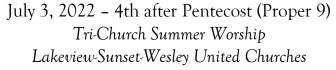


Sunset United Church





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

WE GATHER

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Centering Music

Call to Worship/Lighting of Candles

Opening Prayer¹

God, we've come thirsty—thirsty for your Spirit.

Living water, bubble up from inside us and lead us toward deep spirituality.

God, we've come hungry—hungry for community.

Bread of life, feed our spirits, and lead us toward bold discipleship in community.

God, we've come searching—searching for wholeness.

Source of Life, guide us, and lead us toward daring justice.

God, feed, nourish, and prepare us to be your church in the world.

Amen.

Hymn VU#220 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty² (vs. 1, 3, 4)
Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, who rules all creation;
O my soul, praise him, at all times your health and salvation.
Come, all who hear:
brothers and sisters draw near,
joining in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord who will prosper our work and defend us;
Surely his goodness and mercy will daily attend us:

ponder anew
what the Almighty can do,
who out of love will befriend us.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that has life and breath come now with praises before him!
Let the Amen
sound from God's people again:
Gladly with praise we adore him.

Prayer of Confession/Words of Assurance

As the sun rises and a new day unfolds with all of its promise and hope, I recommit myself to join your divine mission: to advocate for justice to exercise compassion to love without reserve to work toward peace to extend understanding to afford second chances to offer my generous best to witness blessing

to seize opportunities for gratitude
to change and be changed
to regard myself with grace
to embody Jesus
in whose Spirit I live, move, and have my being
in whose love I am made whole
in whose compassion I rise
to greet this day
and every day
for all my days.
Amen.

Passing the Peace

WE LISTEN

Scripture 2 Kings 5:1-14 (Living Bible)

Special Music

Reflection The Confessions of a Recovering Fundamentalist

Hymn VU#289 It Only Takes a Spark³

It only takes a spark to get a fire going, and soon all those around can warm up in its glowing: that's how it is with God's love, once you've experienced it: you spread God's love to everyone, you want to pass it on.

What a wondrous time is spring when all the trees are budding, the birds begin to sing, the flowers start their blooming: that's how it is with God's love, once you've experienced it: you want to sing, it's fresh like spring, you want to pass it on.

I wish for you, my friend this happiness that I've found – on God you can depend, it matters not where you're bound; I'll shout it from the mountain top; I want my world to know: the Lord of love has come to me, I want to pass it on.

Prayers of the Community Lord's Prayer⁴

Our Father in heaven, you are awesome! Show us who you are and how you want us to be. Make earth more like heaven.

Please give us what we need to keep going each day. Help us when we are wrong and clean us up on the inside.

Help us to let other people off and then move on.

Keep us from bad stuff.

You're in charge!
You're strong and powerful and always there.

Forever! Amen.

Hymn VU#567 Will You Come and Follow Me⁵

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known, will you let my life be grown

in you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around, through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Christ, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

Closing Benediction and Blessing Three-fold Amen

Postlude

Guest Minister: Mark Pitman

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

Choir Director: Corinne Groff (she/her)

Pianist: Shirley Hill (she/her)

- ¹ Prayer by Alydia Smith and Teresa Burnett-Cole.
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- ³ Words: Ken Kaiser 1969. Music Kurt Kaiser 1969. Words and music used by permission of Budjohn Songs. Reprinted under One License 605683.
- ⁴ Prayer from https://cofewinchester.contentfiles.net/media/assets/file/Versions of The Lords Prayer.pdf.
- ⁵ Words: The Iona Community 1987. Music: Scottish traditional; arr. The Iona Community 1987. Words and arrangement copyright © 1987 WGRG, The Iona Community (Glasgow, Scotland), G.I.A. Publications, Inc., Chicago, Illinois, exclusive agent. Reprinted under One License 605683.

