



Sunset United Church

May 14, 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 and Opening Prayer

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

All: And also with you!

One: In our beginnings God is with us,

All: Calling us to new life and new possibility.

One: In our endings God is with us,

All: Comforting us, but also calling us to begin anew!

One: Throughout our journeys, God is with us

All: Guiding us to new life where all may be one: one with each other and one with God!

One: Let us pray:

All: Holy and gracious God, in each of our individual lives and as a global community you call us to be your people. You call us to glorify you in every action and word so that all who we encounter know your love a bit more fully. As we enter into worship, we pray that our hearts and minds be open to seeing you in new ways. May we also be open to seeing all humanity as our family, all invited into your "Kin-dom."

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 VU#644 I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry¹

**I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
to see your life unfold.**

**I was there when you were but a child,
with a faith to suit you well;
in a blaze of light you wandered off
to find where demons dwell.**

**When you heard the wonder of the word,
I was there to cheer you on;
you were raised to praise the living Lord,
to whom you now belong.**

**If you find someone to share your time
and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme
from dusk till rising sun.**

**In the middle ages of your life,
not too old, no longer young.
I'll be there to guide you through the night,
complete what I've begun.**

**When the evening gently closes in
and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been
with just one more surprise.**

**I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
to see your life unfold.**

Theme Time

Anthem

Scripture Reading Acts 1:6-14 and John 17:1-11

Hymn VU#664 What a Friend We Have in Jesus

**What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!**

**O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.**

**Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful, who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer.**

**Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Christ the Saviour is our refuge; take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do our friends despise, forsake us? Are we tempted to despair?
Jesus' strength will shield our weakness, and we'll find new
courage there.**

Message

Hymn VU#652 Be Still, My Soul²

**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

Sung Response VU#958 Halle, Halle, Halle³

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

Prayers for the World

Hymn VU#586 We Shall Go Out with Hope of Resurrection⁴

**We shall go out with hope of resurrection;
we shall go out, from strength to strength go on;
we shall go out and tell our stories boldly;
tales of a love that will not let us go.
We'll sing our songs of wrongs that can be righted;
we'll dream our dreams of hurts that can be healed;
we'll weave a cloth of all the world united
within the vision of new life in Christ.**

**We'll give a voice to those who have not spoken;
we'll find the words for those whose lips are sealed;
we'll make the tunes for those who sing no longer,
expressive love alive in every heart.
We'll share our joy with those who still are weeping,
raise hymns of strength for hearts that break in grief,
we'll leap and dance the resurrection story,
including all in circles of our love.**

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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