



Sunset United Church

July 30, 2023



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

Welcome & Announcements

Centering Time

Call to Worship

One: May the love of God be with you all!

All: And also with you!

One: Come, this is the day to worship our God. This is the place to gather and this is the community with whom to share our joy, our concerns, and questions. Come and welcome to this place.

**All: MV#18 Lord, Prepare Me to Be a Sanctuary¹
Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,
pure and holy tried and true;
with thanksgiving, I'll be a living
sanctuary for you.**

One: We gather to learn about Jesus and the wisdom he shared - wisdom in the words he spoke, the love he shared, and the actions he took. Come, let us seek the wisdom of Jesus!

**All: MV#18 Lord, Prepare Me to Be a Sanctuary¹
Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,
pure and holy tried and true;
with thanksgiving, I'll be a living
sanctuary for you.**

One: Come, God is here in this place calling us to be a part of something we can't even imagine, we are called to proclaim, help build, dwell in, and celebrate Heaven on earth!

**All: MV#18 Lord, Prepare Me to Be a Sanctuary¹
Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,
pure and holy tried and true;
with thanksgiving, I'll be a living
sanctuary for you.**

One: Let us pray:

All: God of Heaven on Earth, we gather as a community of seekers, questioners, builders, and those just trying to get through another day. We pledge our time this morning so that we may pray the contents of our hearts. We pray that you open our minds to your wisdom, open our ears to your still speaking voice and join our songs to the cosmic chorus of your creation!

We pray to you who is our mother and 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, the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Hymn MV#174 Soil of God, You and I²

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.

Theme Time

Special Music

Message & Scripture Reading Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Hymn VU#699 Live into Hope³

**Live into hope of captives freed,
of sight regained, the end of greed.
The oppressed shall be the first to see
the year of God's own jubilee!**

**Live into hope the blind shall see
with insight and with clarity,
removing shades of pride and fear,
a vision of our God brought near.**

**Live into hope of liberty,
the right to speak, the right to be,
the right to have one's daily bread,
to hear God's word and thus be fed.**

**Live into hope of captives freed
from chains of fear or want or greed.
God now proclaims our full release
to faith and hope and joy and peace.**

Minute for Mission

Sung Response VU#958 Halle, Halle, Halle⁴

**Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

Prayers for the World

Hymn VU#356 Seek Ye First the Kingdom⁵

**Seek ye first the kingdom of God
and God's righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you.
Hallelu, hallelujah.**

**Ask and it shall be given unto you;
seek and you shall find;
knock and the door shall be opened unto you.
Hallelu, hallelujah.**

**We do not live by bread alone,
but by every word
that proceeds from the mouth of God.
Hallelu, hallelujah.**

Blessing and Sending



Minister: Rev. Jim Tenford (he/him)

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

Choir Director: Corinne Groff (she/her) **Pianist:** Shirley Hill (she/her)

Audio/Visual Technician: Bonnie Tudor (she/they)



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