



Sunset United Church

September 26, 2021 - Proper 21C



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

WE GATHER

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Centering Music

Opening Hymn: MV#21 Open Our Hearts¹

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.

Lighting the Christ and Affirming Candles²

The light of the Christ Candle and the Affirming candles have been a constant presence in our remote worship. They affirmed that no matter where we worship the presence of Christ is with us, and that we are continually called to be the beacons of inclusion and welcome no matter where we are. The light of these two candles today continue to remind us that no matter where we worship, here in this space or at home, Christ is with us bidding us welcome and

offering radical love. May we continue to know this truth.
Amen

Call to Worship²

Blessed be God, the maker of heaven and earth!

Praise be to God, the Giver of many gifts!

Our help is in God's name, the One who calls us here.

We come with songs of praise,

With prayers too deep for words.

Blessed be God, the maker of heaven and earth!

Blessed be God!

Opening Prayer²

Holy One,

We come into your presence

From different places,

And in different places.

We come with songs of joy

And shouts of gratitude.

We come carrying heavy burdens

And sighs of suffering.

As you welcome us into this time,

Lift our burdens

And receive our praise.

Salt us with your grace

And favour us with your love.

Bind us together

That we may be at peace with one another

And be strengthened to go forth

In service to the world.

In your loving name, we pray. Amen.

Hymn: VU#409 Morning Has Broken³

Morning has broken like the first morning,
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,
Like the first dew fall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
Sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.

Ours is the sunlight! Ours is the morning
Born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's recreation of the new day!

Prayer Seeking Reconciliation⁴

Gracious God,
We offer you our soft selves,
Honestly and timidly,
Knowing you are a good and loving God.
It can be scary
To name the hurt that has been done to us
And the hurt we've done to others.
But we know there is new life for us
Beyond our cuts and bruises.
We know there is restoration for us
In our relationships with you
And the rest of our human family.
Take our insecurities and fears,
Which drive us to hurt ourselves and others,

Take them and transform them into
The seeds of our compassion.
Cultivate in us your new life.
Amen.

Words of Assurance

Sharing the Story

Hymn: MV#104 Know That God is Good⁵

Know that God is good, know that God is good,
Know that God is good, God is good, God is good.

WE LISTEN

Scripture: Esther 7: 1-6, 9-10; 9: 20-22

Special Music

Reflection

Hymn: VU#652 Be Still My Soul⁶

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.

Offering Blessing

Prayers of the People:

The Lord's Prayer

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, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Hymn: VU#427 To Show by Touch and Word⁷

To show by touch and word
devotion to the earth,
to hold in full regard
all life that comes to birth,
we need, O God, the will to find
the good you had of old in mind.

Renew our minds to choose
the things that matter most,
our hearts to long for truth
till pride of self is lost.
For every challenge that we face
we need your guidance and your grace.

Let love from day to day
be yardstick, rule, and norm,
and let our lives portray
your word in human form.
Now come with us that we may have
your wits about us where we live.

Benediction
Amen

Postlude



Thankyou

to our Worship Hosts from House Group 11:

September 19th - Jean Cameron, Brent Hamilton and
Susan Cameron

September 26th - Keith and Marlene Schneider



Minister: Rev. Tricia Gerhard (she/her)

Children & Youth Minister: Michelle McConkey (she/her)

Choir Director: Corinne Groff (she/her)

Pianist: Shirley Hill (she/her)



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⁴ Prayer written by Selina Mullen. Found in Gathering: Pentecost 2 2021 (Year B) Prayers for Worship, page 33. Used with permission.

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