



# Sunset United Church

March 12, 2023



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

## Welcome & Announcements

## Centering Time

## Call to Worship and Opening Prayer

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

**All: And also with you!**

One: Welcome! Welcome to this community of faith!

**All: No matter who we are, no matter where we've been,  
no matter our story up until now, this is home!**

One: This is a place to seek wisdom;

**All: A place to hear the stories of our faith and find  
direction for today.**

One: This is a place of honesty;

**All: A place where grief and confusion is just as  
welcome as celebration and certainty.**

One: This is a place of neighbourliness;

**All: Where a table is set here in God's home, all are  
welcome, all are celebrated, all are given an  
unending portion of grace!**

One: Let us pray:

**All: Eternal spirit of creation and love, we gather today  
as your community of seekers, searching out  
wisdom to navigate our lives. We come with hope;  
hope for inspiration, hope for community, and  
hope for healing. We come with our gifts that we  
freely offer - our willingness to learn, a portion of  
your grace which we freely share and the courage  
to listen for your still speaking voice.**

**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#195 Long Ago and Far Away<sup>1</sup>

**Long ago and far away**

**Jesus lived and worked and prayed  
healed the sick and the fearful and lonely  
lived his life to show us God's way.**

*Refrain* **Stretched his arms out as he said  
Fill the cup and share the bread  
Remember me in love and joy and blessing.**

**Jesus gathered the children around him  
spoke of Love and the joy to be found  
told them stories of wisdom and wonder  
God's creation in all that's around.**

*Refrain*

**Jesus called all his friends to be with him  
share the bread and the cup once again  
life to you I will offer it gladly  
love will be with you right to the end.**

*Refrain*

**Theme Time**

**Anthem**

**Message** Matthew 5:21-37

**Hymn** VU#652 Be Still, My Soul<sup>2</sup>

**Be still, my soul, for God is on your side;  
bear patiently the cross of grief or pain.**

**Trust in your God, your saviour and your guide,  
who through all changes faithful will remain.  
Be still, my soul, your best, your heavenly friend  
through stormy ways leads to a peaceful end.**

**Be still, my soul, your God will undertake  
to guide the future surely as the past.**

**Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake;  
all now mysterious shall be bright at last.  
Be still, my soul, life's tempests still obey  
the voice that once the waves' wild fury stayed.**

**Be still, my soul, the hour is hastening on  
when we shall be forever in God's peace;  
when disappointment, grief and fear are gone,  
love's joys restored, our strivings all shall cease.  
Be still, my soul, when change and tears are past,  
all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.**

### **Minute for Mission**

**Response Hymn VU#541 Praise God from Whom All  
Blessings Flow**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures high and low;  
give thanks to God in love made known:  
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.**

### **Prayers for the World**

**Hymn MV#142 Oh a Song Must Rise<sup>3</sup>**

*Refrain* **Oh a song must rise  
for the spirit to descend  
Oh a song must rise once again  
Singing out God's praises and glory,  
The faithful voices blend,  
Oh a song must rise for the spirit to descend.**

**From the mountains to the valleys,  
from the desert to the sea,  
A song must rise once again.  
From the voices of our leaders,  
the voice of you and me,  
A song must rise for the spirit to descend.**

*Refrain*

**From poverty and riches,  
from the voice of young and old,  
A song must rise once again.  
From the free and the imprisoned,  
the timid and the bold,  
A song must rise for the spirit to descend.**

*Refrain*

**From ev'ry house of worship,  
in ev'ry faith and tongue,  
A song must rise once again.  
From the villages and cities  
a new song must be sung,  
A song must rise for the spirit to descend.**

*Refrain*

**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)



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