



Date: September 21, 2025
Fifteenth after Pentecost &
Creation Time 3
Theme: Balm in Gilead

Worship Leaders: Rev. Dr. OhWang Kwon

Musician: Linda Kneeland

Audio/Visual: Holly & Nora

(*: Please, stand if you are able.)

Musical Prelude

Greetings

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Response: And also with you.

Welcome & Announcements (Care & Concerns)

- **Thank you**, Pastoral Care, for the beautiful lunch they provided last Sunday
- **Annual Firefighters** Food Drive ~ October 06
- **October 16th is pie making day**, please drop fruit off at the church during office hours (Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9 - noon), or make other drop off arrangements.
- **LUV2READ Date Change** ~ New date, **October 2nd** 7pm.
- **Printed Announcements** are available in the Narthex. Please pick them up for additional information and dates.

Acknowledgement of Territory

ALL: God calls us to live with respect and care for all our relations in creation. For thousands of years, Indigenous peoples of this area have tended the earth, and we give thanks for such diligence. We covenant to live and work together, sharing this land in peace and respect as long as the sun shines, the grass grows, and the river flows.

Peter Chynoweth, Cochrane AB

Call to Worship

As the tiny brook finds its way to the larger water...

we, God's children, continue to grow and learn.

As the river flows like time itself...

we move as one, holding together in the midst of change.

As the lake caresses its shore...

we feel God's presence among us.

As the tranquil lake hovers like a mirror...

we reflect upon our call to be a place of calm waters to comfort your people.

As the power of the ocean crashes like thunder...

we have the strength of faith and commitment to be God's people.

Let us now come to the baptismal waters in worship.

Don Sellsted, Orchard Valley U.C., New Minas, N.S. Gathering, Pentecost-2 2025, 25. Used with Permission.

Lighting the Christ Candle

We light up this candle; it flames and reveals.

Christ's presence is here, but there's more that we feel.

We're grateful and happy; this day is for hope,

knowing Christ is among us, so now we can cope.

We begin a time of worship, a time for forgiving.

Let the service begin now, and we truly start living.

Robert J. Murdock, St. James U.C., Stroud, Ont. Gathering, Pentecost-1 2025, 35. Used with Permission.

*Hymn **Morning Has Broken VU#409**

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Opening Prayer

Prayer of Confession

O God, just as our own lives tend to experience disharmony, so it is in all of your Creation.

We ask that your Spirit give us the energy to make hard personal decisions about how we treat the environment. The world is a long way from the garden of Eden. Each of us needs to consider and change our own behaviours even as we work together to preserve the universe with actions louder than our words.

As nations, we lack harmony with other nations in caring for Creation.

Help us find common ground based on the teachings of faith. Help us treat others as we ourselves want to be treated.

As individuals, our actions toward others are not always exemplary.

Sometimes this comes from a fear that we will say or do something wrong or disrespectful. Help us to learn from others and not be afraid to meet others with respect and open minds.

Open us to the presence of your Spirit, to hold back from jumping in to help when and where help is not needed or requested and to nudge us forward when help is needed.

Help us work for equality and restoration of harmony for all your people and for Creation.

In silence, we bring the concerns about which we feel deeply.

We know you understand these concerns even if we cannot find the words to express them.

(a time of silent prayer)

In the name of God the Creator, Jesus the Teacher, and the Holy Spirit the Enabler. Amen.

Mary Grant, Forest Hill U.C., Fredericton, N.B. Gathering, Pentecost-2 2025, 28. Used with Permission.

***Hymn *God of the Farmlands* VU#306**

Words: Thomas Charles Hunter-Clare. Music: John Bacchus Dykes. Public Domain. N/A

Prayer of Illumination

ALL: **Wise and Loving God, we open our hearts to ancient words of scripture, seeking wisdom for today. Amen.** *Gary Simpson, McDougall U.C., Edmonton, Alta. Gathering, Pentecost-1 2025, 46. Used with Permission.*

Scripture Readings: Linda Kneeland

Jeremiah 8:18—9:1: Is there no balm in Gilead? No physician there?

Hymn *Tell Me the Stories of Jesus* VU#357 (verse 1) (being seated)

Words: William H. Parker 1885 Music: Fredrick Arthur Challinor 1903 © 1904 National Christian Education Council, 1020 Bristol Rd., Selly Oak, Birmingham B29 6LB, England. Reproduced with permission. Words, Music: National Christian Education Council. CCLI.

Congregational Theme/Story Time

Message Rev. Dr. OhWang Kwon

***Hymn *Your Hands, O Christ* VU#622**

Words: Edward Hayes Plumptre 1864 (Revised words): R. Gerald Hobbs © 1987 Songs for a Gospel People. Music: Attributed to Franz Joseph Haydn. Words: Songs for a Gospel People. Music: Public Domain. N/A

Invitation for Offering

***Offering Hymn *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* VU#541** Words: Thomas Ken ca. 1674. Music: Genevan Psalter 1551. Public Domain. N/A

Offering Prayer

ALL: **Holy One, you have called us friends and named us partners in your work of Creation. Accept the gifts we bring and bless them for your use, that they may reveal to others the depth of your love for all people and for Creation itself. Amen.**

Karen MacNeill, Whycocomagh-East Lake Ainslie P.C., Whycocomagh, N.S. Gathering, Pentecost-1 2025, 47. Used with Permission.

Prayers of the Gathered Community

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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

***Hymn *I, the Lord of Sea and Sky* VU#509**

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***Commissioning and Benediction**

***Threefold Amen (Unison) VU#967**

Postlude