



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.

September 21st, 2025
15th Sunday after Pentecost ~ Creation Time 3

The asterisk invites all to stand, if they are able. **Bold print indicates a congregational response.*

GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD

PRELUDE *(Music played with permission under license #A-620529 One License)*

~Joanne Diplock

GREETING

*GATHERING VERSE: #92 MV – “**Like a Rock**” (sung 2X, then 3rd time with actions only)
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~Joanne Diplock

Like a rock, like a rock

God is under our feet.

Like the starry night sky

God is over our head.

Like the sun on the horizon

God is ever before.

Like the river runs to ocean

Our home is in God evermore.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT of the LAND

We acknowledge that we meet on Treaty 1 land, the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe, Cree and Dakota peoples, and the homeland of the Red River Metis. We also acknowledge that the water we use here comes from the Shoal Lake 40 First Nation. We are grateful for these first inhabitants and their stewardship of the land and its resources through the ages, and we commit to working together towards justice, truth and reconciliation.

WELCOME

LIFE and WORK of the CONGREGATION

LIGHTING of the CHRIST CANDLE *~lit by Diane McDonald*

*(Adapted from Karen MacNeill; from *Gathering Pentecost 2* 2025.)*

Jesus said, “Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there.”

We light the Christ candle as a sign and symbol

of Christ's presence among us.

LIGHTING of the PEACE CANDLE

As we light our peace candle, we pray for peace:

**peace in our hearts,
peace in our homes,
peace in our world.**

As we journey with Jesus, the Prince of Peace,

O God, we pray for peace. Amen.

SHARING the PEACE of CHRIST

Peace be with you.

And also with you.

PEACE PATTERN

(As we shift from sharing the peace to continuing in worship)

CALL to WORSHIP (Written by Heather McClure; from *Gathering Pentecost 2 2022*.)

God calls us all to faith.

In faith, we come to worship.

God calls us all in love.

In love, we come to worship.

God calls us all to prayer.

In prayer, we come to worship.

God calls us all to share our praise.

In praise, we come to worship.

Let us worship with all that we are as we gather this day.

*OPENING HYMN: VU #222 – "Come, Let Us Sing"

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(Strathdee)

~Joanne Diplock

- 1 Come, let us sing to the Lord our song,
we have stood silently too long;
surely the Lord deserves our praise,
so joyfully thank God for our days.**
- 2 O thirsty soul, come drink at the well;
God's living waters will never fail.
Surely the Lord will help you to stand,
strengthened and comforted by God's hand.**
- 3 You dwell among us and cause us to pray,
and walk with each other following your way;
our precious brothers and sisters will grow
in the fulfilling love they know.**

**4 Deserts shall bloom and mountains shall sing
to the desire of all living things.
Come, all you creatures, high and low,
let your praises endlessly flow.**

OPENING PRAYER (Adapted from Jennifer Henry; from *Gathering Pentecost 2 2025*.)

**Living God, we come together
with words of commitment and hymns of praise.
May this time renew our spirits,
so that confident in you,
and emboldened by one another,
we might return to the world in strength and grace.
Inspire us to be faithful friends, generous neighbours,
bold disciples, and daring advocates,
encouraged by this community
and by your abiding love.
This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

CONVERSATION TIME

*~Children, Youth & their leaders are invited to head downstairs
for Kid Konnection (Sunday School) and Youth Group~*

LISTENING FOR AND REFLECTING ON GOD'S WORD

CHOIR ANTHEM: "Bringing in the Sheaves"

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~Joanne Diplock

Scripture Reading: *read by Carol Billan*

Luke 16: 1-13

Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to [the rich man] that [his manager] was squandering his property. So [the rich man] summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.'

Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the

children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

"Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

Response to Scripture:

Let us hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON: "A Perplexing Parable"

~Rev. Susan Reed

RESPONDING TO GOD IN PRAYER AND ACTION

*HYMN OF RESPONSE: #139 MV – "True Faith Needs No Defence" (Damon)

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~Joanne Diplock

- 1 True faith needs no defence,
it echoes in the soul;
a faithful life gives evidence
of grace that makes us whole.**
- 2 True faith, like music, soars
beyond cathedral walls;
on city streets and ocean shores,
from age to age faith calls.**
- 3 Expect your faith to grow;
begin by being still,
and in the quiet come to know
God's living, breathing will.**
- 4 To live the faith we find,
is all that love can ask;
to sing God's praise with heart and mind,
and rise to meet the task.**

CREATION MOMENT

"Creation Asks: Journey Lightly Upon Me!"

THE PRESENTATION of our TITHES and OFFERINGS

Offertory Music *as the offerings are collected*

~Joanne Diplock

***Offering Verse: #191 MV – "What Can I Do?"**
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sung 2X

(Rumbolt/McCarthy)
~Joanne Diplock

**What can I do? What can I bring?
What can I say? What can I sing?
I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.
I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.**

***Offertory Prayer** (Written by Bob Root; from *Gathering Pentecost 2 2021*.)

**Gracious God,
we know that our gifts make a difference
to each other and to others in your world.
We give to support the ministry of this congregation.
We give to support your ministry of love in the world.
We give that others might live with hope.
Receive and bless our gifts,
and with them, the offerings of our hearts.
We ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.**

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE

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.**

SENT INTO GOD'S WORLD

***CLOSING HYMN: VU #427 – "To Show by Touch and Word"**
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(Kaan/Klusmeier)
~Joanne Diplock

- 1 To show by touch and word devotion to the earth,
to hold in full regard all life that comes to birth,
we need, O God, the will to find
the good you had of old in mind.**
- 2 Renew our minds to choose the things that matter most,
our hearts to long for truth till pride of self is lost.
For every challenge that we face
we need your guidance and your grace.**

**3 Let love from day to day be yardstick, rule, and norm,
and let our lives portray your word in human form.
Now come with us that we may have
your wits about us where we live.**

***SENDING FORTH** (Adapted from Elaine Bidgood Sweet; from *Gathering Pentecost 2 2017*.)

**We have worshipped,
and joined ourselves in praise of God:
Creator, Christ, and Spirit.
Let us now depart,
blessed and challenged to live by the Spirit.
May our love of God and love of neighbour
show forth in all we are and in all we do.**

***BLESSING**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION**

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**May the Lord go with you,
let him take your hand.
Keep His love within you,
until we meet again. Amen.**

(Price/Besig)
~Joanne Diplock

POSTLUDE "The Lord's My Shepherd, I Shall Not Want"

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~Joanne Diplock