

Sunset United Church

October 27, 2019

Minister: Rev. Tricia Gerhard

Children & Youth Minister: Michelle McConkey

Choir Director: Nancy Edwards

Pianists: Shirley Hill

Guest Worship Leader: Rev. Bev Diduck



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

WE GATHER

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Opening Hymn: MV#21 Open Our Hearts

Lighting the Christ Candle

In the dawn's cool glow, in the bright of the day,
In the evening's painted sky, in night time's starry
dark...



**The Christ Light shines, Made bright by God's love
for all**

Introduction to a Song of Faith

Call to Worship - God is Holy Mystery

God is Holy Mystery, beyond complete knowledge, above
perfect description.

Yet, in love, the one eternal God seeks relationship.
So God creates the universe
and with it the possibility of being and relating.
God tends the universe,
mending the broken and reconciling the estranged.
God enlivens the universe,
guiding all things toward harmony with their Source.
Grateful for God's loving action,
We cannot keep from singing.

God, the Creator: Part 1

Hymn / Prayer: VU#268 Bring Many Names (*v 1 – 5*)

Learning Together

God, The Creator: Part 2

Hymn: MV #145 Draw the Circle (*chorus, verse 2 & chorus*)

Litany of Lament and Repentance

Made in the image of God,
we yearn for the fulfillment that is life in God.

Yet we choose to turn away from God.

We surrender ourselves to sin,
a disposition revealed in selfishness, cowardice, or apathy.

**Becoming bound and complacent
in a web of false desires and wrong choices,
we bring harm to ourselves and others.**

This brokenness in human life and community
is an outcome of sin.

**Sin is not only personal
but accumulates
to become habitual and systemic forms
of injustice, violence, and hatred.**

We are all touched by this brokenness:
the rise of selfish individualism
that erodes human solidarity;
 **the concentration of wealth and power
 without regard for the needs of all;**
the toxins of religious and ethnic bigotry;
the degradation of the blessedness of human bodies
and human passions through sexual exploitation;
 **the delusion of unchecked progress and limitless
 growth
 that threatens our home, the earth;**
the covert despair that lulls many into numb complicity
with empires and systems of domination.
 We sing lament and repentance.
 - Silent reflection -

Words of Assurance

Sung Response: MV#90 Don't Be Afraid

God, the Holy Spirit

WE LISTEN

Anthem: Every Time I Feel the Spirit

Sharing the Story

Hymn: VU#575 I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me
(v. 1 & 4)

Introduction to Scripture

Scripture: Luke 18: 9-14 The Pharisee and the tax collector
go to pray.

God Incarnate: Part 1

Hymn: VU #958 Halle, Halle, Halle

God Incarnate: Part 2

The Church:

WE RESPOND

Offering Collection and Dedication

Words of Dedication of Offering: (*unison*)

We sing of God's good news lived out,
a church with purpose:
faith nurtured and hearts comforted,
gifts shared for the good of all,
resistance to the forces that exploit and marginalize,
fierce love in the face of violence,
human dignity defended,
members of a community held and inspired by God,
corrected and comforted,
instrument of the loving Spirit of Christ,
creation's mending.
We sing of God's mission.

Offeratory Response:

MV#191 What Can I Do? (*chorus*)

Affirmation of the Ministry of The Whole People of God:

Prayer (*unison*)

We place our hope in God.

We sing of a life beyond life

and a future good beyond imagining:

a new heaven and a new earth,

the end of sorrow, pain, and tears,

Christ's return and life with God,

the making new of all things.

We yearn for the coming of that future,

even while participating in eternal life now.

Hymn: "A Song of Faith" © John W. Burton, 2006 (words)

VU # 716 My Life Flows On (tune)

Prayers of the Community & The Lord's Prayer (*sung*)

Commissioning

Benediction

Choral Response: MV#209 Go Make a Difference (chorus)