

Sunset United Church



November 1, 2020 – Proper 26

Minister: Rev. Tricia Gerhard

Children & Youth Minister: Michelle McConkey

Choir Director: Corinne Groff

Pianist: Shirley Hill

Reader: Dave Warden

Special Music: Shirley Hill

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

WE GATHER

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Centering Music

Lighting the Christ Candle:

We light the Christ candle

Knowing that Christ's love shines

Like a beacon for those of us

Who are troubled,

Who are anxious,

Who are unsure,

Welcoming us into the presence of our God,

Who loves us into fullness.

Hymn: MV#21 Open our Hearts

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*Open our hearts, open our minds.
Open our lives to you O loving God.*

*Open our hearts, open our minds.
Open our lives to you O loving God.
Open our hearts.*

Call to Worship:

In all our weakness and strength,
With our youth-filled spirits and aging bodies,
We come to be your people, O God.
Strong in faith and eager with questions,
Speaking our praise and whispering our prayers,
We come to be your people, O God.
Filled with saintly determination
Yet mindful of our human limitation,
We come to be your people, O God.
Made strong in your endless love for us,
We know ourselves to be yours and
We come to be your people, O God.
May we truly become your people today. Amen

Opening Prayer

Holy One,
Your power fills the universe with light and love.
**Your tender hand caresses those
who are suffering and wounded.**
You welcome strangers and care for the lonely
**We are awed by the amazing extent of your
compassion.**
Meet us where we are.

Speak to us in ways that we understand.
Come to us, O God, in our time of worship.
Still our hearts and minds.
Renew our spirits and fill us with the life
That only you can offer.
Amen.

Hymn: MV#12 Come Touch our Hearts **

1. *Come touch our hearts that we may know compassion,
from failing embers build a blazing fire;
love strong enough to overturn injustice,
to seek a world more gracious,
come touch and bless our hearts.*
2. *Come touch our souls that we may know and love you,
your quiet presence all our fears dispel;
create a space for spirit to grow in us,
let life and beauty fill us,
come touch and bless our souls.*
3. *Come touch our minds and teach us how to reason,
set free our thoughts to wonder and to dream;
help us to open doors of understanding,
to welcome truth and wisdom,
come touch and bless our minds.*
4. *Come touch us in the moments we are fragile,
and in our weakness your great strength reveal;
that we may rise to follow and to serve,*

*steady now our nerve,
come touch and bless our wills.*

5. *Come touch us now, this people who are gathered,
to break the bread and share the cup of peace;
that we may love you with our heart,
our soul, our mind, our strength, our all,
come touch us with your grace.*

Prayer Seeking reconciliation

Almighty One,

We confess that we have taken Your commandments
And turned them into rules.

We have criticized those who have fallen short
And selfishly proclaimed ourselves righteous.

We have failed to understand
the spirit of the commandments

and the Way that was shown by You to live,
loving God and loving our neighbours.

Forgive us for turning Your law into burdens
For others and ourselves,

Instead of a Way to love and freedom in You.

In the name of Christ,

Who has given us the Way and leads us on,

We pray.

(time of silence to offer personal prayers)

Affirmation of Forgiveness

You are loved.

Love is the way.

When you love God, you love others.

Give yourself to God by serving others.
Know that in God's love there is forgiveness,
Healing and reconciliation. Amen.

Sung Response: MV#97 Listen, God is Calling

*Listen, God is calling, through the Word inviting,
Offering forgiveness, comfort and joy.*

Sharing the Story

Hymn: VU#593 Jesu, Jesu Fill Us with Your Love

Refrain

*Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,
show us how to serve
the neighbours we have from you.*

1. *Kneels at the feet of his friends,
silently washes their feet,
master who acts as a slave to them.*

Refrain

*Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,
show us how to serve
the neighbours we have from you.*

2. *Neighbours are rich and poor,
Varied in colour and race,
Neighbours are near and far away.*

Refrain

*Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,
show us how to serve
the neighbours we have from you.*

3. *These are the ones we should serve,
There are the ones we should love,
All our neighbours to us and you.*

Refrain

*Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,
show us how to serve
the neighbours we have from you.*

4. *Kneel at the feet of his friends,
silently washes their feet,
this is the way we should live with you.*

Refrain

*Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,
show us how to serve
the neighbours we have from you.*

WE LISTEN

Scripture: Matthew 5: 1-12

Reflection

Special Music: Shirley Hill

Dedication of gifts given during this time of COVID-19:

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer (sung VU#959)

Hymn: VU#705 For All the Saints

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1. *For all the saints, who from their labours rest,
all who by faith before the world confessed,
your name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Hallelujah, hallelujah!*

2. *You were their rock, their fortress, and their might:
You were their captain in the well-fought fight;
You, in the darkness drear, their one true light.
Hallelujah, hallelujah!*

3. *O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
Yet all are one within your great design.
Hallelujah, hallelujah!*

4. *The golden evening brightens in the west;
Soon, soon to faithful warriors comes their rest;
Sweet is the calm of paradise the blest.
Hallelujah, hallelujah!*

5. *But lo! There breaks a yet more glorious day
The saints triumphant rise in bright array;
As God to glory calls them all away.
Hallelujah, hallelujah!*

6. *From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:
Hallelujah, hallelujah!*

Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude



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