



Sunset United Church

March 26, 2023



*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: The winds of God flow over the earth,

All: Spirit touching every rock, mountain, tree, and sea.

One: God's creative energy brings life,

All: Every creature that swims, flies, slithers, crawls, or walks, is a part of God's craft

One: The winds of God blow through our souls

**All: Causing hardened hearts to love,
Opening closed minds to see new possibility,
Turning stranger into friend,
And calling all to participate in what God is doing!**

One: Let us pray:

All: Gracious God, we come together as people of your spirit. We are different in personality, in background, in age, and in status, but we worship as one. We have different needs, different fears, and different hopes, but we know that God is here for us. We are aware of crying injustice, unequal wealth, and loneliness, but we are determined to be your workers for good. We are different in faith, in church background, in spiritual gift, but we find inspiration in Jesus, the Holy One who taught us to 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 VU#703 In the Bulb There Is a Flower¹

**In the bulb there is a flower;
in the seed, an apple tree;
in cocoons, a hidden promise:
butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter
there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.**

**There's a song in every silence,
seeking word and melody;
there's a dawn in every darkness,
bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future;
what it holds, a mystery,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.**

**In our end is our beginning;
in our time, infinity;
in our doubt there is believing;
in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection;
at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.**

Theme Time

Anthem

Scripture Reading Ezekiel 37:1-14

Hymn VU#381 Spirit of Life²

**Spirit of Life, come unto me.
Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.
Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;
move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.
Roots hold me close; wings set me free;
Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.**

Message

Hymn VU#380 She Comes Sailing on the Wind³

Refrain **She comes sailing on the wind,
her wings flashing in the sun;
on a journey just begun, she flies on.
And in the passage of her flight,
her song rings out through the night,
full of laughter, full of light, she flies on.**

**Silent waters rocking on the morning of our birth,
like an empty cradle waiting to be filled.
And from the heart of God the Spirit moved upon the
earth,
like a mother breathing life into her child.**

**Many were the dreamers whose eyes were given sight
when the Spirit filled their dreams with life and form.
Deserts turned to gardens, broken hearts
found new delight,
and then down the ages still she flew on.**

Refrain **She comes sailing on the wind,
her wings flashing in the sun;
on a journey just begun, she flies on.
And in the passage of her flight,
her song rings out through the night,
full of laughter, full of light, she flies on.**

**To a gentle girl in Galilee, a gentle breeze she came,
a whisper softly calling in the dark,
the promise of a child of peace whose reign would
never end,
Mary sang the Spirit song within her heart.**

**Flying to the river, she waited circling high
above the child now grown so full of grace.
As he rose up from the water, she swept down from the
sky,
and she carried him away in her embrace.**

Refrain **She comes sailing on the wind,
her wings flashing in the sun;
on a journey just begun, she flies on.
And in the passage of her flight,
her song rings out through the night,
full of laughter, full of light, she flies on.**

**Long after the deep darkness that fell upon the world,
after dawn returned in flame of rising sun,
the Spirit touched the earth again, again her wings
unfurled,
bringing life in wind and fire as she flew on.**

Refrain **She comes sailing on the wind,
her wings flashing in the sun;
on a journey just begun, she flies on.
And in the passage of her flight,
her song rings out through the night,
full of laughter, full of light, she flies on.**

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#586 We Shall Go Out with Hope of Resurrection⁴**

**We shall go out with hope of resurrection;
we shall go out, from strength to strength go on;
we shall go out and tell our stories boldly;
tales of a love that will not let us go.
We'll sing our songs of wrongs that can be righted;**

**we'll dream our dreams of hurts that can be healed;
we'll weave a cloth of all the world united
within the vision of new life in Christ.**

**We'll give a voice to those who have not spoken;
we'll find the words for those whose lips are sealed;
we'll make the tunes for those who sing no longer,
expressive love alive in every heart.**

**We'll share our joy with those who still are weeping,
raise hymns of strength for hearts that break in grief,
we'll leap and dance the resurrection story,
including all in circles of our love.**

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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