

Sunset United Church



September 27, 2020 – Proper 21

Minister: Rev. Tricia Gerhard

Children & Youth Minister: Michelle McConkey

Choir Director: Corinne Groff

Pianist: Shirley Hill

Reader: Karen Cartmell

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:

The Christ candle is lit,

But what does it mean? Why have we gathered?

The Christ candle is lit,

But does it touch our hearts?

Why do we keep gathering?

The Christ candle is lit,

But does it change anything?

It's a light that flickers.

It's small and seemingly insignificant.

It's made of ordinary material.

It's rather unremarkable.
Yet, still, it speaks to us of Christ
And Christ's presence here.

Hymn: MV#130 Rise Up, Rise Up

*

*Rise up, rise up, rise up, O my soul.
Rise up and sing this blessing to God's name.
Rise up, rise up, rise up, O my soul.
Rise up and sing this blessing to God's name.*

Call to Worship:

Opening Prayer

Gracious One, in joy and in sorrow,
We gather.

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 in prayer.

We come to be with our community,

Nurtured by our connection with others in faith.

We come for the illumination of ancient wisdom

And for the revelation of present insight.

No matter what, we worship...

Amen.

Hymn: MV#3 River

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1. *River, rush-a-down to the ocean blue,
River from a mountain high.
River, as you do what rivers do,
River, draw the Spirit nigh.*

2. *Spirit, come-a-down to the riverside,
Spirit, spark of wondrous thought.
Spirit, I am free for you to guide,
Spirit I pray that I be taught!*

3. *Water, let me drink of your healing pow'r,
Water, strength and life you give.
Water, as I travel with each hour,
Water, help my body live.*

4. *River, flow-a-down where you ran before,
River, source of clearer view.
River, as I walk your rocky shore,
River, see my journey through.*

Prayer Seeking reconciliation

God of Living Water, you call us to come and drink.

**So why do we sit here and complain that there is not
enough water?**

You call us to strike the rocks of our world and let your Living
Water flow.

But we do not trust enough that the spring is there.

**We want to find the water on our own, using our own
wisdom.**

You call us to share the Water of Life with the world around
us

**But we believe that the water is limited,
Not abundant and so we are tempted to save
it for ourselves.**

For all the times we turn away from your Water,
For all the times we sully the Water by misusing it,
For all the times we let others go thirsty instead of
offering a drink.

Forgive us we pray.

(time of silence to offer personal prayers)

Affirmation of Forgiveness

The Water of life flows with abundance to fill us with hope, to cleanse us of our guilt, to float us to a new life. Drink deep of the living Water, and know that you are loved and cherished.

Thanks and praise to God. Amen.

Sung Response: MV#99 Stand, O Stand Firm

*Stand, O stand firm,
Stand, O stand firm,
Stand, O stand firm
And see what our God can do.*

Sharing the Story

Hymn: VU#575 I'm Gonna Live So

- 1. I'm gonna live so God can use me,
Anywhere, Lord, anytime.
I'm gonna live so God can use me,
Anywhere, Lord, anytime.*
- 2. I'm gonna work so God can use me,
Anywhere, Lord, anytime.
I'm work live so God can use me,
Anywhere, Lord, anytime.*

3. *I'm gonna pray so God can use me,
Anywhere, Lord, anytime.
I'm gonna pray so God can use me,
Anywhere, Lord, anytime.*

4. *I'm gonna sing so God can use me,
Anywhere, Lord, anytime.
I'm gonna sing so God can use me,
Anywhere, Lord, anytime.*

WE LISTEN

Scripture: Exodus 17:1-17

Reflection:

Special Music

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

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

Hymn: VU#690 From the Slave Pens of the Delta *^

1. *“From the slave pens of the delta,
From the ghettos on the Nile,
Let my people seek their freedom
In the wilderness a while”:
So God spoke from out of Sinai,
So God spoke and it was done,
And a people crossed the waters
Toward the rising of the sun.*

2. *“From the aging shrines and structures,
From the cloister and the aisle,
Let my people seek their freedom,
In the wilderness a while”:
So the Son of God has spoken,
And the storm clouds are unfurled
For his people must be scattered
To be servants in the world.*

3. *When we murmur on the mountains
For the old Egyptians plains,
When we miss our ancient bondage
And the hope, the promise, wanes,
The rock shall yield its water
And the manna fall by night,
And with visions of a future,
Shall we march toward the light.*

4. *In the maelstrom of the nations,
In the journey into space
In the clash of generations,
In the hungering for grace,
In our agony and glory,
We are called to newer ways
By the God of our tomorrows
Who is God of earth’s todays.*

Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude



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