

Sunset United Church



June 13th, 2021 -

Third Sunday After Pentecost

Minister: Rev. Tricia Gerhard (she/her)

Children & Youth Minister:

Michelle McConkey (she/her)

Choir Director: Corinne Groff (she/her)

Pianist: Shirley Hill (she/her)

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 and Affirming Candles*

Hymn: MV# 220 Hope Shines as the Solitary Star **

Hope shines as the solitary star,

faith is the inner light.

You and I together

mirror the Light of Lights,

and illumine the pathway home.

Call to Worship and Opening Prayer:

Come into this electronically connected space –
From couch or office,
From comfy recliners or favourite rocking chairs
From kitchens or bedrooms.
The risen Christ welcomes us all.

**We come as we are –
Unshaven or well coifed,
Dressed up or in jammies,
Eating brunch or brushing teeth.
Though separated by distance,
We come as one.**

Come to worship across the distance
But united in faith.

**We come to listen, to sing, to pray,
And to rejoice.**

Come, then, as we join in prayer with our loving God:

**Loving God, as we worship together,
May you forge among us deeper relationships
In creative ways,
May you journey with us as we learn
To connect through technology,
May you breathe into our souls
The hope of your good news,
May you teach us to thrive
While staying home.
Show us that your might resides
In us all,
In Jesus name, Amen.**

Hymn: VU#415 God, We Praise You for the Morning ***

1. *God, we praise you for the morning;
hope springs forth with each new day,
new beginning, prayer, and promise,
joy in work and in play.*

2. *God, we praise you for creation,
mountains, seas, and prairie land.
Waking souls find joy and healing
in your bountiful hand.*

3. *God, we praise you for compassion,
all the loving that you show;
human touching, tears, and laughter,
help your children to grow.*

4. *God, we praise you for your Spirit,
Comforter and daily friend,
restless searcher, gentle teacher,
strength and courage you send.*

5. *God, we praise you for the Saviour,
come that we may know your ways.
In his loving, dying, rising,
Christ is Lord of our days.*

6. *Hallelujah, hallelujah,
hallelujah, hallelujah!
Hallelujah, hallelujah!
Christ is Lord of our days!*

Prayer Seeking Reconciliation[^]

Holy One,
We remember with gratitude
Those people who generously sowed the seeds
Of faith in our lives.

-silent prayer-

Above all, we recognize how you have blessed our lives with the
gift of the Spirit
So that our faith can miraculously and mysteriously grow.

We confess the times we fail to involve ourselves
In planting any seeds of faith in the lives of others;
The times when our personal agendas
Became more important than yours;
The times when we have denied others
The opportunity to expand their faith
Through our lack of interest or involvement;
The times when our lives become
So entangled with the values of the world
That we forget what you have said and done and promised.
Loving one,
We know that when we become
Disconnected from you,
Our lives become parched and dusty,
And our faith becomes dry and hollow.

Bless and renew our lives,

So that we remain connected to you
Strengthening our faith,
And empowering us to live lives
Of justice, compassion and love.
Amen,

Words of Assurance

Sung Response: MV#90 Don't be Afraid ****

*Don't be afraid. My love is stronger,
my love is stronger than your fear.
Don't be afraid.*

*My love is stronger and I have promised,
promised to be always near.*

Sharing the Story:

Hymn: VU#361 Small Things Count **^^

1. *Small things count, so Jesus said:
cups of water, crumbs of bread,
small things done because we're kind
count as big things in God's mind.*
2. *Small things make the big things grow:
Grains of yeast inside the dough,
Puffs that fill a big balloon,
Notes that make a happy tune.*
3. *Every hair that's on our head,*

*every sparrow, Jesus said,
God takes care of, counts and knows,
God loves us from top to toes!*

Scripture: Mark 4: 26-34

Special Music

Reflection

Hymn: MV#174 Soil of God, You and I

^^^**

1. *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.*
2. *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.*
3. *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.*

Prayers of the Community and the Lord's Prayer**

Hymn: VU#703 In the Bulb there is a Flower

^*^

1. *In the bulb there is a flower;
in the seed, an apple tree;
in cocoons, a hidden promise:
butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter
there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.*

2. *There's a song in every silence,
seeking word and melody;
there's a dawn in every darkness,
bringing hope to you and me,
From the past will come the future;
what it holds, a mystery,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.*

3. *In our end is our beginning;
in our time, infinity;
in our doubt there is believing;
in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection;
at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season,*

something God alone can see.

Benediction

Amen

Postlude



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