



Date: October 04, 2026

World Communion Sunday

Worship Leaders: Worship Committee

Musician: Linda Kneeland

Audio/Visual: Holly McKenzie or Nora Nixon

(*: 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 Back & Announcements (Care & Concerns)

- **Pick up the printed announcements** for more information
- **Pilgrimage** ~ Dave and Barbara-Lynn are going on a United Church pilgrimage to Guatemala in late October and early November. School and/or medical supplies can be donated. Please see printed announcements for suggestions.
- **October 06** ~ 9:30 am ~ Pie Making ~ Please have your fruit at the church the week of September 28th **Lynda Hewson** will be at the church October 11 and 18 for pie pickup. Also, any pies left will be sold at the fall supper.
- **Fall Supper** ~ October 25th 4:00 - 6:30 (Leftover pies, if any, will be sold at the supper)
- **The annual Christmas Carol Festival** will be held on Wednesday, December 9 at 7:00 p.m. In the Stettler United Church. If you are interested in joining a group of enthusiastic singers to prepare a couple of carols for the evening, please contact Barbara-Lynn (403 741 6710).
- **The signup sheet** ~ looks bare, please sign up (greeter, coffee maker, reader) and help out.

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

Jesus the Christ has called us to this place.

Jesus Christ, the Bread of life.

Jesus the Christ has offered us sanctuary.

Jesus Christ, the True Vine.

By God's love...

We are called.

By God's peace...

We are uplifted.

By God's spirit...

**We are challenged to be who we call ourselves to be:
disciples of the Christ**

Then, with all that we are, and all that we have,

let us worship our God!

Richard Bott, Vancouver, B.C.

Lighting the Christ Candle

We light this candle to remember that God is present in all things.
As surely as the smallest of lights transforms the deepest shadows
of any room, God is here, with us, always.

Christine LeBlanc, East End United Regional Ministry, Toronto, Ont.

***Hymn ~ VU #217 All Creatures of Our God & King**

Words: St. Francis of Assisi. 1225 English Translation: William Henry Draper ca. 1919 © Boosey and Hawkes, administered by G. Schirmer, Inc. French translation adapted by J.-J. Bovet. Music: Geistliche Kirchengesänge. Harmonized by Ralph Vaughan Williams. Harmony: Used by permission of Oxford University Press. English Translation: Boosey and Hawkes. French translation: Public Domain. Music: Public Domain. Harmony: Oxford University Press. CCLI, LicenSing Used with permission license A-605521

Opening Prayer

Guiding God, light of direction and discernment,

Shine in our hearts today.

As we journey through life, with events and upsets we do not understand,

steady us with the patience of faith.

When all feels lost and we are tired by our days,

strengthen us with the persistence of faith.

Daunted by obstacles in our lives and in our world,

embolden us with the courage of faith.

When hurts and slights sting or indifference isolates us,

soothe us with the essence of faith.

Embrace us in your eternal love and remind us of your reassuring promise,

to be with us always, to the end of our days.

Amen.

Gill Le Fevre, Walton Memorial U.C, Oakville, Ont.

Prayer of Confession

We know that crying out our need to God is not enough. We know that sin is not limited to what we recognize as sinful acts, small or large. We know that we can focus our living on ways that close the door on God's generous presence. We know that we are sinners in need of God's grace, love, and forgiveness in Jesus Christ. We offer words of confession knowing that reality.

Remembering the words of the 10 commandments and Paul's words to the Philippians that sometimes what we consider our greatest gains are actually our greatest losses, let us pray:

Gracious God, we acknowledge we need to confess our moral failures.

We confess now our moral failures when faced with decisions requiring us to choose between right and wrong. Often, we know the difference, but...

(A moment of silence)

We confess our relationship with failures, selfish acts, and thoughtless words.

(A moment of silence)

We confess our impatience when God is slow to respond to us.

(A moment of silence)

we confess our omission of daily time to nurture our gift of faith, so that it is of sufficient measure to sustain us.

(A moment of silence)

We remind ourselves that we live in the in-between spaces of "Christ crucified...Christ risen"

In the in-between spaces, the spaces where decisions and relationships are not easy, God is with us. Amen.

Words of assurance

we believe God's love and grace is infinite, meaning God forgives us.

We are forgiven people! Thanks be to God.

Bill Perry, Belleville, Ont

***Hymn ~ VU #375 # Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness**

Words, Music: James K. Manley © 1978 James K. Manley, 747 Plymouth Rd., Claremont, CA 91711, USA. French Translation: © 1995 Andrew Donaldson, Seraph Music, 14 Hambly Ave., Toronto, ON M4E 2R6. Words, Music: J. Manley Publishing. French Translation: Andrew Donaldson, Seraph Music. CLI, icenSing, OneLicense.net Used with permission license A-605521

Prayer of Illumination

Welcoming God, we have received your invitation to come and feast on your word. We hunger for the Good News! May our spirits be open to the subtle nuances for justice and righteousness. Let our senses experience the beauty in each person around us. Open our hearts to experience the wonder of the banquet of love, expressed in words offered. We ask all this in the name of the Great Storyteller, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Laura J. Turnbull, Penticton, B.C.

Scripture Readings: Connie Jackson

- Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20

- Philippians 3: 4b-14
- Matthew 21: 33-46

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. Used with permission license A-605521

Congregational Theme/Story Time

Message

***Hymn ~ VU #508 Just As I Am**

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Invitation for Offering

Let us share what we are able, your offering will now be received.

***Offering Hymn *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* VU#541**

Words: Thomas Ken ca. 1674. Music: Genevan Psalter 1551. Public Domain. N/A Used with permission license A-605521

Offering Prayer

Generous God of boundless mercy and care, may our offering today make a difference in the unnoticed and unknown places where your love is most deeply needed. Inspire us to sustain your ministries of hope and encouragement, of peace and acceptance. Extend our service to reach the corners of our communities and our world where your presence is most needed Amen.

Gill Le Fevre, Walton Memorial U.C., Oakville Ont.

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.

***Closing Hymn ~ VU #657 He Leadeth Me**

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***Commissioning and Benediction**

We go out this day, trusting that our path is guided by God. With open and thankful hearts, nourished at God's table, we affirm that our lives are blessed by God. And in praise and worship, we offer ourselves in this service to God. Abundant God, lead us forward to do your will in our world. Amen.

Gill Le Fevre, Walton Memorial U.C., Oakville, Ont.

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

Postlude