



# Sunset United Church



November 22, 2020 –

Reign of Christ Sunday

Minister: Rev. Tricia Gerhard

Children & Youth Minister: Michelle McConkey

Choir Director: Corinne Groff

Pianist: Shirley Hill

Special Music: Sunset Choir

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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 Candle:**

As worship begins today and we light

The Christ candle,

Let us remember that Jesus came

Into the world to bring peace

And love to all people in this chaotic world.

**Hymn: MV#21 Open our Hearts** \*

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

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

**Call to Worship:**

Shout with joy to God, all the earth!  
Remember that God is God-  
The One who made us,  
The One who sustains us,  
The One whose Spirit lives within us.

**Let us enter God's house with thanksgiving;  
And come into God's presence with praise.  
For God is good,  
With unfailing love that lasts forever,  
And faithfulness that extends  
to all generations.**

**Opening Prayer**

^

Blessed are you, O God,  
Lifted high on the praises of your people,  
The praises of all creation.  
It is in declaring your goodness and love  
That we come to know our own blessedness.  
It is in the singing of your glory,  
That we come to discover the glory  
Within us and around us.  
Send your Spirit to us now;

Open our hearts;  
Give wings to our thoughts;  
Inspire our worship;  
Welcome us into your presence.  
Blessed are you, O God,  
Lifted high on the praises of your people,  
The praises of all creation.  
Amen.

**Hymn MV#1 Let Us Build a House**

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1. *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.*

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

2. *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:*

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

3. *Let us build a house where love is found  
in water, wine and wheat;  
a banquet hall on holy ground,  
where peace and justice meet.  
Here the love of God, through Jesus,  
is revealed in time and space;  
as we share in Christ  
the feast that frees us:*

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

4. *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:*

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

5. *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:*

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

### **Prayer Seeking reconciliation**

In the lives of neighbours who suffer brokenness and pain:

**We confess you are still speaking!**

In the struggle of the poor whose rights are not  
honoured:

**We confess you are still speaking!**

In a world crying out for wisdom, love and mercy:

**We confess you are still speaking!**

In a world calling for the blessing of truth:

**We confess you are still speaking!**

**Bless us to hear!**

Let us seek reconciliation together:

**We confess that in our lives we often  
hide behind our work and play,  
schools and jobs,**

fun and fashion.

We let ourselves get too busy  
that we forget the cause of the poor  
and the suffering.

We confess we allow the powers of the world  
To seduce us into selfishness  
And silence our witness.

Teach us to champion the cause  
for justice for all,  
strengthen us love our neighbour  
and speak truth into your world.

*(time of silence to offer personal prayers)*

### Affirmation of Forgiveness

Sung Response: MV#97 Listen, God is Calling

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*Listen, God is calling, through the Word inviting,  
Offering forgiveness, comfort and joy.*

### Sharing the Story

Hymn: VU#600 When I Needed A Neighbour

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1. *When I needed a neighbour,  
were you there, were you there?  
When I needed a neighbour, were you there?*

#### Refrain

*And the creed and the colour  
and the name won't matter,*

*were you there?*

2. *I was hungry and thirsty,  
were you there, were you there?  
I was hungry and thirsty, were you there?*

*Refrain*

*And the creed and the colour  
and the name won't matter,  
were you there?*

3. *I was cold, I was naked,  
were you there, were you there?  
I was cold, I was naked, were you there?*

*Refrain*

*And the creed and the colour  
and the name won't matter,  
were you there?*

4. *When I needed a healer,  
were you there, were you there?  
When I needed a healer, were you there?*

*Refrain*

*And the creed and the colour  
and the name won't matter,  
were you there?*



5. *Wherever you travel,  
I'll be there, I'll be there,  
Wherever you travel I'll be there.*

Refrain

*And the creed and the colour  
and the name won't matter,  
were you there?*

**WE LISTEN**

**Scripture:** Ezekiel 34: 11-16, 20-24  
Matthew 25: 31-46

**Reflection**

**Special Music**     **Sunset Choir**

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

**Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer**

**Hymn:** VU210 You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd ^^

1. *You, Lord, are both lamb and shepherd.  
You, Lord, are both prince and slave.  
You, peacemaker and sword bringer  
of the way you took and gave.*

*You, the everlasting instant;  
You, whom we both scorn and crave.*

2. *Clothed in light upon the mountain,  
stripped of might upon the cross,  
shining in eternal glory,  
beggared by a soldier's toss.*

*You, the everlasting instant;  
You who are both gift and cost.*

3. *You, who walk each day beside us,  
sit in power at God's side.  
You, who preach a way that's narrow,  
have a love that reaches wide.*

*You, the everlasting instant;  
You, who are our pilgrim guide.*

4. *Worthy is our earthly Jesus!  
Worthy is our cosmic Christ!  
Worthy your defeat and victory.  
Worthy still your peace and strife.*

*You, the everlasting instant;  
You, who are our death and life.*

## **Commissioning and Benediction**

May God,  
who comes to us  
in the things of this world,

bless your eyes  
and be in your seeing.

May Christ,  
who looks upon you  
with deepest love,  
bless your eyes  
and widen your gaze.

May the Spirit,  
who perceives what is  
and what may yet be,  
bless your eyes  
and sharpen your vision.

May the Sacred Three  
bless your eyes  
and cause you to see.

## Postlude



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