

Bold Text *indicates the parts that everyone reads together.*

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Prelude - Henry Coleman (1888-1965)

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: Light comes and shines through the darkness.
Christ is present among us and lightens our way.
In the glory of God's perpetual light, let us be as Christ-light to each other.

HYMN VU 37 *Gloria*

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!

Music: trad. Liturgical setting Music: Jacques Berthier, arr. Darryl Nixon 1987
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CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We are invited to walk with God.
We are welcomed by God as people of the covenant.
All: How awesome to stand in the presence of our Creator!
We bring our praise to glorify God.
One: God calls us by name.
We are summoned to be faithful and fruitful.
All: God not only speaks to us but also listens.
God hears our cries and reaches out to meet our needs.
One: Let the ends of the earth remember and turn to God.
Let the families of all nations extol our Creator.
All: We will pay our vows to the One who calls us.
We praise the God of all nations and all peoples.

CENTERING PRAYER

All: In trust and confidence, we call on your name, O God, eager to know you more fully and serve you more faithfully. We have heard your amazing promises in times past. We seek your word for us in our day; for we want to grow strong in our faith. As people of faith in every age have given glory and praise, we gather to do the same. As they passed on their knowledge of faith to new generations, we seek to teach and live in such a way that our children and their children will be drawn to give and serve also in your name. Amen.

HYMN VU 312 *Praise with Joy the World's Creator*

1 Praise with joy the world's Creator,
God of justice, love, and peace,
source and end of human knowledge,
God whose grace shall never cease.
Celebrate the Maker's glory,
power to rescue and release.

2 Praise to Christ who feeds the hungry,
frees the captive, finds the lost.
heals the sick, upsets religion,
fearless both of fate and cost.
Celebrate Christ's constant presence:
friend and stranger, guest and host.

3 Praise the Spirit sent among us,
liberating truth from pride,
forging bonds where race or gender,
age or nation dare divide.
Celebrate the Spirit's treasure:
foolishness none dare deride.

4 Praise the Maker, Christ, and Spirit,
one God in community,
calling Christians to embody
oneness and diversity.
This the world shall see reflected:
God is One and One in Three.

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A WORLD ENGAGED WITH GOD

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

All: God of earth and heaven you call us to risk-taking service. We dare to listen to your call, knowing that it may draw us out of step with the expectations of our culture, realizing that you may lead us away from our dependence on things we have accumulated. We take that risk longing for the day when all the families of the nations should come and worship before you. Amen.

READING

Psalm 22: 23 - 31

VU pg. 746

Refrain:

sung

**In the presence of your people
I will praise your name.**

Give praise, all who fear God!
Proclaim God's greatness, all you children of Jacob;
stand in awe, all you children of Israel!
For God has neither despised
nor scorned the poor in their distress.
**You, O God, have not hidden your face from them.
You heard them when they called to you. R**
You are the theme of my praise in the great assembly.
**I will keep my promise in the presence
of those who fear you.**

Let the poor eat to satisfaction;
let those who seek you praise you.
May they be in good heart forever!
Let all the ends of the earth remember and turn to you, O God.
Let all the families of the nations bow down before you.
For yours is the dominion, O God, you rule over the nations. R
Even all who sleep in the grave shall worship you;
those who go down into the dust shall bow before you.
I too shall live for you.
Our children shall serve you,
and tell generations yet to come about you.
**To a people yet unborn,
they shall make known the saving deeds you have done. R**

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Mark 8: 31 - 38

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

HYMN MV 120 *My Soul Cries Out*

1 My soul cries out with a joyful shout
that the God of my heart is great,
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things
that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on our servant's plight,
and my weakness you did not spurn,
so from east to west shall my name be blest,
could the world be about to turn? **R**

Refrain:

**My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn!**

2 Though I am small, my God, my all,
you work great things in me,
and your mercy will last from the depths of the past
to the end of the age to be.
Your very names put the proud to shame,
and to those who would for you yearn,
you will show your might, put the strong to flight,
for the world is about to turn. **R**

3 From the halls of power to the fortress tower,
not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears
every tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more,
for the food they can never earn;
there are tables spread, every mouth be fed,
for the world is about to turn. **R**

4 Though the nations rage from age to age,
we remember who holds us fast;
God's mercy must deliver us
from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that forebears heard
is the promise which holds us bound,
'til the spear and rod can be crushed by God,
who is turning the world around. **R**

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SERMON

Startling Discovery

Rev. Ian Mackay

COMMITTING TO THE FUTURE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY DEDICATION

tune Melita #322

We'll set our minds on following
the saviour, through whose suffering,
we learn the love you seek to teach
with deeds, not just through easy speech.
no longer swayed by fears of loss,
for Christ, we dare to risk the cross.

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread,
forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
Send us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory
are yours forever now and forever. Amen.**

HYMN VU 694 *To Us All, to Every Nation*

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1 To us all, to every nation
comes a moment to decide;
in the strife of truth with falsehood
for the good or evil side,
some great cause,
some modern prophet
offering each the bloom or blight,
and the choice goes by for ever
'twixt that darkness and that light.</p> <p>2 Then to side with truth is noble
when we share its wretched crust,
ere the cause bring fame and profit
and 'tis prosperous to be just.
Then it is the brave one chooses,
while the coward stands aside
till the multitude make virtue
of the faith they had denied.</p> | <p>3 By the light of burning martyrs,
Jesus' bleeding feet we track,
toiling up new Calvaries ever
with the cross that turns not back;
new occasions teach new duties.
time makes ancient good uncouth:
they must upward still and onward,
who would keep abreast of truth.</p> <p>4 Though the cause of evil prosper,
yet 'tis truth alone is strong,
though its portion be the scaffold
and upon the throne be wrong.
Yet that scaffold sways the future,
and, behind the dim unknown,
there stands God within the shadow
keeping watch above God's own</p> |
|---|---|

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COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICT

CHORAL BENEDICTION

HYMN *Go Now in Peace*

Go now in peace, never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know He will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there, watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.

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POSTLUDE

Fughetta in E flat - Josef Rheinberger (1839-1901)

THANK YOU FOR TALENTS SHARED

Minister **Rev. Ian R. Mackay** has been an ordained Minister of the United Church for 50 years having served pastorates in northern Manitoba (Flin Flon), south-western Ontario (London and Chatham), eastern Ontario (Edith Rankin Memorial, 1983-1993) and Montreal (St. Lambert, 1994-2010). In their retirement years, he and his wife, Jane live near Verona where they regularly attend and offer services to Trinity United Church. They have 3 sons and 3 grandchildren. Two of the families live on the west coast, in the Seattle area and in New Westminster, and their youngest son lives in Halifax. This alone can keep them active, travelling to both sides of the country! They also enjoy cycling, but only for much shorter distances and close to home!

Co-Liturgist	Linda Steinberg
Organist	Juliet Milsome
Hymn Singers	Members of Chalmers Choir
Reader	David Spooner
Media Techs	Brigitta Holzschuh, Aidan McClung
Refreshments	David Spooner
Counter	Nick Steinberg
After the service	you are invited to share in refreshments and fellowship in MacCallum Hall

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