

May 15, 2022, 3:00pm

FOUR TORONTO DISTRICTS INTER-FAITH
MASONIC DIVINE SERVICE



**GRAND LODGE A.F. & A.M. OF CANADA
IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO**



TORONTO DON VALLEY DISTRICT

*R. W. BRO. H. ALEC ZIMMERMAN
DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER
W. Bro. Mohamed Youssef
District Chaplain*

TORONTO EAST DISTRICT

*R. W. BRO. SCOTT WILSON
DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER
W. Bro. Alek Lemajic
District Chaplain*

TORONTO HUMBER VALLEY DISTRICT

*R. W. BRO. JOHN MILITELLO
DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER
R. W. Bro. Errol A. Stewart
District Chaplain*

TORONTO WEST DISTRICT

*R.W. BRO. KEN B. SINGH
DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER
Bro. Vinesh Lala
District Chaplain*

ONE LOVE, ONE HEART, ONE MIND
THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Prelude:

Ode to Joy

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)

W. Bro. David During

District Organist

Toronto Humber Valley District

Procession:

Grand Lodge Officers, Worshipful Masters, Faith Leaders

Piper: V. W. Bro. John Furlong

Please stand as you are able

Everything you will need for this service is in this leaflet and the blue hymn book in the pew rack. As this is a shared work of our gathered community, you are an important part of this liturgy. Please join in singing the hymns and in reading the parts in bold text.

Welcome and Greeting:

R. W. Bro. Errol A. Stewart

District Chaplain

Toronto Humber Valley District

Leader: Behold how good and how pleasant it is
for brethren to dwell together in unity.

People: **It is like the precious ointment upon the head that
ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard that
went down to the skirts of his garment:**

Leader: Hear, O Israel,
All: **the Lord our God, the Lord is one.**
Love the Lord your God with all your heart,
with all your soul, with all your mind,
and with all your strength.
This is the first and the great commandment.
The second is like it:
Love your neighbour as yourself.
There is no commandment greater than these.

Opening Prayer:
Bro. Vinesh Lala
District Chaplain
Toronto West District

Leader: Let us pray.
Blessed are You, Lord our God,
Ruler of the Universe,
Who has created us, sustained us
and brought us together this day.
You have allowed us to worship You,
each in our own way;
Help us to hear each other's worship with respect.
You have enabled us to serve You,
each in our own way;
Help us to see each other's service as complementary.
You have nurtured each of us
in our relationship with You;
Help us to grow in our relationship with You,
and with each other.

People: **Amen**

Opening Hymn:
Let There Be Peace on Earth
Tune: (Idem)

Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth
The peace that was meant to be.
With God as our Father
Brothers all are we.
Let me walk with my brother
In perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me
Let this be the moment now.
With every step I take
Let this be my solemn vow.
To take each moment
And live each moment
In peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth,
And let it begin with me.

~Sy Miller (1908-1941), Jill Jackson (1913-1995)

Please be seated.

A Reading:

Love Flows

Reader: R. W. Bro. Scott Wilson

District Deputy Grand Master

Toronto East District

Effortlessly,
Love flows from God into man,
Like a bird
Who rivers the air
Without moving her wings.
Thus we move in His world
One in body and soul,
Though outwardly separate in form.
As the Source strikes the note,
Humanity sings—
The Holy Spirit is our harpist,
And all strings
Which are touched in Love
Must sound.

~ Mechthild of Magdeburg (c. 1207-1294)

from 'The Enlightened Heart' ed. Stephen Mitchell, HarperCollins.

Silence is kept for reflection

Reader: Hear what Holy Wisdom is saying

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Responsive Reading:
Leader: R. W. Bro. Ken B. Singh
District Deputy Grand Master
Toronto West District

Please remain seated.

Leader: From age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness; your love, O Lord, for ever will I sing.

People: **From age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness; your love, O Lord, for ever will I sing.**

Leader: I am persuaded that your love is established for ever; you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.

People: **Your love, O Lord, for ever will I sing.**

Leader: The heavens bear witness to your wonders, O Lord, and to your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones.

People: **Your love, O Lord, for ever will I sing.**

Leader: Who is like you, Lord God of hosts?
O mighty Lord, your faithfulness is all around you.

People: **Your love, O Lord, for ever will I sing.**

Leader: Righteousness and justice are the foundations of your throne; love and truth go before your face.

People: **From age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness; your love, O Lord, for ever will I sing.**

Hymn 428:
God Who Gives to Life Its Goodness
Tune: Abbot's Leigh

Please stand as you are able

God who gives to life its goodness,
God creator of all joy,
Giver of all human freedom,
God who blesses tool and toy:
Teach us now to laugh and praise you,
Deep within your praises sing,
Till the whole creation dances
For the goodness of its King.

God who fills the earth with beauty,
God who binds each friend to friend,
Giver of all human talent,
God who wills that chaos end:
Grant us now creative spirits,
Minds responsive to your mind,
Hearts and wills your rule extending,
All our acts by love refined.

~Walter Henry Farquharson (b. 1936)

Please be seated.

A Reading:
The Ladder of Love

*Reader: R. W. Bro. H. Alec Zimmerman
District Deputy Grand Master
Toronto Don Valley District*

Whoever has been initiated so far in the mysteries of Love and has viewed all these aspects of the beautiful in due succession, is at last drawing near the final revelation. And now there bursts upon him that wondrous vision which is the very soul of the beauty he has toiled so long for. It is an everlasting loveliness which neither comes nor goes, which neither flowers nor fades, for such beauty is the same on every hand, the same then as now, here as there, this way as that way, the same to every worshipper as it is to every other.

Nor will his vision of the beautiful take the form of a face, or of hands, or of anything that is of the flesh. It will be neither words, nor knowledge, nor a something that exists in something else, such as a living creature, or the earth, or the heavens, or anything that is—but subsisting of itself and by itself in an eternal oneness, while every lovely thing partakes of it in such sort that, however much the parts may wax and wane, it will be neither more nor less, but still the same inviolable whole.

And so, when his prescribed devotion to boyish beauties has carried our candidate so far that the universal beauty dawns upon his inward sight, he is almost within reach of the final revelation. And this is the way, the only way, he must approach, or be led toward, the sanctuary of Love. Starting from individual beauties, the quest for the universal beauty must find him ever mounting the heavenly ladder, stepping from rung to rung--that is, from one to two, and from two to every lovely body, from bodily beauty to the beauty of institutions, from institutions to learning, and from learning in general to the special lore that pertains to nothing but

the beautiful itself— until, at last, he comes to know what beauty is.

And remember that it is when he looks upon beauty's visible presentment, and only then, that a man will be quickened with the true, and not the seeming, virtue—for it is virtue's self that quickens him, not virtue's semblance. And when he has brought forth and reared this perfect virtue, he shall be called the friend of God, and if ever it is given to man to put on immortality, it shall be given to him.

*~Plato. "Symposium" (excerpt). The Dialogues of Plato.
trans. Benjamin Jowett. Oxford: Oxford University Press.*

Silence is kept for reflection

Reader: Hear what Holy Wisdom is saying
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem:
Ubi Caritas
Ola Gjeilo (b. 1978)
All Saints Kingsway Church Choir

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.
Exultemus, et in ipso iucundemur.
Timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum.
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.
Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.

*Where charity and love are, God is there.
Christ's love has gathered us into one.
Let us rejoice and be pleased in Him.
Let us fear and let us love the living God.
And may we love each other with a sincere heart.
Where charity and love are, God is there.
Christ's love has gathered us into one.*

~ Paulinus II of Aquileia (c. 726-802)

A Reading:
The Gift of Love

*Reader: R. W. Bro. John Militello
District Deputy Grand Master
Toronto Humber Valley District*

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but

when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

*~First Letter of Paul to Corinth:13
New Revised Standard Version Bible: Anglicised Edition*

Silence is kept for reflection

Reader: Hear what Holy Wisdom is saying
People: Thanks be to God.

Reflections:

Leader: R. W. Bro. Errol A. Stewart

One: Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear.

All: **Your righteousness will go before us, and the glory of God will be our rear guard. (Refrain: Ubi Caritas)**

Ubi Caritas

Jacques Berthier (1923-1994)



Live in char-i - ty and stead-fast love, live in char-i - ty, God will dwell with you.

HINDU (Hare Krishna)
Raseshvara Madhava Patel

End each Reflection with the following.

One: Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and
your healing will quickly appear.

All: **Your righteousness will go before us, and the glory
of God will be our rear guard. (Refrain: Ubi Caritas)**

BUDDHIST
The Reverend Zenji Nio

End each Reflection with the following.

One: Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and
your healing will quickly appear.

All: **Your righteousness will go before us, and the glory
of God will be our rear guard. (Refrain: Ubi Caritas)**

JEWISH
Rabbi David Grundland

End each Reflection with the following.

One: Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your
healing will quickly appear.

All: **Your righteousness will go before us, and the glory of
God will be our rear guard. (Refrain: Ubi Caritas)**

MUSLIM
Imam Ismail Ulghar

End each Reflection with the following.

One: Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and
your healing will quickly appear.

All: **Your righteousness will go before us, and the glory
of God will be our rear guard. (Refrain: Ubi Caritas)**

SIKH
V. W. Bro. Matwinder Phull

End each Reflection with the following.

One: Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and
your healing will quickly appear.

All: **Your righteousness will go before us, and the glory
of God will be our rear guard. (Refrain: Ubi Caritas)**

BAHA'I
R. W. Bro. Charles Hill

End each Reflection with the following.

One: Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and
your healing will quickly appear.

All: **Your righteousness will go before us, and the glory
of God will be our rear guard. (Refrain: Ubi Caritas)**

CHRISTIAN
W. Bro. The Reverend Ian LaFleur

End each Reflection with the following.

One: Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and
your healing will quickly appear.

All: **Your righteousness will go before us, and the glory
of God will be our rear guard. (Refrain: Ubi Caritas)**

Offertory Hymn 529:
God, My Hope on You Is Founded

(Verses 1 - 4)

Tune: Michael

During this hymn a free will offering will be collected

Please stand as you are able.

**God, my hope on you is founded;
You my faith and trust renew.
Through all change and chance you guide me,
Only good and only true.
God unknown, you alone
Call my heart to be your own.**

**Human pride and earthly glory,
Sword and crown, betray our trust;
Though with care and toil we build them,
Tower and temple, fall to dust.
But your power, hour by hour,
Is my temple and my tower.**

Daily does th' Almighty giver
Bounteous gifts on us bestow;
God's desire for us delights us,
Pleasure leads us where we go.
Here at hand, love takes stand
Joy awaits God's sure command.

God's great goodness lasts forever,
Deepest wisdom, passing thought:
Splendour, light, and life attending,
Beauty springing out of naught.
Evermore from God's store
New-born worlds rise and adore.

~Joachim Neander (1650-1680); tr. Robert Seymour Bridges (1884-1930)

Intercession:
W. Bro. Alek Lemajic
District Chaplain
Toronto East District

Please sit or kneel as is comfortable.

Our God, and God of our ancestors:
We ask your blessings for our country -
for its government, for its leaders and advisors,
and for all who exercise just and rightful authority.
Teach them insights from your teachings,
that they may administer all affairs of state fairly,
that peace and security, happiness and prosperity,
justice and freedom may forever abide in our midst.
Creator of all flesh, bless all the inhabitants
of our country with your spirit.
May citizens of all races and creeds

forge a common bond in true harmony,
to banish hatred and bigotry,
and to safeguard the ideals and free institutions
that are the pride and glory of our country.
May this land, under your providence,
be an influence for good throughout the world,
uniting all people in peace and freedom –
helping them to fulfill the vision of your prophet:
"Nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they experience war anymore."
And let us say, **Amen.**

Closing Prayer:
W. Bro. Mohamad Youssef
District Chaplain
Toronto Don Valley District

Almighty God, in whom we live
and move and have our being,
how good it is that brethren
are gathered together in harmony.
Bless we pray our gentle craft.
May our hearts be open to the wisdom it teaches.
Strengthen our lives in beauty,
that we may show your light in the darkness of the world.
And as we are blessed,
may our whole lives be blessings in creation;
to the glory of your Most Holy Name. **Amen.**

Benediction:
R. W. Bro. Satpal Singh Chagger
Grand Chaplain
The Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario

May God bless you and keep you;
May God's face shine upon you,
May God be gracious to you;
May God's countenance rest upon you,
And may you have God's peace
This day, and forevermore. **Amen.**

Hymn:
Restless Weaver
Tune: Beach Spring (#35)

Please stand as you are able.

**Restless weaver ever spinning
Threads of justice and shalom
Dreaming patterns of creation
Where all creatures find a home
Gathering up life's varied fibres
Every texture every hue:
Grant us your creative vision.
With us weave your world anew.**

**When our violent lust for power
Ends in lives abused and torn,
From compassion's sturdy fabric
Fashion hope and trust reborn.
Where injustice rules as tyrant,
Give us courage, God to dare
Live our dreams of transformation.
Make our lives incarnate prayer.**

**Restless weaver still conceiving
New life now and yet to be
Binding all your vast creation
In one living tapestry:
You have called us to be weavers.
Let your love guide all we do.
With your Reign of Peace our pattern,
We will weave your world anew.**

~ O. I. Cricket Harrison (b. 1955)

Postlude:

War March of the Priests

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

W. Bro. David During

District Organist

Toronto Humber Valley District

Brethren & Friends, we are so grateful that you have gathered to worship with us today. Please join us downstairs in the auditorium after the service, for a time of refreshment and fellowship.

Thank you to the Faith Leaders for attending and representing their respective traditions.

Thank you to the Piper, V. W. Bro. John Furlong

Thank you to the DeMolay Chapter of Mississauga for their assistance with ushering and refreshment.

Thank you to the Masters' and Wardens' Associations of The Toronto Don Valley, Toronto East, Toronto Humber Valley and Toronto West Districts for their assistance with ushering and refreshment.

The Toronto Don Valley, Toronto East, Toronto Humber Valley and Toronto West Districts are most grateful to the Clergy, Wardens, Musicians, and Staff of All Saint's Kingsway Anglican Church for hosting this year's Divine Service.

