

CHALMERS UNITED CHURCH

The United Church of Canada



10:00am AUGUST 7, 2022

Guest Speaker: Marguerite Van Die

"A Watershed Moment"

Covid Precautions

1. Self-screening guidelines: If you have Covid symptoms or are isolating due to close contact, you should not attend in person. Services are also live-streamed.
2. Masking is encouraged but no longer mandatory. Many will still choose to remain masked for their own or for other's safety. We welcome this choice and urge everyone to respect individuals' choices - each according to their own personal situations.
3. Social distancing still continues in the sanctuary and in MacCallum Hall.

Bold Text indicates the parts that everyone reads together

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Prelude on Hymn Tune, Ellers - Healey Willan
("Saviour again to thy dear name we raise" VU #426)

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

Since time immemorial, Indigenous peoples have occupied and cared for this land. In acknowledging this land, the traditional home of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee, we seek to rebuild right relations with First Nations, Metis and Inuit peoples, to learn from them, and to live on this land with respect and gratitude for its bounty.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

We light this candle to remind us that Christ is the light of the world and is present in our midst.

CENTERING PRAYER

God of Love, we come together on this beautiful summer day to be in your presence, to feel you around us and within us.
Help us to connect with the divine that permeates our very being and that we still often can't grasp as we go through our daily struggles. Let us be open to receive your truth and your closeness. Help us to see the divine in each person, even in the those who seem to be very different from us, just as you have taught us through Jesus the Christ. **Amen.**

HYMN VU 242 *Let All Things Now Living*

1 Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
to God our Creator triumphantly raise;
who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
by guiding us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us, pure light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night;
till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,
as forward we travel from light into Light.

2 By law God enforces, the stars in their courses
and sun in its orbit obediently shine;
the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
the depths of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We, too, should be voicing our love and rejoicing;
with glad adoration a song let us raise:
till all things now living unite in thanksgiving,
to God in the highest, hosanna and praise.

Words: Katherine K. Davis 1939, alt © 1939, 1966 E. C. Shirmer Music Co.
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WE ENGAGE WITH GOD

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy One, Sacred Mystery, greater than words can express;
whose love for us and all creation exceeds our capacity to imagine,
open our hearts and minds. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Acts 1: 1 - 18

Linda Steinberg

Psalm 148 (page 871) (*sung*)

Anja Troje

**Refrain: Let the whole creation cry,
"Glory be to God on high."**

Praise God from the heavens; give praise in the heights!
Give praise, all you angels; praise God, all you hosts!

**Praise God, sun and moon; give praise, stars and lights!
Praise God, farthest heavens,
and all waters beyond heaven! R**

Let all things praise the Holy One
at whose command they were created,
who established them for all time,
setting bounds, which cannot be passed.

**Praise God from the earth,
great sea creatures and ocean depths,
lightning and hail, snow and frost,
gales that obey God's decree**

all mountains and hills, all fruit trees and cedars,
wild animals and cattle, creatures winged and earth-bound,

**sovereigns who rule earth and its people,
all who govern and judge this world,
young men and women alike,
old people and children together! R**

Let all things praise the name of God,
the name above every other,
whose splendour covers heaven and earth.

**You give strength to your people,
songs of praise to your faithful,
to Israel, the people dear to your heart. R**

Words: Jakob Hintze 1678, harm. J.S. Bach as in Hymns Ancient and Modern 1864
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Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
Thanks be to God.

HYMN VU 606 *In Christ There is No East or West* alt. tune: St. Peter
#344

1 In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north,
but one great family of love
throughout the whole wide earth.

2 In him shall true hearts everywhere
their high communion find;
his service is the golden cord
close binding humankind.

3 Join hands, then, peoples of the faith,
whate'er your race may be;
all children of the living God
are surely kin to me.

4 In Christ now meet both east and west,
in him meet south and north:
all Christ-like souls are one in him
throughout the whole wide earth.

Words: John Oxenham 1908, alt.

Music: African-American spiritual, adap., harm. Harry T. Burleigh 1939
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SERMON
A Watershed Moment

Marguerite Van Die

HYMN VU 679 *Let There Be Light*

v. 1-3; 5 6

- 1 Let there be light,
let there be understanding.
let all the nations gather,
let them be face to face;
- 2 open our lips,
open our minds to ponder,
open the door of concord
opening into grace;
- 3 perish the sword,
perish the angry judgement,
perish the bombs and hunger,
perish the fight for gain;
- 5 your kingdom come,
your spirit turn to language,
your people speak together,
Your spirit never fade;
- 6 let there be light;
open your hearts to wonder,
perish the way of terror,
hallow the world God made.

Words: Francis Wheeler Davis 1968

Music: Robert J.B. Fleming 1967 © 1968 Hope Pub. desc ©1987 Songs for a Gospel
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OFFERTORY ANNOUNCEMENT

DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING

DOXOLOGY

HYMN VU 541 *Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures high and low;
give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word, and Spirit, One.

Words: Thomas Ken ca. 1674 Music: Genevan Psalter 1551

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Anja Troje

Comforting and loving God, we ask that you open our hearts,
inviting us to be a compassionate people. Grant us the courage to
speak up when we see injustices in our lives and to listen deeply
when others are sharing their stories of pain. Help us to build
connection with all people, as we strive to overcome our own fears.
May the love of your Spirit fill our hearts and inspire us to action,
towards fostering justice in this, our ever-changing world.

LORD'S PRAYER

VU 916 *Prayer of Jesus, a Paraphrase*

Eternal Spirit, Earth Maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be.
Father and Mother of us all, loving God, in whom is heaven:
The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and forever. Amen.

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CELTIC BLESSING

unison

May the Christ who walks on wounded feet,
walk with you on the road.
May the Christ who serves with wounded hands,
stretch out your hands to serve.
May the Christ who loves with a wounded heart,
open up your hearts to love.
May you see the face of Christ in everyone you meet
and may everyone you meet see the face of Christ in you.

POSTLUDE

Andante quasi Allegretto - Gustav Merkel

Guest Speaker	PARTICIPANTS Marguerite Van Die is of Dutch immigrant background and a layperson, i.e. not ordained. She held a joint appointment in history at Queens's Theological College and the Queen's department of history until her retirement in 2011. From 1985 to 1991 she was a member of Chalmers and has since returned a few times to preach. Most recently her connection to Chalmers, Sydenham and Faith United has been through the Interfaith Refugee Partnership of which she is the co-ordinator. Currently she is a member of St. Mark's Lutheran church.
Co-Liturgist	Anja Troje, Linda Steinberg
Organist	Juliet Milsome
Readers	Linda Steinberg, Anja Troje
Media Techs	Brigitta Holzschuh, Dylan Lodge
Technical Chair	Nick Steinberg
Refreshments	Mary Davis Little, Wilma McColl

UPCOMING SERVICES

Summer Service Schedule. All services are at 10 am except Aug 21

- August 14: with Faith United Church in the Theatre Room LaSalle Secondary School
- August 21: with Faith United Church and the Ecumenical Group - service and picnic at Lake Ontario Park at **10:30am**
- August 28: with Faith United Church in the Theatre Room of LaSalle Secondary School

All Summer Services - including Chalmers - will begin at 10 am except Aug 21.

Chalmers: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUgl1tZaiRji18sFwj2P2Q>

Sydenham St: <https://youtube.com/user/SydenhamStreet>

Faith United: services will only be available live in person.



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The Rev. David King, Chalmers' Administrator

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The service will be available later online on Chalmers' YouTube channel link found on the Chalmers United Church, Kingston Home Page.

Bulletin Announcements: if you have announcements for the church bulletin or eblast, please send them in by end of day Monday for inclusion the following Sunday to: bulletin@chalmersunitedchurch.com