



# Emmanuel Newsflash

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

## A Message From Rev. Roni

### Dear Friends,

I have been reading Desmond Cole's "The Skin You're In" as preparation for a book study which the North Bay Mission Cluster would offer over the next few months. I think it also bears relevance to this week's gospel reading. The book was written in the year 2017 and for each month, the author documents an experience of racism and skillfully illustrates how the story relates to Canada's history of Black racism. In essence, he calls out racism. In our gospel reading, Jesus calls out evil. He calls out a demon to leave a person's body. Similarly, through our voices and witness, Jesus calls out systemic evil. The text illustrates that calling out injustice can create a little discomfort, even a stir. The biblical text goes further by making it clear that the man who was oppressed was restored.

The power of Jesus is revealed in his authority to restore life. The man who was once oppressed and disenfranchised now is confident of his original status "God's Beloved". The man's dignity and worth is restored.

I agree with Desmond Cole that we need to call out racism and understand its history. We also need to take an additional step of discerning a vision of Beloved community and live into it. At the onset of the Gospel of Mark, Jesus announces that the kingdom of God (Beloved Community) is at hand and everywhere Jesus went people saw it appearing. Don't we all long for it appearing? Calling out is step one. Jesus offers a vision for healing. What is that vision of healing for a racially just world? Let's discern together. Join us on Sunday January 31<sup>st</sup>, for online worship, the videos are posted before 10:30am.

### Become the Beloved

As long as "being the Beloved" is little more than a beautiful thought or a lofty idea that hangs above my life to keep me from becoming depressed, nothing really changes. What is required is to become the Beloved in the commonplaces of my daily existence, and bit by bit to close the gap that exists between what I know myself to be and the countless realities of everyday life. Becoming the Beloved is pulling the truth revealed to me from above down into the ordinariness of what I am thinking of, talking about, and doing from hour to hour. *By Henri Nouwen*

### The readings for Sunday January 31<sup>th</sup> are:

Deuteronomy 18: 15-20  
Psalm 111  
1 Corinthians 8: 1-13  
Mark 1: 21-28



### Zoom Devotional Group Thursday February 4, 11, 18<sup>th</sup>, 11:00am to noon.

Please contact Rev. Roni at 416-271-5313 or  
[eucnbminister@gmail.com](mailto:eucnbminister@gmail.com) to receive resources  
and the zoom invitation.

Blessings, Rev. Roni



It is lovely to include members of the congregation in our online worship! **Would you be willing to create a video of yourself on your cell phone or Ipad reading scripture?** Please contact Rev. Roni indicating your interest. If you need support in doing this, we can provide a few pointers.



**Near North Palliative Care Network** will soon be facilitating a Pen Pal program; This will involve seniors and students from the Indigenous studies course at Nipissing University sending letters to each other as a way to alleviate the feeling of isolation during these times. If interested or if you have any questions regarding the program, feel free to **contact Ethan Houghton at [ejhoughton565@my.nipissingu.ca](mailto:ejhoughton565@my.nipissingu.ca)**.

**Sunday Services are available online:**

YouTube: Emmanuel United YouTube Channel

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/EUCNorthBay/>

Website: <http://www.emmanuelunitednorthbay.ca/onlineservices.html>

Twitter: [https://twitter.com/emmanuel\\_united](https://twitter.com/emmanuel_united)

*Worship Services will continue to be delivered online only, until further notice, due to the extended stay-at-home order from the Ontario Government.*



**SENIORS CONNECTED NEWSLETTER**

To connect seniors to events and services, promote mental health, provide useful information.

- ◆ Available in English and French
- ◆ Available online or through mail
- ◆ To request a copy or for more information: Please email [NNPCN.SC@GMAIL.COM](mailto:NNPCN.SC@GMAIL.COM) or Call the Near North Palliative Care Network office at (705) 497-9239.

*This project was funded by the Government of Ontario through the Seniors Community Grant Program.*

**MASKS & SIGN-IN:**

It is mandatory that you wear a face mask, use the hand sanitizer and complete the sign-in form when you enter the church.



**THE CHURCH OFFICE IS CLOSED.**

The secretary is working from home and email and voice mail messages are checked regularly.

**AVENUES FOR FINANCIALLY SUPPORTING EMMANUEL'S MINISTRY AND MISSION:**

\***AVGEN GIFT CARDS** (Contact [gtwilcox96@gmail.com](mailto:gtwilcox96@gmail.com) or 705-303-4204).

\***PAR** (Pre-Authorized Remittance)

\***ONLINE GIVING** (CanadaHelps.org from our Website)

\***E-TRANSFER** (From your personal online bank account to Brenda at [euctreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:euctreasurer@gmail.com))

**Thank you!**

**"Known by Our Love"**

Emmanuel United Church shall be a caring, welcoming faith community, nurturing spiritual life and sharing God's love and grace as experienced in Jesus Christ.

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