



# Sunset United Church

January 16, 2022

Second Sunday After Epiphany

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*Sunset United, located on Treaty 4 Territory,  
is an Affirming community of faith. All are welcome here.*

## WE GATHER

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Centering Music

Lighting the Christ Candle<sup>1</sup>

We light these small candles.

**Even the smallest of flames can be the beacons of  
hope.**

We pray that hope and love might fill our hearts.

**May we carry this light with us, always.**

Call to Worship and Opening Prayer<sup>2</sup>

We come electronically but gathered,

Yearning, seeking, anticipating.

**We come yearning for teaching.**

**We come seeking wholeness in our brokenness.**

**We come anticipating connection by**

**Spirit weaving.**

We come to be emboldened by following the way of Jesus.

We come like a tossed salad of variety – different histories, different geographies, different ages, different abilities, different perspectives – but we come together as one.

In our unity and in our wonder,

We come to in prayer:

We open ourselves to you, O God –  
our whole selves, our flawed and quirky,  
incomplete but striving selves.

Awaken us to discover the unique  
Service you've placed in each of us.

Encourage us to relish the opportunities  
For helping and for healing.

Enliven us by your embrace of all of us,  
Showing us how to embrace all we encounter.

Gratefully we pray, amen.

Hymn VU#402 We Are One<sup>3</sup> (vs. 1, 2 & 4)

We are one as we come,  
as we come, joyful to be here,  
in the praise on our lips  
there's a sense that God is near.

We are one as we sing,  
as we seek, we are found;  
and we come needful of God's grace  
as we meet, together in this place.

We are one as we share,  
as we share brokenness and fear,  
in the touch of a hand  
there's a sense that God is here.

We are one as we care,

as we heal, we are healed;  
and we share warmth in God's embrace  
as we pray together in this place.

We are one as we hear,  
as we hear, heart and hand unite;  
in the word we receive  
there's a sense that God is light.

We are one as we leave,  
we are love, we are loved,  
and we seek justice in God's ways  
as we move together from this place.

### Prayer Seeking Reconciliation<sup>2</sup>

God, you have given each of us many gifts

But sometimes we cannot recognize

What gift we have to share,

So we hide it under a bushel.

God, you remind us that all gifts are needed,

But sometimes we let ourselves be convinced that some  
gifts are more special than others.

God, you call us to work, to live, to love together as parts of  
one body

But sometimes we decide that membership in the body  
is limited by our understandings.

God, for those times we have ignored or mislabeled Your  
gifts,

For those times we have cut another off from the body,

We offer words of repentance,

We ask for forgiveness and grace.

*-time of silent prayer ~*

## Words of Assurance<sup>2</sup>

God is the giver of MANY gifts.  
God is the Creator of the ONE body  
God is slow to anger and quick to forgive.  
God helps us to share  
and honour the gifts of all,  
God helps us to heal the wounds  
and reunite the body.  
We are forgiven, loved, and accepted.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## Sung Response MV#95 How Deep the Peace<sup>4</sup>

How deep the peace, the confidence, of those whose wrongs  
are forgiven.

How deep the peace, the confidence, of those whose hearts  
are healed.

## Sharing the Story

### Hymn MV#174 Soil of God, You and I<sup>5</sup>

Soil of God, you and I, stand ready to bear  
seeds of faith nourished by God's tender care.  
Growing in everyone for here God is found.  
All stand together, we are Holy ground.

Soil of God, you and I, now ready to be  
part of God's promise, for others to see.  
Open to everyone for here God is found.  
All stand together, we are Holy ground.

Soil of God, you and I, now called to rebirth,  
joining as partners with all of the earth.

Living in harmony for here God is found.  
All stand together, this is Holy ground.

## WE LISTEN

Scripture I Corinthians 12:1-11  
John 2:1-11

Special Music

Reflection

Hymn MV#154 Deep in Our Hearts<sup>6</sup>

Deep in our hearts there is a common vision;  
Deep in our hearts there is a common song;  
Deep in our hearts there is a common story;  
Telling creation that we are one.

Deep in our hearts there is a common purpose,  
Deep in our hearts there is a common goal,  
Deep in our hearts there is a sacred message,  
Justice and peace in harmony.

Deep in our hearts there is a common longing;  
Deep in our hearts there is a common theme;  
Deep in our hearts there is a common current;  
Flowing to freedom like a stream.

Deep in our hearts There is a common vision;  
Deep in our hearts There is a common song;  
Deep in our hearts There is a common story;  
Telling creation that we are one.

## Prayers of the Community

### The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in  
heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us  
our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

Hymn VU#588 Many Are the Lightbeams<sup>7</sup> (vs. 1, 3 & 5)

Many are the lightbeams from the one light.

Our one light is Jesus.

Many are the lightbeams from the one light;  
we are one in Christ.

Many are the gifts given, love is all one.

Love's the gift of Jesus.

Many are the gifts given, love is all one;  
we are one in Christ.

Many are the members, the body is one,  
members all of Jesus.

Many are the members, the body is one;  
we are one in Christ.

## Sending Forth and Blessing

Amen VU#974<sup>8</sup>

Amen! Amen! Hallelujah, amen!

Amen! Amen! Hallelujah, amen!

*Postlude*



**Minister:** Rev. Tricia Gerhard (she/her)

**Children & Youth Minister:** Michelle McConkey (she/her)

**Choir Director:** Corinne Groff (she/her)

**Pianist:** Shirley Hill (she/her)



<sup>1</sup> Adapted from a prayer written by Beth W Johnston, *Gathering A/C/E 2021/2022 Prayers for Worship*, page 43. Used with permission.

<sup>2</sup> All words adapted from prayers written by Gord Waldie and found in *Gathering A/C/E 2021-2022 Prayers for worship*, page 44 and on the website: [www.re-worship.blogspot.com](http://www.re-worship.blogspot.com).

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