



Sunset United Church

June 12, 2022 – Pride Sunday



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

WE GATHER

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Centering Words¹

Centering Music

Lighting the Christ and Pride Candles²

A Moment for Pride³

Lighting the Red Candle

Hymn MV#1 Let Us Build a House⁴

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can
safely live,

a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to
forgive.

Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and
vault of grace;

here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

Refrain All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:

Refrain All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:

Refrain All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace;
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:

Refrain All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

Opening Prayers

Creating God – God beyond Gender,
Who makes no mistakes,
Who surprises us always,
Who molded the first person both male
and female,
who molded the first non-gendered person
who loves all creation.

Help us to love the diversity of your creation.

Help us accept all varieties of gender in ourselves and
in others.

Help us celebrate those who are different from us

That we may learn to love each other as you love us,
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ,
Both human and divine.

Creating God – God of mercy

As we have acknowledged the diversity
In this amazing world,
Created in atoms and molecules
But with an underlying spirit of mystery,
We must also admit that,
At times,
We have forgotten the wonders
Of that diversity.

We have longed for things to be familiar
And as they have always been.
We know that the great religious traditions
Have caused harm in the past
And continue to cause pain
To those who express their being
In ways different than the majority.
We know, too, that we individually,

Both intentionally and unintentionally,
Have rejected and shunned those
Who are not like us.
For this we are truly sorry
And ask your patience
As we learn to strive for ways
To be more inclusive
And celebrate all in this wondrous world.
Amen.

Lighting the Orange Candle

Hymn MV#12 Come Touch Our Hearts⁵ (v. 1)

Come touch our hearts that we may know compassion,
from failing embers build a blazing fire;
love strong enough to overturn injustice,
to seek a world more gracious,
come touch and bless our hearts.

Sharing the Story

Hymn MV#62 There Is Room for All⁶

There is room for all in the shadow of God's wing;
There is room for all, sheltered in God's love.
And I rejoice and sing,
"My refuge and my rock, in whom I trust."
There is room for all, there is room for all!

WE LISTEN

Scripture Acts 15:5-13

Lighting the Yellow Candle

Special Music

Reflection

Hymn MV#21 Open Our Hearts⁷

Open our hearts, open our minds.
Open our lives to you O loving God.

Pride Stories: Three stories from LGBTQIA+ and 2S People and Allies

Story 1

Lighting the Green Candle

Sung Response MV#154 Deep in Our Hearts⁸ (v. 1)

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.

Story 2

Lighting the Blue Candle

Sung Response MV#154 Deep in Our Hearts⁸ (v. 2)

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 common message,
Justice and peace in harmony.

Story 3

Lighting the Purple Candle

Sung Response MV#154 Deep in Our Hearts⁸ (v. 3)

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.

Reflection

Lighting the Pink Candle

Sung Response MV#154 Deep in Our Hearts⁸ (v. 4)

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.

Dedication of the Offering

Offertory Hymn VU#538 For the Gift of Creation⁹

For the gift of creation, the gift of your love,
and the gift of the Spirit by which we live,
we thank you and give you the fruit of our hands.
May your grace be proclaimed by the gifts that we give.

Prayers of the Community and 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 MV138 My Love Colours Outside the Lines¹⁰

My love colours outside the lines,
exploring paths that few could ever find;
and takes me into places
where I've never been before,
and opens doors
to worlds outside the lines.

My Lord colours outside the lines,
turns wounds to blessings,
water into wine;
and takes me into places
where I've never been before
and opens doors
to worlds outside the lines.

Refrain We'll never walk on water
if we're not prepared to drown,
body and soul
need a soaking from time to time.
And we'll never move the gravestones
if we're not prepared to die, and realize
there are world's outside the lines.

My soul longs to colour outside the lines,
tear back the curtains,
sun, come in and shine;
I want to walk beyond the boundaries
where I've never been before,

throw open doors
to worlds outside the lines.

Refrain We'll never walk on water
if we're not prepared to drown,
body and soul
need a soaking from time to time.
And we'll never move the gravestones
if we're not prepared to die, and realize
there are world's outside the lines.

My soul longs to colour outside the lines,
tear back the curtains,
sun, come in and shine;
I want to walk beyond the boundaries
where I've never been before,
throw open doors
to worlds outside the lines.

Commissioning

Amen MV#219 Ameni¹¹

Ameni, ameni,
amen, amen, amen, ameni.

Postlude

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

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

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

**Pianist:** Shirley Hill (she/her)  
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¹ Written by David Breeden. Found on:

<https://www.uua.org/worship/words/affirmation/yes-theres-no-binary>

² Written by Linda Lee Franson. Found on

<https://www.uua.org/worship/words/chalice-lighting/pride-flame>

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¹¹ Words: traditional liturgical text. Music: Composed by young men at Christ the New Man Parish., Ga-Rankuwa, South Africa, 1989. Transcribed and arranged by Dave Dargie. Transcription and arrangement copyright © Dave Dargie. Used by permission. Reprinted under One License 605683.

