

Rushton Lecture Luncheon

Port Williams United Baptist Church

June 3, 2023

12 noon – Lunch at Port Williams!

Grace: John Boyd

1:00 PM – Welcome - Marlene Knowles, CABF President

Memorial Moment – David Allen

Introduction of Rev. Arla Johnson – Marlene Knowles

1:05 – 1:30 PM – Devotion - Arla Johnson (see pages following)

1:30 – 2:30 PM – Introduction of Guest Speaker – Ryan Sato
Guest Speaker: Dr. Allan Effa

2:30 – 2:45 PM – Q& A – Facilitator: Lee Nicholas-Pattillo

2:45 PM - Thank You Dr. Effa! – Erica Kenny, Program Committee

2:50 PM - CABF Business Meeting

Rushton Lecture – Devotion

June 3, 2023

Lighting of the Christ Candle – Lee Nicholas-Pattillo

We light a candle
In the name of God who creates life
In the name of Jesus who loves life
In the name of the Spirit who is the fire of life

Centering Hymn: Surely the Presence of the Lord is in This Place



The musical score is written on four staves in treble clef, with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are: Sure-ly the pres- ence of the Lord is in this place, I can feel His might-y pow-er_ and His grace._____ I can feel the brush of an-gel wings, I see glo - ry on each face.____ Sure - ly the pres- ence_ of the Lord is in this place.

(Repeat once)

Call to Worship:

God, Creator of all

We, of many backgrounds, identities, genders, personalities, and ideas, gather collectively in shared pursuit of the Sacred.

Let us not conform to the pattern of this world,

But may we always be led and transformed by your guiding Holy Spirit.

Then we will be able to know what your will is for us.

Together, we make up the body of Christ who is our example for living.

God, you ask us to dream big, imagine the unimaginable

You invite us to seek out the possibilities.

You call us toward the “What ifs” on our spiritual path.

May we journey with you God, Christ, and Holy Spirit

Prayer of Approach: (recited by everyone)

Dear loving God Creator, may we acutely listen for your voice, as you forever remind us that we are all your creation, and we are all holy, beloved, cherished and valued. We know you take delight in each of us. Make us people who recognize and proclaim your beauty and goodness in unexpected places. Surprise us. Challenge us. Transform us.

We trust in you, Holy One, to reveal to us the sacredness of every life, of every way of being, of every physical manifestation of your Spirit. We long to be collectively the body of Christ. Whenever one of us is in pain, let our whole-body ache. Whenever one of us is cut off, may we understand that the whole body is wounded. Whoever is kept away by discriminatory policies or practices or prejudices, our collective soul suffers the loss of their presence. We need one another to be whole, God make us the body of Christ as you envisioned. May we become your presence, enfleshed, in service to the world and one another. Amen

Leader: Scripture: Romans 12:2 NRSVA

² Do not be conformed to this world,^{td} but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfectnrsva.

Meditation: What if?

CLOSING HYMN; Your Love is Amazing

Hymn: Your Love Is Amazing (Hallelujah)

Words and music: Brenton Brown and Brian Doerksen (2000) **Lighting of the Christ Candle**



1, 3. Your love is__ a - maz - ing, stea - dy and un - chang - ing, your love is__ a moun -
(2. Your love is__ sur - pris) - ing, I can feel it ris - ing, all the joy that's grow -



tain, firm be - neath my feet. Your love is__ a mys - t'ry, how you gent - ly lift__
- ing deep in - side of me. Ev - 'ry time I see__ you all your good - ness shines



__ me. When I am_ sur - round - ed your love car - ries me. Hal - le - lu -
__ through. I can feel_ this God__ song ris - ing up_ in me.



- jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, your love makes me sing. Hal - le - lu -



- jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, your love makes me sing.



2. Your love is__ sur - pris - ing Hal - le - lu - jah.
3. Your love is__ a - maz - ing Hal - le - lu - jah.

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Words and Music: Brenton Brown and Brian Doerksen