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*Our Mission...*

*to be an accepting Christian community dedicated to living, sharing and teaching the Word of God.*

*We respect all aspects of people including race, ethnicity, gender expression, sexual orientation, socio-economic background, age, religion, mental wellness, and ability.*

## The Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022

***Bold** print indicates a congregational response.*

### **WE GATHER IN COMMUNITY**

#### **WELCOME and ACKNOWLEDGEMENT of the LAND**

*We acknowledge that we meet in Treaty 1 land, the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe, Cree and Dakota peoples, and the homeland of the Metis nation. We are thankful for these first inhabitants, and we commit to working together towards justice, truth and reconciliation.*

#### **THE LIGHTING of the CHRIST CANDLE**

*In Christian teaching and tradition, each Sunday is believed to be a little Easter, a weekly celebration of the life, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. So we light this candle, affirming that Christ is indeed the light of the world, our hope and our salvation. There is no other in whom we place our trust.*

#### **CALL to WORSHIP**

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

#### **PRELUDE – "The Lily of the Valley"**

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(William S. Hayes)

~Joanne Diplock

#### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Almighty God, you have taught us  
that all our deeds without love are worth nothing.  
Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts  
that most excellent gift of love,  
the very bond of peace and of all goodness;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## THE WORD OF GOD

Scripture Reader: *Heidi McIlwain*

Hebrew Scripture: **Psalm 37**

*Voices United #763*

*Do not fret because of the wicked,  
or envy those who do evil.*

**For they soon wither like grass  
and fade away like the green leaf.**

*Trust in God and do good;*

**dwell in the land and there find safe pasture.**

*Find your delight in God,*

**who will grant the desires of your heart.**

*God will make your vindication shine like the light,*

**the justice of your cause like the noonday sun.**

*Be still before God and wait patiently;*

**do not fret because some prosper in evil schemes.**

*Let go of anger and abandon wrath.*

**Do not fret - it can only do harm.**

*Those who do evil shall be cut off,*

**but those who look to God shall inherit the earth.**

*In a little while the wicked will be no more;*

**you will look where they were  
and their place will be empty.**

*But the meek shall inherit the earth;*

**they shall enjoy fullness of peace.**

*Salvation for the righteous comes from God,  
their refuge in time of trouble.*

**God helps and delivers,  
and rescues from the wicked those who seek shelter.**

Epistle: **1 Corinthians 15: 35-38, 42-50**

*But someone will ask, 'How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?' Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.*

*So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonour, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, 'The first man, Adam, became a living being'; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. The first man*

*was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.*

*What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.*

Response:        *This is the Word of God.*

**Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel:        **Luke 6: 27-38**

*'But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.*

*'If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.*

*'Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.'*

Response:        *The Gospel of Christ.*

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON: **"Love and Do Good"**

*~Rev. Don Johnson (see attached sermon)*

## **WE RESPOND TO THE WORD**

INTERLUDE: *VU #186– "Now the Green Blade Rises"*

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(John M.C. Crum)

*~Joanne Diplock*

**1     Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,  
wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;  
love lives again, that with the dead has been:  
love is come again, like wheat arising green.**

- 2 In the grave they laid him, love by hatred slain,  
thinking that he would never wake again,  
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen;  
love is come again, like wheat arising green.**
- 3 Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,  
he that for three days in the grave had lain;  
raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen;  
love is come again, like wheat arising green.**
- 4 When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,  
your touch can call us back to life again,  
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;  
love is come again, like wheat arising green.**

## PRAYERS

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

### THE BLESSING

*The blessing of the God of Sarah and of Abraham,  
the blessing of the Son born of Mary,  
the blessing of the Holy Spirit  
who broods over us as a mother over her children,  
be with you all. Amen.*

### POSTLUDE – "How Deep the Father's Love for Us" with "Love Divine, All Love's Excelling"

(Stuart Townsend; Charles Wesley; John Zundel)

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*~Joanne Diplock*