



# Sunset United Church

March 19, 2023



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*Sunset United, located on Treaty 4 Territory,  
is an Affirming community of faith.  
All are welcome here.*

## Welcome & Announcements

## Centering Time

## Call to Worship and Opening Prayer

One: May the love of God be with you all!

**All: And also with you!**

One: Come and see what is happening!

**All: God's realm is becoming a reality!**

One: Come, see without eyes;

**All: We see with our faith, a new wisdom spoken by  
Christ, a new world created by grace!**

One: Come and see what others cannot!

**All: Siblings welcomed for who they authentically are,  
Love shown in word and action,  
And all people invited to join in the choir of God!**

One: Let us pray:

**All: Holy Spirit of all creation, we enter this time of  
worship to participate in all that you are doing. We  
celebrate this community. We sing songs of praise.  
We share prayers of yearning, and we pledge to  
carry Christ's light so all can see the birth of your  
realm!**

**We pray to you who is our mother and 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, the power and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

**Hymn MV#144 Like a Healing Stream<sup>1</sup>**

**Like a healing stream in a barren desert,  
Spirit water bringing life to dusty earth,  
God is trickling through our lives as in a dream unfolding,  
promising revival and rebirth...like a healing stream.**

**Like a gentle rain on a thirsty garden,  
Spirit water come to nourish tiny seed,  
God is bubbling through the soil to coax a new creation,  
yearning for an end to want and need... like a gentle rain.**

**Like a river strong with a restless current,  
Spirit water rushing on to distant shore,  
God is carving out a channel in a new direction,  
calling for an end to hate and war...like a river strong.**

**Like a mighty sea reaching far horizons,  
Spirit water with a love both deep and wide,  
God is working in our hearts to shape a new tomorrow:  
God will always challenge and provide!  
Like a mighty sea, like a river strong,  
like a gentle rain, like a healing stream.**

**Theme Time**

**Anthem**

**Message Act 1 – John 9:1-7**

**Hymn VU#371 Open My Eyes, That I May See**

**Open my eyes, that I may see  
glimpses of truth thou hast for me;  
place in my hands the wonderful key  
that shall unclasp and set me free.  
Silently now I wait for thee,  
ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!  
Open my ears, that I may hear**

voices of truth thou sendest clear;  
and while the wavenotes fall on my ear,  
everything false will disappear.  
Silently now I wait for thee,  
ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my mouth, and let me bear  
gladly the warm truth everywhere;  
open my heart and let me prepare  
love with thy children thus to share.  
Silently now I wait for thee,  
ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!

**Message** Act 2 – John 9:8-34

**Hymn** MV#157 I Am a Child of God<sup>2</sup>

I am a child of God,  
I am a glimpse  
of God's new creation.  
I am a child of God,  
I am a child of God.

I am an endless prayer,  
I am a yearning  
for contemplation.  
I am an endless prayer,  
I am an endless prayer.

I am an angry voice,  
I am compassion  
and consternation.  
I am an angry voice,  
I am an angry voice.

I am a cry for peace,  
I am commitment  
and dedication.  
I am a cry for peace,

**I am a cry for peace.**

**I am a song of joy,  
I am the moment  
of jubilation.**

**I am a song of joy,  
I am a song of joy.**

**Message** Act 3 – John 9:35-41

**Hymn** VU#619 Healer of Our Every Ill<sup>3</sup>

*Refrain* **Healer of our every ill,  
light of each tomorrow,  
give us peace beyond our fear,  
and hope beyond our sorrow.**

**You who know our fears and sadness,  
grace us with your peace and gladness.  
Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts.**

*Refrain*

**In the pain and joy beholding,  
how your grace is still unfolding.  
Give us all your vision, God of love.**

*Refrain*

**Give us strength to love each other,  
every sister, every brother.  
Spirit of all kindness, be our guide.**

*Refrain*

**You who know each thought and feeling,  
teach us all your way of healing.  
Spirit of compassion, fill each heart.**

*Refrain*

**Minute for Mission**

**Response 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.

## Prayers for the World

Hymn VU#684 Make Me a Channel of Your Peace<sup>4</sup>

**Make me a channel of your peace:  
where there is hatred, let me bring your love;  
where there is injury, your healing power,  
and where there's doubt, true faith in you:**

**Make me a channel of your peace:  
where there's despair in life, let me bring hope;  
where there is darkness, only light;  
and where there's sadness, ever joy.**

**O Spirit, grant that I may never seek  
so much to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood as to understand,  
to be loved as to love with all my soul.**

**Make me a channel of your peace.  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
in giving to all that we receive,  
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.**

## Blessing and Sending



**Minister:** Rev. Jim Tenford (he/him)

**Children & Youth Minister:** Michelle McConkey (she/her)

**Choir Director:** Corinne Groff (she/her)      **Pianist:** Shirley Hill (she/her)



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