

Sunset United Church



October 18, 2020 – Proper 24

Minister: Rev. Tricia Gerhard

Children & Youth Minister: Michelle McConkey

Choir Director: Corinne Groff

Pianist: Shirley Hill

Reader: Bryan Tudor

Special Music: Sung by Pam Norman, Christa Eidsness,
Nancy Toppings, Barb Flaten-Orr

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:

We light the Christ candle

Knowing that Christ's love shines

Like a beacon for those of us

Who are troubled,

Who are anxious,

Who are unsure,

Welcoming us into the presence of our God,

Who loves us into fullness.

Hymn: MV#18 Lord, Make Me a Sanctuary *

*Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,
pure and holy tried and true;
with thanksgiving, I'll be a living
sanctuary for you.*

Call to Worship:

Though there are rulers, presidents, kings, queens,
God is the center of all our lives.

In God we live and move and have our being.

God requires our faithfulness and our service.

We reach out to others with the same kind

Of love with which God has touched our lives.

Come, let us worship the One who is always with us.

Let us praise God who walks daily by our side.

Amen.

Opening Prayer

Gracious One,

In joy and in sorrow,

We gather here.

We come to you today with our hearts open,

Our nerves frayed...

We come to be healed and to be inspired.

We come to be moved by song and held by prayer.

We come to be with our faith community,

Nurtured by each other's separated presence.

We come for the illumination of ancient wisdom

And for the revelation of your presence.

No matter what, we come...

Amen.

1. *Come and find the quiet center
In the crowded life we lead,
Find the room for hope to enter,
Find the frame where we are freed:
Clear the chaos and the clutter,
Clear our eyes, that we can see
All the things that really matter,
Be at peace, and simply be.*

2. *Silence is a friend who claims us,
Cools the heat and slows the pace,
God it is who speaks and names us,
Knows our being, face to face,
Making space within our thinking,
Lifting shades to show the sun,
Raising courage when we're shrinking,
Finding scope for faith begun.*

3. *In the Spirit let us travel,
Open to each other's pain,
Let our loves and fears unravel,
Celebrate the space we gain:
There's a place for deepest dreaming,
There's a time for heart to care,
In the spirit's lively scheming
There is always room to spare!*

Prayer Seeking reconciliation

God of mercy,

We place our trust in tangible things –

Things we can see and touch –

And question whether you are really there.

Forgive us, Holy One,

When we fail to recognize

That you are always nearby,

Patiently waiting for us to recognize

Your presence and your glory.

Help us when we lose our way,

And forgive us when we forget

To whom we truly belong.

Lover of justice,

Open our eyes to see you;

Open our ears to hear you;

Open our hearts to love you;

And open our hands to serve you.

(time of silence to offer personal prayers)

Affirmation of Forgiveness

Sung Response: MV#95 How Deep the Peace *^*

*How deep the peace, the confidence,
of those whose wrongs are forgiven.*

*How deep the peace, the confidence,
of those whose hearts are healed.*

Sharing the Story –

Hymn: MV#183 I'm Gonna Shout ***

1. *I'm gonna shout, shout, shout out my love for Jesus, for Jesus!
I'm gonna shout, shout, shout out my love for God's most holy
child!
For whatever I might do today,
at home, at school, at work, at play,
I've got Jesus' love
deep down inside of me!*
2. *I'm gonna raise, raise, raise up my hands for Jesus, for Jesus!
I'm gonna raise, raise, raise up my hands for God's most holy
child!
For whatever I might do today,
at home, at school, at work, at play,
I've got Jesus' love
deep down inside of me!*
3. *I'm gonna jump, jump, jump all around
for Jesus, for Jesus!
I'm gonna jump, jump, jump all around
for God's most holy child!
For whatever I might do today,
at home, at school, at work, at play,
I've got Jesus' love
deep down inside of me!*

WE LISTEN

Scripture: Exodus 33: 12-23
Matthew 22: 15-22

Reflection

Special Music: A Loving Heart

(Sung by Pam Norman, Christa Eidsness,
Nancy Toppings, Barb Flaten-Orr)

A Loving Heart

By Timothy G. Bushong

A Loving heart is kind and patient.
It will not boast or envy be.
It will bear all things without complaint,
For it endures, hopes, and believes.

Though I may speak with sound of angels,
And if I give all that I possess,
Without love I am as a sounding gong.
I have no gain, but the gift of love.

Love never ends, love is forever.
Though mortal flesh may soon be gone,
And all the stars fall from the heavens,
Love never ends, it will love on.

To live in faith, is to live in God's pure light,
And all who hope will not be denied.
But to love is to touch the face of God
And taste of heaven, here in this life.

Faith and hope and love abide, these three
And still the best of all is love,
The best of all is a loving heart.

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

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

Hymn: VU#326 O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing ****

1. *O for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of God's grace.*
2. *Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears,
'tis life and health and peace.*
3. *He speaks, and listening to his voice,
new life the dead receive,
the mournful broken-hearts rejoice,
the humble poor believe.*
4. *Hear him, you deaf; you voiceless ones,
your tongues again employ;
you blind, behold your Saviour comes,
and leap, you lame, for joy!*

5. *My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honours of your name.*

Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude



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