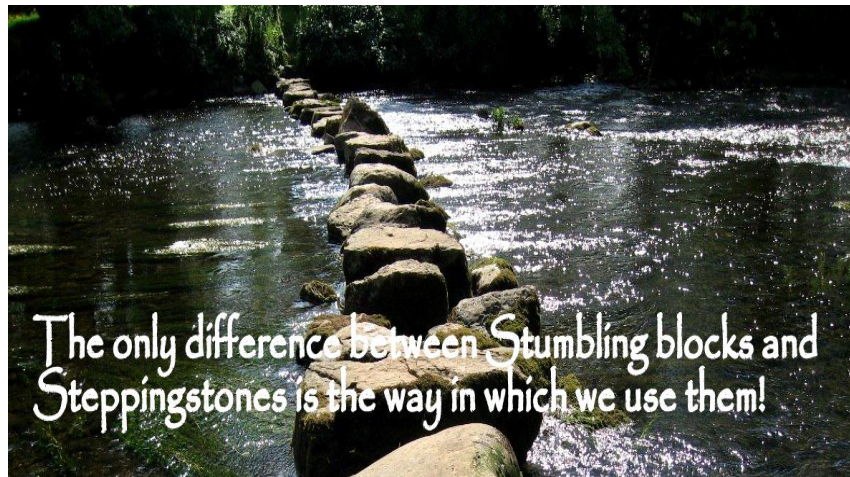


## CHALMERS UNITED CHURCH



10:30 AM

SUNDAY, SEPT. 3, 2023

REV. DR. NADENE GRIEVE-DESLIPPE

"FROM ROCK TO STUMBLING BLOCK"

### 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

*Arioso* (from Oboe Concerto) - J.S. Bach

### WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

The lands on which we are gathering today are the traditional territories of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee Peoples. We acknowledge their enduring presence on this land, as well as the presence of the Huron-Wendat, Metis, Inuit and other First Nations from across Turtle Island. We deeply respect the many generations of people who have cared for this land and whose spiritualities, teachings and ways of knowing are closely tied to it. We seek to build right relations with these Peoples, to learn from them and to live together on this land with respect and gratitude.

#### 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: To live a life of faithful service is demanding and sometimes confusing. Sometimes we understand the complexities and at other times we are stymied. In worship we seek the sustenance and encouragement to continue the journey.

**All: Like Peter, we are in constant need of clarification and patience. May God open our eyes a little wider and bow our heads a little lower in humility as we worship and as we live our calling.**

### CENTERING PRAYER

Holy One, we have gathered together to ponder your word, seeking affirmation and challenge; bless us with new eyes for seeing. Saving One, your words can sometimes pinch our souls as we ponder them; give us new ears for hearing. Present One, engage and enlighten us we seek truth and understanding; open our hearts. Holy One, Saving One, Present One, hear us as we humbly pray. Amen.

### HYMN VU 405 *New Every Morning is the Love*

- 1 New every morning is the love  
our wakening and uprising prove;  
through sleep and darkness safely brought,  
restored to life, and power, and thought.
- 2 New mercies each returning day  
hover around us while we pray;  
new perils past, new sins forgiven,  
new thoughts of God, new hopes of heaven.
- 3 If on our daily course our mind  
be set to hallow all we find,  
new treasures still of countless price  
God will provide for sacrifice.
- 4 The trivial round, the common task,  
will furnish all we ought to ask,  
room to deny ourselves, a road  
to bring us daily nearer God.
- 5 Only, O God, in your dear love  
fit us for perfect rest above;  
and help us, this and every day,  
to live more nearly as we pray.

Words: John Keble 1822 Music: Samuel Webbe 1782  
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## A WORLD ENGAGED WITH GOD

### A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**All:** 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.

### READING

Matthew 16: 21 - 28

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.**

**HYMN VU 561** *Take Up Your Cross, the Saviour said*

**1** Take up your cross, the Saviour said,  
if you would my disciple be;  
take up your cross with willing heart  
and humbly follow after me.

**2** Take up your cross; let not its weight  
fill your weak spirit with alarm;  
Christ's strength shall bear your spirit up,  
and brace your heart, and nerve your arm.

**3** Take up your cross, heed not the shame,  
nor let your foolish pride rebel;  
your Saviour once accepted death  
upon a cross, on Calvary's hill.

**4** Take up your cross, and follow Christ,  
think not till death to lay it down;  
for only those who bear the cross  
may hope to wear the glorious crown.

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**SERMON** Rev. Dr. Nadene Grieve-Deslippe

*From Rock to Stumbling Block*

## COMMITTING TO THE FUTURE

### OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT

#### DOXOLOGY

**HYMN VU 540** *Grant Us, God, the Grace*

Grant us, God, the grace of giving,  
with a spirit large and free,  
that ourselves and all our living  
we may offer faithfully.

Words: anonymous Music: attrib. Christian F. Witt, Psalmodia  
ASacra1713, adapt. Henry John Gauntlett 1861  
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#### PASTORAL PRAYER

##### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**All:** 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 595** *We are Pilgrims (The Servant Song)*

**1** We are pilgrims on a journey,  
Fellow travellers on the road;  
We are here to help each other  
Walk the mile and bear the load.

**2** Sister, let me be your servant,  
Let me be as Christ to you;  
Pray that I may have the grace to  
Let you be my servant too.

**3** I will hold the Christ-light for you  
In the night-time of your fear;  
I will hold my hand out to you,  
Speak the peace you long to hear.

4 I will weep when you are weeping,  
When you laugh I'll laugh with you;  
I will share your joy and sorrow,  
Till we've seen this journey through.

5 When we sing to God in heaven,  
We shall find such harmony,  
Born of all we've known together  
Of Christ's love and agony.

6 Brother, let me be your servant,  
Let me be as Christ to you;  
Pray that I may have the grace to  
Let you be my servant too.

Words: and Music: Richard Gillard, 1977, arr. Betty Pulkingham  
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#### **BENEDICTION**

One: Go into the world to bless and be blessed by faith, courage  
and understanding. Be kind to yourself when you get it right  
and kinder to yourself when you misstep.

All: **God is slow to anger and quick to bless. Open our eyes,  
ears and hearts to deeper awareness. Amen.**

#### **POSTLUDE**

*Fantasia on Laudes Domini (When Morning Gilds the Sky, VU #339)*

tune: Joseph Barnby, arr.: Roger C. Wilson

## THANK YOU FOR TALENTS SHARED

### **Minister**

#### **Rev. Dr. Nadene Grieve-Deslippe**

Nadene was born and raised in Hamilton. She did her undergraduate work at McMaster and studied theology at Queen's. She completed a Doctor of Ministry at McMaster Divinity College. She has served pastorates in Manitoba and Eastern Ontario and retired on September 30, 2020 from Cooke's-Portsmouth Church, Kingston. She is married to Michael and they have three living daughters and are proud grandparents to three grandchildren.

### **Reader**

Monika Holzschuh

### **Co-Liturgist**

Linda Steinberg

### **Organist**

Juliet Milsome

### **Media Techs**

Brigitta Holzschuh, Aidan McClung

### **Refreshments**

Heather Faris, Monika Holzschuh

**After the service** you are invited to share in refreshments and fellowship in MacCallum Hall.



**To submit materials for the bulletin** please use:  
bulletin@chalmersunitedchurch.com and Linda  
Steinberg hpsesp14@gmail.com.  
Please send announcements by end of day Monday,  
or late editions by end of day Tuesday for inclusion  
the following Sunday.

**At 10:30 join us in person at Chalmers or watch  
live-streamed** on Chalmers' YouTube channel. The  
service will also be posted later to the same channel.  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUgl1tZaiRji18sFwj2P2Q>

The link for Chalmers YouTube channel can also be  
found on the home page of the Chalmers website  
[www.chalmersunitedchurch.org](http://www.chalmersunitedchurch.org)

**After the service,** you are invited to share  
refreshments and conversation.

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