Sunset United Church

November 8, 2020 – Remembrance Sunday Minister: Rev. Tricia Gerhard Children & Youth Minister: Michelle McConkey Choir Director: Corinne Groff Pianist: Shirley Hill Reader: Marion Tudor Special Music: Wascana Voices

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 our candle, Let us remember that Jesus Came to bring his unbounded peace, And love to all people In this chaotic world. 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:

The measure of a people's heart is this: Do we remember the sacrifices of the past; Do we work for peace in the present; Do we declare hope for the future?

And so, we come now before God To name as our dream God's reign of Shalom, To commit ourselves to the cause of peace, And to remember.

Let us worship God.

Opening Prayer

O God, in this moment, We move to the side of the veterans Of every war, Of every place and time. And not only to the side of the arms forces But also, to the side of everyone Innocently caught in the lands of death. Help us, O God.

Help us to do everything we can To make this world a place Where the engines of death Never need to move,

And the people who drive them Can always stand at ease. Help us, O God. We ask it in Jesus' name. Amen

Hymn: VU#625 I Feel the Winds of God

**

- If ever I forget your love and how that love was shown, lift high the blood red flag above; it bears your name alone. Great pilot of my onward way, you will not let me drift. I feel the winds of God today; today my sail I lift.
- It is the wind of God that dries my vain regretful tears, until with braver thoughts shall rise the purer, brighter years; if cast on shores of selfish ease or pleasure I should be, O let me feel your freshening breeze, and I'll put back to sea.
- If ever I forget your love and how that love was shown, lift high the blood red flag above;

3

it bears your name alone. Great pilot of my onward way, you will not let me drift. I feel the winds of God today; today my sail I lift.

Prayer Seeking reconciliation

(time of silence to offer personal prayers)

Affirmation of Forgiveness

Sung Response: MV#97 Listen, God is calling ***

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

Sharing the Story

Hymn: VU#684 Make Me a Channel ****

- Make me a channel of your peace: where there is hatred, let me bring your love; where there is injury, your healing power, and where there's doubt, true faith in you:
- 2. It is the wind of God that dries my vain regretful tears,

until with braver thoughts shall rise the purer, brighter years; if cast on shores of selfish ease or pleasure I should be, O let me feel your freshening breeze, and I'll put back to sea.

3. If ever I forget your love and how that love was shown, lift high the blood red flag above; it bears your name alone. Great pilot of my onward way, you will not let me drift. I feel the winds of God today; today my sail I lift.

<u>WE LISTEN</u>

Scripture:	Psalm 78: 1-7
	Matthew 25: 1-13

Reading: In Flanders Fields

In Flanders fields the poppies blow Between the crosses, row on row, That mark our place; and in the sky The larks, still bravely singing, fly

Scarce heard amid the guns below. We are the Dead. Short days ago We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow, Loved and were loved, and now we lie In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe: To you from failing hands we throw The torch; be yours to hold it high. If ye break faith with us who die We shall not sleep, though poppies grow In Flanders fields.

- One: They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old. All: Age shall not weary them,
- All: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
- One: At the going down of the sun and in the morning.
- All: We will remember them.

Reflection

Special Music: *Bogoroditse Devo (Sergei Rochmaninoff)* Performed by Wascana Voices

English Translation: Rejoice, virgin mother of God, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women, And blessed is the fruit of your womb, For you have born the Savior of our souls.

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

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer (VU#914 – left hand choice)

*//

- For the healing of the nations, God, we pray with one accord; for a just and equal sharing of the things that earth affords. To a life of love in action help us rise and pledge our word.
- Lead us forward into freedom, from despair your world release; that, redeemed from war and hatred, all may come and go in peace. Show us how through care and goodness fear will die and hope increase.
- All that kills abundance living, let it from the earth be banned: pride of status, race or schooling, dogmas that obscure your plan. In our common quest for justice may we hallow life's brief span.
- You, Creator-God, have written your great name on humankind; for our growing in your likeness bring the life of Christ to mind;

7

that, by our response and service, earth its destiny may find.

Words of Remembrance

- One: Eternal rest grant unto them, O God, and may perpetual light shine upon them.
- All: May the souls of the righteous, through your great mercy, rest in peace. Amen.

Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude

*୶୶୶୶୶୶୶୶୶୶୶୶୶୶୶*୶୶

*Words and music: Jim Strathdee. Words and music copyright © Jim and Jean Strathdee. (Desert Flower Music). Used by permission. One License 605683 *^ Words: Fred Kaan 1965. Music: Henry Purcell ca.1682, desc. Darryl Nixon 1986. Words copyright 1968 Hope Publishing Company. Descent copyright 1987 Songs for a Gospel. One License 605683

**Words: Jessie Adams 1907, alt. Music: English and Irish traditional melody; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams 1906. Words copyright ©1933 National Adult School Organization. Arrangement by permission of Oxford University Press. One License 605683

***Words and Music: traditional song, Tanzania; Arrangement:. More Voices, 2007. Arrangement copyright © 2007 The United Church of Canada. One License 605683

****Words: attr. to St. Francis 1220 Music: Sebastian Temple 1967; arr. Betty Pulkington 1976. Music copyright © 1969 Fransican Communications Centre. One License 605683