest Canadian Tommy Douglas

When we build a society based on greed, selfishness, and ruthless competition, the fruits we can expect to reap are economic insecurity at home and international discord abroad.

CHALICE LIGHTING

With Special Guest Mary Long

LYLA: I now ask our special guest Mary Long, President of the Hamilton and District Labour Council, to light our chalices.

(Mary will position herself behind the chalices until the congregation reads the unison words.)

LYLA: We light our chalices to mark our entry into sacred space. As Mary lights our chalices please join me in our chalice lighting words, which can be found in your order of service and are projected on to the wall.

(Mary goes to the chalices and lights them. As she does the congregation will share in our chalice lighting words.)

CONGREGATION: May this flame be our light of friendship and love.

(Mary returns to her seat.)

LYLA: Thank you Mary.

HYMN

#109 – *As We Come Marching, Marching* [STLT]

LYLA: Please stand if you are able and join in singing Hymn #109 in your gray hymnal, *As We Come Marching, Marching*.

CONGREGATION: As we come marching,
marching in the beauty of the day,
a million darkened kitchens,
a thousand workshops gray,
are touched with all the radiance
that a sudden sun discloses
for the people hear us singing
“Bread and roses, bread and roses!”

As we come marching, marching
we battle too for men,
for they are women’s children,
and we mother them again.
Our lives shall not be sweated
From birth until life closes:
hearts starve as well as bodies
give us bread, but give us roses.

As we come marching, marching,
unnumbered women dead
go crying, through our singing,
their ancient song of bread!
small art and love and beauty
their drudging spirits knew:
yes, it is bread we fight for,
but we fight for roses too!

As we come marching, marching,
we bring the greater days:
the rising of the women
means the rising of the race,
no more the drudge and idler,
ten that toil where one reposes,
but sharing of life’s glories
bread and roses, bread and roses!

(Before this hymn ends Lyla will be sitting ready to go at the Storyteller area. Lyla will set this up on the floor closer to the Choir area so the pictures will be projected above her head as she reads to the children.)

STORY FOR ALL AGES

Brave Girl: Clara and the Shirtwaist Makers' Strike of 1909

Story by Michelle Markel

Pictures by Melissa Sweet

(The pictures from this children's book will be scanned so the projectionist can show them to the congregation while the story is being read.)

LYLA: I invite all are our youth to come and join me at the front of the church for our Story For All Ages entitled Brave Girl: Clara and The Shirtwaist Makers' Strike of 1909.

[PICTURE 1 – Clara goes to work]

Clara knows in her bones what is right and wrong. What's wrong begins a few weeks after the Lemlichs move into their tenement in America. No one will hire Clara's father. They will, however, hire Clara. That's right – Clara. Companies are hiring thousands of immigrant girls to make blouses, coats, nightgowns, and other woman's clothing. They earn only a few dollars a month, but it helps pay for food and rent. So instead of carrying books to school, many girls carry sewing machines to work. Clara becomes a garment worker.

[PICTURE 2 – In The Factory]

From dawn to dusk, she's locked up in the factory. Rows and rows of young women bend over their tables, stitching collars, sleeves, and cuffs as fast as they can. "Hurry up, hurry up", the bosses yell. Ratatata hisses Clara's machine. The sunless room is stuffy from all the bodies crammed inside. There are two filthy toilets, one sink, and three towels for three hundred girls to share.

[PICTURE 3 – Working Conditions]

Clara learns the rules. If you're a minute late you lose half a day's pay. If you prick your finger and bleed on the cloth, you're fined. If it happens a second time, you're fired. The doors are locked, and you're inspected every night before you leave to be sure you haven't stolen anything from the factory.

[PICTURE 4 – Lunch with Coworkers]

As the weeks grind by, Clara makes friends with the other factory girls. At lunch, they share stories and secrets as if they were in school, where they belong. Clara smolders

with anger, not just for herself, but for all the factory girls, working like slaves. This was not the America she'd imagined.

[PICTURE 5 – Not tough enough?]

The men at the factory tell her they've been trying to get the workers to team up in a union. Then they'd strike – refuse to work – until the bosses treat them better. But the men don't think the ladies are tough enough. Not tough enough? Because they're girls? Oh, yes, they are. Clara knows it. She'll show them.

[PICTURE 6 – Strike]

From then on, at the sewing tables on the street corners, Clara urges the girls to fight for their rights. When the seamstresses are overworked, she says, "Strike!" When they're underpaid, she says, "Strike!". When they are punished for speaking up, she cries, "Strike!" And the girls do!

[PICTURE 7 – Union Meeting]

We must do something bigger, think Clara and the other union leaders. Something huge. A giant strike, at every garment factory in the city. The union holds a meeting. Throngs of workers pack the seats, the aisles, the walls – the hall thrums with excitement. Clara listens to speech after speech. The speakers, mostly men, want everyone to be careful. Two hours pass. No one recommends a general strike. Finally, the most powerful union leader in the country goes up to the podium. Not even he proposes action! So Clara does.

[PICTURE 8 – Speaking Out]

That's right – Clara. She calls out from the front of the hall. The crowd lifts her to the stage, where she shouts in Yiddish. "I have no further patience for talk – I move that we go on a general strike!" And she starts the largest walkout of women workers in US history.

[PICTURE 9 – On The Streets]

The next morning, New York City is stunned by the sight of thousands of young women streaming from the factories. One newspaper calls it an army. Others call it a revolt. It's a revolt of girls, for some are only twelve years old, and the rest are barely out of their teens. In the coming weeks, Clara is called a hero. She lights up a chilly union hall with her fiery pep talks. Her singing lifts the spirits of the picketers. When a group of thugs, approaches, she yells, "Stand fast, girls!"

[PICTURE 10 – Revolt]

And they do. All winter long, in the bitter cold, in their cheap, thin coats, tired and starving and scared, the girls walk alongside the men on the icy sidewalks of the picket line. They spill out of the union halls, blocking the roads, filling street corners and public squares. Newspapers write stories about them. College girls raise money for them. Rich women – swathed in fur coats – picket with the factory girls. By the time the strike is over hundreds of bosses agree to let their staff form unions. They shorten the workweek and raise salaries. The strike emboldens thousands of women to walk out of the garment factories in Philadelphia and Chicago,

[PICTURE 11 – Looking at Lady Liberty]

And the strike convinces Clara to keep fighting for the rights of workers. Her throat is hoarse, her feet are sore, but she has helped thousands of people. Proving that in America, wrongs can be righted, warriors can wear skirts and blouses, and the bravest hearts may beat in girls only five feet tall.

The End.

CHILDREN’S RECESSONAL HYMN

LYLA: Children and youth please line up behind Tamara who will take the Children’s Chalice as you leave for class. Adults on this aisle (point to aisle on the right) may form an arch, if you please. Everyone please join us in singing our Children’s Recessional Hymn, found in your order of service.

(Lyla will leave the children’s story area and go to the dais as the congregation sings.)

CONGREGATION: *As you go may joy surround you, as you go, go in peace. Know our love is with you always, as you go, as you go.*

READING

From *God Is Not A Christian And Other Provocations* by Desmond Tutu

LYLA: Our reading today comes from a sermon Desmond Tutu gave in 1979 at Regina Mundi Catholic Church in Soweto.

When Jesus walked this earth, he did not say to sick people, “Never mind: things will be all right for you in heaven.” No, he healed the sick; he opened the eyes of the blind; he fed the hungry. Anybody who tries to tell people who are oppressed, who live in slums and hovels, who are shunted about from one place to another, who are evicted from their homes and made to sleep in tents on pavements because they are the wrong skin colour, who are paid low wages as cheap labour, who live in matchbox houses with inadequate lighting and unpaved streets and inadequate recreation facilities, who must get up at 4am in order to be at work at 7 or 8 because the transport system is inadequate, who can’t educate their children because they must pay for that education while the rich ones of this land can have their children educated freely and compulsorily

– if anyone can tell people in those conditions not to worry because things will be all right in heaven, then such a person makes a mockery of the religion of Jesus Christ.

WORSHIP IN MUSIC

Someday

By Jeff Druery

Performed by Jeff Druery and Marybeth Leis Druery

LYLA: I now welcome our Music Minsters, Jeff Druery and Marybeth Leis Druery, to share with us our Worship in Music. Jeff and Mary Beth are Spiritual Directors, musicians, and co-founders of Student Open Circles campus ministry, working with students from diverse spiritual backgrounds at McMaster University by engaging them in service, discussion and social justice.

JEFF & MARY BETH: (TBD)

MEDITATION: JOYS AND SORROWS

VICTORIA: This is our time as a church community to come together to celebrate and grieve with our fellow congregants, supporting each other through both our struggles and our victories.

Following our meditation words, we join in a time of silence for reflection or prayer.

During our musical meditation, you are invited to come forward, and light a candle.

These are the Joys and Sorrows we share today: (TBD)

MEDITATION: IN WORDS

From *The Perfect Seam* by Toni Morrison from *A Hand To Guide Me* edited by Denzel Washington

VICTORIA: Our meditation in words comes from Toni Morrison.

When I was 12 or 13 years old, I had an encounter with my father that made an enormous impression on me. I was working after school as a cleaner in a woman's house and not doing a very good job. My Father said, "Listen, you don't live there, you live here."

Now a lot of times people say simple things and it's not so much what they say as what you hear. I heard, "Do your work well, not for who hires you, but for yourself." I heard, "You make the job, it doesn't make you." I heard, "You are not the work, you are not the job, you are the person." My father's words affected me all my life, because I was always interested in doing first-rate work, and I was always interested in knowing that I could not be defined by the work I did. I didn't have to say, "I'm a teacher, I'm an editor, I'm a housecleaner, I'm a waitress." Those were occupations, but there was a person back

there, and I think it was the person who was enabled, ultimately, to begin to write books much later in life.

My Father was a welder on a shipyard during World War II, and I remember him coming home one day and telling me that he had welded a perfect seam. And he seemed so pleased. It was so flawless, he said, he had welded his initials in it. And I said, "Well, nobody's going to see it." And he said, "Yes, but I know it's there." He always took pride in his work, everything from the way you opened a box to how you wash the dishes. It was all very elegant, and I heard his comment and thought it was very much like the way he approached his own work.

MEDITATION: IN SILENCE

MEDITATION: IN MUSIC

Deeper Dreams

By Jeff Druery

Performed by Jeff Druery and Marybeth Leis Druery

JEFF & MARY BETH: (TBD)

MEDITATION: ONE LAST CANDLE

VICTORIA: We light this last candle for all those joys and sorrows, which remain, in our hearts until the time comes to speak them aloud. Whatever our level of sharing, may this be a blessing and support to us all.

MEDITATION: UNISON WORDS OF SUPPORT

From Henry Ford

VICTORIA: Please join me in reading our unison words of support, which can be found in your order of service and are projected against the wall.

CONGREGATION: Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.

HYMN

#69 – Give Thanks

VICTORIA: Please stand if you are able and join together in singing hymn number #69 from your gray hymnal, Give Thanks.

CONGREGATION: Give thanks for the corn and the wheat that are reaped,
for labour well done and for barns that are heaped,
for the sun and the dew and the sweet honeycomb,
for the rose and the song and the harvest brought home.

Give thanks for the mill and the farms of our land,
for craft and the strength in the work of our hands,
for the beauty our artists and poets have wrought,
for the hope and affection our friendships have brought.

Give thanks for the homes that with kindness are blessed,
for seasons of plenty and well deserved rest,
for our country extending from sea unto sea,
for ways that have made it a land for the free.

SERMON

Labour's Legacy

LYLA: I'd like to welcome back our special guest Mary Long, President of the Hamilton & District Labour Council, to our pulpit to share a few words before Rev. Ingram's sermon.

MARY: (TBD)

VICTORIA: (TBD)

OFFERING

LYLA: Our offering is a reminder of the spirit of generosity that is at the heart of our religious community. In sharing our financial resources we ensure the continued existence of our church. Your financial contributions are appreciated and make a difference. We thank you for giving as generously as you are able.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Noam Chomsky

Jeff Druery

Performed by Jeff Druery and Marybeth Leis Druery

LYLA: We will now receive our offering while we listen to our Music Ministers.

JEFF & MARY BETH: (TBD)

(As Jeff sings the ushers will collect the offering. Depending on how long it takes to collect the ushers may pass the baskets to you just before the end of his song or right at the end.)

LYLA: Your gifts in support of our ministries to one another and to the community are appreciated. Thank you.

NEWS OF OUR COMMUNITY

LYLA: News of our community is a part of our life as a church family. Please make a point of reading all the announcements in your order of service following our worship service.

(Read any special announcements)

LYLA: I would now like to ask Barb Wallace a member of our congregation and a member of the Reference Group of Student Open Circles to come forward to make a special announcement.

BARB: (TBD)

GOING FORTH WORDS/CHALICE EXTINGUISHED
From Muhammad Yunus's 2006 Nobel Peace Prize Acceptance Speech

LYLA: I ask our special guest, Mary Long, to come forward and extinguish our chalice as I share our Going Forth Words.

(Mary will come to the dais and stand behind the chalice while the Going Forth words are read.)

Our Going Forth Words come from Muhammad Yunus. Muhammad Yunus founded Grameen Bank in 1983 - a microcredit pioneer. Grameen Bank currently has 7 million borrowers, mostly women artisans, in 73,000 villages in Bangladesh. Mr. Yunus shared these words in his 2006 Nobel Peace Prize Acceptance Speech.

I firmly believe that we can create a poverty-free world if we collectively believe in it. In a poverty-free world, the only place you would be able to see poverty is in the Poverty Museums. When school children take a tour of the Poverty Museums, they would be horrified to see the misery and indignity that some human beings had to go through. They would blame their forefathers for tolerating this inhuman condition, which existed for so long, for so many people.

(Mary extinguishes the chalice.)

Thank you Mary.

(Mary returns to her seat.)

POSTLUDE
Mountain Into The Sea
By Jeff Druery
Performed by Jeff Druery and Marybeth Leis Druery

LYLA: Please remain seated as Jeff Druery shares our Postlude.

JEFF & MARY BETH: (TBD)

FELLOWSHIP HOUR