

CHALMERS UNITED CHURCH



SUNDAY, JAN. 29, 2023 10:30 AM

REV. DR. DON MISENER

"ANGER ENERGY AND NON-VIOLENT LOVE"

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 others' safety. We welcome this choice and urge everyone to respect individuals' choices - each according to their own personal situation.
3. Social distancing still continues in the sanctuary and MacCallum Hall.

Bold Text indicates the parts that everyone reads together.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Mannheim

(from 20 Hymn Tune preludes ed. C.S. Lang)

Lead us Heavenly Father Lead us o'er the World's Tempestuous Seas

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

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

All: May the life and words of Jesus enlighten us on our way.

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: This is no ordinary place

**All: This is the place where the prophets cry out
for peace and justice and righteousness.**

One: It is the place where God reaches down
into the corners of our lives
to offer us the mystery of holy love.

**All: This is no ordinary gathering
This is no ordinary place.
This is the house of God.**

CENTERING PRAYER

Wondrous God: You touch our lives with healing and with justice; new life is Your gift. We praise you for the liberating and empowering news of Jesus life and ministry. May this time of worship nourish us with Your promise of meaning and purpose. In the midst of experiences of injustice help us to assert our anger in ways that contribute to justice making. Empower us to carry your goodness into the coming week. This we pray in the name of Jesus our liberator and our source of sustaining grace.
Amen

HYMN VU 292 *Creating God, We Give You Thanks*

- 1** Creating God, we give you thanks
that this your world is incomplete;
that battle calls our marshalled ranks,
that work awaits our hands and feet.
- 2** You hast not finished woman, man,
for we are in the making still,
as friends who share the Maker's plan
as those who know your loving will.
- 3** Beyond the present sin and shame,
wrong's bitter, cruel, scorching blight,
we see the beckoning vision flame,
the blessed kingdom of the right.
- 4** What though the kingdom long delay,
and still with haughty foes must cope?
It gives us that for which to pray,
a field for toil and faith and hope.
- 5** Since what we choose is what we are,
and what we love we yet shall be,
the goal may ever shine afar,
the will to win it makes us free.

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A WORLD ENGAGED 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.**

READINGS

Psalm 5

responsive, VU page 728

HYMN VU pg 728

Refrain 2:

**Lead me, God, lead me in your righteousness;
make your way plain before my face.**

Listen to my words, O God,
give heed to the sound of my groaning.

**Hear my cry for help, my sovereign, my God,
for to you I direct my prayer.**

In the morning, God, you hear my voice;
**early in the morning I make my plea,
and look to you for an answer. R**

For you are not a God who takes pleasure in the wickedness;
no one who is evil can be your guest.

**The boastful may not stand in your sight;
you hate all those who work mischief.**

You destroy all those who speak lies;
**the bloodthirsty and treacherous,
O God, you abhor.**

But through the abundance of your steadfast love
I will come into your house,
and bow low in reverence within your holy temple.

**Lead me, O God, in your righteousness because of my enemies.
Make straight your way before my face. R**

**Let all who put their trust in you rejoice;
let them ever give thanks because you defend them;
let those who love your name be joyful in you.**

For you give your blessing to the righteous, O God;
as with a shield you will surround them with your favour. R

Luke 10: 25 - 37

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
Thanks be to God.

HYMN VU 510 *We Have This Ministry*

1 We have this ministry
And we are not discouraged;
It is by God's own power
that we may live and serve.
Openly we share God's word,
speaking truth as we believe,
praying that the shadowed world
may healing light receive.
We have this ministry, O God, receive our living.

2 O Christ, the tree of life,
Our end and our beginning,
we grow to fullest flower
when rooted in our love.
Brothers, sisters, clergy, lay,
called to service by your grace,
different cultures, different gifts,
the young and old a place.
We have this ministry, O God, receive our giving.

3 The yoke of Christ is ours,
The whole world is our parish;
We daily take the cross,
The burden and the joy.
Bearing hurts of those we serve,
Wounded, bruised and bowed with pain,
Holy Spirit, bread and wind,
We die and rise again.
We have this ministry, O God, receive our loving.

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SERMON

Rev. Dr. Don Misener

Anger Energy and Non-Violent Love

COMMITTING TO THE FUTURE

OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT

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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PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN VU 562 *Jesus Calls Us*

- 1 Jesus calls us, o'er the tumult
of our life's wild restless sea,
day by day his clear voice sounding,
saying, "Christian, follow me."
- 2 Long ago apostles heard it
by the Galilean lake,
turned from home and toil and kindred,
leaving all for Jesus' sake.
- 3 Jesus calls us from the worship
of the vain world's golden store,
from each idol that would keep us,
saying, "Christian, love me more."
- 4 In our joys and in our sorrows,
days of toil and hours of ease,
still he calls, in cares and pleasures,
"Christian, love me more than these."
- 5 Jesus calls us: by your mercies,
Saviour, may we hear your call,
give our hearts to your obedience,
serve and love you best of all.

Words: Cecil Frances Alexander 1852, alt. Music: William H. Jude 1874
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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Jupiter in the Clouds

(from early 19th century *Hornpipes*) arr. Robin Milford (1937)

THANK YOU FOR TALENTS SHARED

Minister

Rev Dr Don Misener

Born and raised on a farm near Brantford, Ontario in 1943 Don has ministered in a variety of settings including Kingston Pen, St Paul's Hospital and College of Emmanuel and St Chad in Saskatoon, Kingston Institute of Pastoral Care and congregations in eastern Ontario. In all of these settings he has taught a ministry of spiritual care. He is currently providing an interim pastoral care ministry to Chalmers shut ins and at Zion United Church. Don is married to Bonnie who has co-taught pastoral and spiritual care with him. They are parents of 3 boys and grandparents of 9.

Co-Liturgist

Janice Moncrieff

Reader

Gerald McGrath

Organist

Juliet Milsome

Hymn Singers

Members of Chalmers Choir

Media Techs

Brigitta Holzschuh, Aidan McClung

Refreshments

Bev Todd

Counters

Murray Anderson, Gerald McGrath

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Flowers in the sanctuary
are in loving memory of

Kathleen and Roy Spooner

from Rosalie and David Spooner and Family



"Anger is a source of my creativity. It's a vaccination against apathy and complacency. It is a gift that can be abused – or wisely used. Yes, it is a temptation, but also a resource and an opportunity... It's part of the gift of being human and alive."

- Brian McLaren

When love doubles victories

In an advent sermon aired on Christmas Eve, 1967, Martin Luther King Jr. remarked how happy he was that Jesus never said to like our enemies.

"I can't like anybody who would bomb my home, I can't like anybody who would exploit me, I can't like anybody who would trample over me with injustices, I can't like anybody who threatens to kill me day in and day out."

"But I can love them.

We will not only win freedom for ourselves through nonviolent love we will so appeal to the heart and mind of our enemies that we will win freedom for them and our victory will be a double victory."

Prayer to Expand our Love

We know what it is to put limits around our compassion when we become afraid.

We know what it is to not see an injustice when we are uncomfortable.

We know what it is to be like the religious folk in Jesus story who passed by on the other side of the wounded one. We know what it is to fear our anger and avoid expressing it.

Help us in our journey of faith to expand our love so that our victory can also be the victory of others.

Amen

After the service

you are invited to share in refreshments and conversation in MacCallum Hall.