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EGLINTON ST. GEORGE'S UNITED CHURCH

February 14, 2010

“We’re always looking for those performances that truly define an actor, where we can sit back and simply watch the talent soar. For Colin Firth (who plays George), “A Single Man” is that film. . . .

There’s a line buried deep inside (the film) that captures quite nicely the tension on-screen: “Sometimes, awful things have their own kind of beauty. . . .”

Firth provides the soul of the movie. Without him, all that saturated beauty would count for nothing. He holds George together with such care and breaks him apart just as carefully. One of many grace notes comes as he takes the call telling him of (his partner) Jim’s accident. There is such stillness as the words hit him, as if to react would be to make it real. . . .He has his heart broken, and the pieces are still falling . . .”

Betsy Shark
Los Angeles Times movie critic

THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

OPEN DOORS OPEN MINDS OPEN HEARTS

EGLINTON ST. GEORGE'S UNITED CHURCH

February 14, 2010 10:30 a.m.

THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

*The congregation is invited to join in responses which are **bold**.*

OPENING DOORS

PRELUDE By the waters of Babylon *J.S. Bach*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING *(The congregation stands as able.)*

Friends, it is with expectation and deep yearning
that we have come to this holy space this day.

**In this hour let us weave
prayer and praise,
silence and singing,
into the gift of worship
we offer to God.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 256 O God beyond all praising *Thaxted*

OPENING PRAYER

God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray: *(The congregation remains standing.)*

As a community of faith – newcomers and long-time members,
young and older – we are grateful for the privilege of worship, Holy God.

**We thank you for these moments of pause,
and prayer, and praise, which we share with you now.**

Thank you for all who are with us in this pilgrimage of faith:

those who fill the earth with song,

and those for whom no song will come;

those who dance the celebration of life,

and those for whom the journey is difficult;

ANTHEM Lord, let me know mine end *Maurice Greene*

Lord, let me know mine end, and the number of my days, that I may be certified how long I have to live. Behold, thou hast made my days as it were a span long, and mine age is even as nothing in respect of thee; and verily everyone living is altogether vanity. For man walketh in a vain shadow, and disquieteth himself in vain; he heapeth up riches, and cannot tell who shall gather them. And now, Lord, what is my hope? Truly my hope is even in thee. Hear my prayer, O Lord, and with thine ears consider my calling. Hold not thy peace at my tears. O spare me a little, that I may recover my strength, before I go hence, and be no more seen. (From Psalm 39.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN 660 How firm a foundation *St. Denio*

BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE If thou but suffer God to guide thee *J.S. Bach*

Participating in today's service are: Doug McWhirter (co-ordinating greeter); Gail Carson, Donna Lang, Eric Oakley, Joan Oakley, Vesra Hashemi (greeters); Deborah Hart (liturgist); Betty Heining (reader); Don Parsons (preacher); George Leslie (sound); Peter Merrick and the Choir.

The flowers today have been given
in loving memory and in celebration
of the life of John Harrison
by Betty Harrison and their family.

UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES

February 21: Jazz service for Lent I, featuring Alex Dean on sax, David Restivo on piano, Scott Alexander on bass and Brian Barlow on drums.

February 28: A Service of Prayer with the Songs of Taizé, led by Don Parsons.

OPENING MINDS

HEBREW SCRIPTURES Isaiah 61: 1-7

This is the witness of God's people.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 130, p. 852 (seated) Up from the depths I cry to God *MacPherson's Farewell*

GOSPEL John 11: 17-36

The Gospel of Jesus Christ.
Praise to you, O Christ.

ANTHEM I cry to God *John Bell*

I cry to God, and he hears me; in my times of trouble I seek him. By night my hands plead in prayer, but I find nothing for my comfort. I think of God and I moan; I meditate and feel useless, God keeps the sleep from my eyes, and my speech is lost in confusion. I thought of days gone by, and remembered times now vanished. I spent the night in deep distress, while my spirit murmured within me. Will God reject us forever? Will God refuse us his mercy? Has endless love reached an end? Are God's promises now invalid? Has God forgotten to be gracious? Has anger doused his compassion? Has God's mighty arm lost its grasp? Does it hang powerless beside him? Let me now remember God's work and recall his wonderful greatness. Let me meditate on his power, and remember all God has done. (Based on Psalm 77.)

SERMON Reel Theology #3 "A Single Man"

HYMN 595 We are pilgrims on a journey *Servant Song*

OPENING HEARTS

PRAYER OF THE DAY

THE LORD'S PRAYER *p. 914*

OFFERING OF OUR LIFE AND WORK

those for whom each day is a bouquet of delight,
and those for whom days are shadowed and nights are long.
Nourish our worship with the light of hope,
and your assurance that we are never alone.
**Help us to welcome the gift of new life
you are offering us now, in Jesus.**

(silent personal reflection)

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

RESPONSE Hymn 37 Gloria *Gloria*
(Sung once in unison, then twice in a four part round.)

THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And always with you.

(The congregation is invited to share signs of Peace with their neighbours.)

LEARNING TOGETHER TIME

SONG By the waters of Babylon *Waters of Babylon*



Melody: Israeli trad.

Words: from Psalm 137

(The children leave for Church School.)