



Tri-Church Summer Worship Lakeview, Sunset & Wesley United Churches



3rd Sunday after Pentecost – June 21st, 2020

Minister: Rev. Tricia Gerhard

Children & Youth Minister: Michelle McConkey

Pianist: Shirley Hill

Sunset United Church, 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:

This candle dances with the presence of the Spirit,
Reminding us of the warmth of community,
Three churches gathered as one.

As this joint community

We affirm that God calls us to gather,

And as the flame of wisdom,

Insight and divine love flickers,

We worship the One who gathers us.

Hymn: MV#61 I Praise You, O God *

I praise you, O God, with all of my heart.
With all the earth I will sing your praises.

Call to Worship: **

You could be in one of a hundred places right now:
In bed with the covers pulled over your head,
Gardening or walking or
Simply drinking coffee on the deck,
But you are here,
With others of this distanced
and yet connected community,
This Tri-Church community,
And with God, the center of our worship.
What is it that calls you here,
Week after week, or for the first time?
Is it a lifelong habit?
A quest for holiness?
An expectation or an easy choice?
Are you seeking?
Are you asking?

God has found us here.

**Thank God for the blessings of the divine
presence, for as promised, where we gather,
Jesus is among us.**

Opening Prayer:

God, we stand on the edge of our prairie summertime,
marked by our first worship as a Tri Church community.

It feels strange to not see the faces of those gathered together from our communities of faith. It feels odd to know that many are gathered together to worship, and yet somehow, we know, that while we worship each of us on our own, we know that we are not alone. This time of worship, prayer and song, ties us together in ways that are not visible and yet are undeniably present. May this time of worship cement for us the truth of your presence in and amongst us, even when we are separated one from another. Be with us, each in our own place, today and always. Amen.

Sing: MV#28 God of the Bible ***

God of the Bible, God in the Gospel,
Hope seen in Jesus, hope yet to come,
You are our center, daylight or darkness,
Freedom or prison, you are our home.

Refrain:

Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,
God always faithful, you do not change.
Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,
God always faithful, you do not change.

God in our struggles, God in our hunger,
Suffering with us, taking our part,
Still you empow'r us, mothering Spirit.
Feeding, sustaining, from your own heart.

Those without status, those who are nothing,
You have made royal, gifted with rights,
Chosen as partners, midwives of justice,
Birthing new systems, lighting new lights.

Not by your finger, not by your anger,
Will our world order change in a day
But by your people, fearless and faithful,
Small paper lanterns, lighting the way.

Hope we must carry shining and certain
Through all our turmoil, terror and loss,
Bonding us gladly one to the other,
Till our world changes facing the cross.

Prayer Seeking Reconciliation *^*

Giving and forgiving God:

We confess those times

**When we have been indifferent
to the needs of Your world.**

**We confess those times when we have
Remained silent instead
Of challenging injustice and hate.**

**We confess those times when we have surrendered
To self-interest, self-satisfaction,
Fearfulness, or indifference.**

**We confess those times when we have
Made wrong choices that have
Harmed others and ourselves.**

Heal us and restore us, we pray.

(time of silence to offer personal prayers)

Affirmation of Forgiveness

Sung Response: MV#97 Listen, God is Calling **^^**

(Listen) Listen, God is calling,
Through the word inviting,
Offering forgiveness,
Comfort and joy.

Sharing the Story

Hymn: MV#92 Like A Rock *^^

Like a rock, like a rock, God is under our feet.
Like the starry night sky, God is over our head.
Like the sun on the horizon, God is ever before.
Like the river runs to ocean,
our home is in God evermore.

WE LISTEN

Scripture: Genesis 21: 1-21

Reflection

Special Music

WE RESPOND

Tri-Church Covenanting

People of Lakeview, Sunset and Wesley,
God's people, beloved people,
Over the summer we intentionally join together
To share in worship and community.
This year we do the same, but in a very different way.
We are together, apart.
We are community, safely separated.
We are God's people, joined by faith and prayer.
Together, apart, we are God's people gathered,
Shining with God's spirit,
Intent on bringing about God's dreams
And intentions for the world,
Through word, action and love.

**Together, apart, we worship and pray
Sing and listen,
Present to the Holy in worship,
And in this scattered community,
Knowing that what we do together
Is an embodiment of God's presence
In this world.
For the next twelve weeks,
We gather as a larger community,
Sharing together in the work
Of worship and justice.
May it be so, amen.**

Dedication of gifts given during this time of COVID-19:

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer (sung
VU#959)

Hymn: VU#634 To Abraham And Sarah *****

To Abraham and Sarah,
The call of God was clear;
"Go forth and I will show you
A country rich and fair.
You need not fear the journey
For I have pledged my word:
That you shall be my people,
And I will be your God."

From Abraham and Sarah
Arose a pilgrim race,
Dependent for their journey
On God's abundant grace;
And in their heart was written
By God the saving word:
That you shall be my people
And I will be your God."

We of this generation
On whom God's hand is laid,
Can journey to the future,
Secure and unafraid,
Rejoicing in God's goodness

And trusting in this word:
“That you shall be my people
And I will be your God.”

Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude



* Words and music: David Robertson, after Psalm 138:1. Words and music copyright 2005 by David Robertson, High River United Church, Box 5520, High River, AB Canada T1V 1M4. Used by permission. One License 605683.

** Adapted from a prayer written by Michelle Rowe, Maple Creek UC. *Gathering: Pentecost 1 2020 (year a)*, page, 34. Used with permission.

*** Words: Shirley Erena Murray 1995. Music: Tony E. Alonso, 2001 Words copyright 1996 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream. All rights reserved, used by permission. Music Copyright 2001 by GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. One License 605683

^ Written by Diane Robinson, St. James UC, Regina. *Gathering, Pentecost 1, 2020*, page 40. Used with permission.

***^* Words and music: traditional song, Tanzania; Trans Howard S. Olsen. Arrangement: More Voices, 2007. Translation copyright Makumira University College (formerly Lutheran Theological College Makumira). Used by Permission. Arrangement copyright 2007 The United Church of Canada. One License 605683

*^^ Words: Keri K Wehlender, 1998. Adapted to music: Linnea Good, 1999. Words and music copyright 1999 Borealis Music, Used by permission. One License 605683

***** Words: Judith Fetter 1984. Music: Basil Harwood, 1898 Words copyright 1984 Judith Fetter. Music published by permission of Executors of the late Dr. Basil Harwood. One License 605683