



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.

August 30, 2026

2nd Annual Camp, Camping & Campfire Sunday

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

WE GATHER

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

~Joanne Diplock

GREETING

GATHERING SONG: #145 MV – "Draw the Circle Wide"

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(Light/Bloss)

~Joanne Diplock

**Draw the circle wide.
Draw it wider still.
Let this be our song,
No one stands alone,
Standing side by side.
Draw the circle wide.**

- 1. God the still point of the circle
'round whom all creation turns
Nothing lost but held forever
In God's gracious arms. R**
- 2. Let our hearts touch far horizons,
So encompass great and small;
Let our loving know no borders
Faithful to God's call. R**
- 3. Let the dreams we dream be larger,
Than we've ever dreamed before'
Let the dream of Christ be in us
Open every door. R**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT of the LAND

We acknowledge that we meet on Treaty 1 land, the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe, Anisininew, Cree, Dakota, and Dene 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 & INTRODUCTION to the SERVICE

CALL to WORSHIP (based on Exodus 3: 1-5)

(Adapted from Rev. MaryAnn R. Rennie; found on the *re:Worship* blog online.)

This place for us is Holy Ground –

**the place where we sing songs of praise to God,
and repeat the stories of faith
that inspire us to respond to Christ's love.**

God called us here.

Let us worship God together.

LIGHTING of the CHRIST CANDLE ~lit by Joan Knowles

(Written by Robyn Murray; from The United Church of Canada's Camping Sunday service 2022.)

*We gather as a community around the flame of God's love,
be that campfire or Christ candle.*

God's love burns brightly in our hearts.

LIGHTING of the PEACE CANDLE

*We also light a second candle, this one for peace,
and as we do, we pray for peace:*

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

*As we follow in the ways of 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.***

OPENING PRAYER

WE SING

SONG: VU #249 – "Rejoice in the Lord Always"

(sung 2X)

(traditional)

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~Joanne Diplock

**Rejoice in the Lord always
and again I say rejoice! (clap, clap)
Rejoice in the Lord always
and again I say rejoice! (clap, clap)
Rejoice, rejoice, and again I say rejoice! (clap, clap)**

Rejoice, rejoice, and again I say rejoice! (clap, clap)

SONG: "I've Got the Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy"

(Written by George W. Cooke; from the *Joyful Noise* songbook.)

(Cooke)

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~Joanne Diplock

**I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart (where?),
down in my heart (where?), down in my heart;
I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart (where?),
down in my heart to stay.**

Refrain:

**And I'm so happy, so very happy,
I've got the love of Jesus in my heart.
And I'm so happy, so very happy,
I've got the love of Jesus in my heart.**

**I've got the peace that passes understanding
down in my heart (where?),
down in my heart (where?), down in my heart;
I've got the peace that passes understanding
down in my heart (where?), down in my heart to stay. R**

**I've got the love of Jesus, love of Jesus
down in my heart (where?),
down in my heart (where?), down in my heart;
I've got the love of Jesus, love of Jesus
down in my heart (where?), down in my heart to stay. R**

SONG: #92 MV – "Like a Rock" (Words and actions x2, actions only x1)

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(Wehlander/ Good)

~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.**

WE LISTEN AND REFLECT

CONVERSATION TIME: "Holy Ground"

Scripture Readings: read by Joan Knowles

*Both from the Good News version of the Bible

Intro: Today, we have two readings from the Hebrew Scriptures – or Old Testament – which speak about Holy Ground. One tells part of the story of Moses, and the other tells part of the story of Joshua.

Exodus 3: 1-5

One day while Moses was taking care of the sheep and goats of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian, he led the flock across the desert and came to Sinai, the holy mountain. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him as a flame coming from the middle of a bush. Moses saw that the bush was on fire but that it was not burning up. "This is strange," he thought. "Why isn't the bush burning up? I will go closer and see."

When the Lord saw that Moses was coming closer, he called to him from the middle of the bush and said, "Moses! Moses!" He answered, "Yes, here I am."

God said, "Do not come any closer. Take off your sandals, because you are standing on holy ground."

Joshua 5: 13-15

While Joshua was near Jericho, he suddenly saw a man standing in front of him, holding a sword. Joshua went up to him and asked, "Are you one of our soldiers, or an enemy?" "Neither," the man answered. "I am here as the commander of the Lord's army."

Joshua threw himself on the ground in worship and said, "I am your servant, sir. What do you want me to do?"

And the commander of the Lord's army told him, "Take your sandals off; you are standing on holy ground." And Joshua did as he was told.

Response to Scripture:

May God grant us understanding of these words of Holy Scripture. Amen.

REFLECTION: "Camps, Camping, & Campfires: Holy Ground"

~Rev. Susan Reed

WE RESPOND

LIFE and WORK of the CONGREGATION

INVITATION to the OFFERING

THE PRESENTATION of our TITHES and OFFERINGS

Offertory Music *as the offerings are collected*

~Joanne Diplock

*Offertory 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.**

***Offering Prayer** (Written by Robyn Murray; from *The United Church of Canada's Camping Sunday* service 2022.)
(Please remain standing, until the gifts have been placed on the table)

**Generous God, we bring our gifts to you
and humbly ask that you use them
to share hope, transform lives,
and spark more love in the world.
We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

PRAYER CONCERNS

SONG: "Kum Ba Yah"

African-American spiritual; from the *Joyful Noise* songbook.

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~Joanne Diplock

- 1 Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah.
Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah.
Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah.
Oh, Lord... kum ba yah.**
- 2 Someone's crying, Lord, kum ba yah.
Someone's crying, Lord, kum ba yah.
Someone's crying, Lord, kum ba yah.
Oh, Lord... kum ba yah.**
- 3 Someone's praying, Lord, kum ba yah.
Someone's praying, Lord, kum ba yah.
Someone's praying, Lord, kum ba yah.
Oh, Lord... kum ba yah.**
- 4 Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah.
Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah.
Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah.
Oh, Lord... kum ba yah.**

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.**

WE GO FORTH

CLOSING HYMN: *VU #884 – "You Shall Go Out with Joy"* (sung 3X; each time faster)
(Words reproduced played with permission under license #A-620529 One License) ~Joanne Diplock

**You shall go out with joy
and be led forth with peace;
the mountains and the hills
will break forth before you;
there'll be shouts of joy,
and all the trees of the field
will clap, will clap their hands!**

**And all the trees of the field will clap their hands,
(clap, clap)
the trees of the field will clap their hands,
(clap, clap)
the trees of the field will clap their hands
(clap, clap)
while you go out with joy.**

SENDING FORTH (Written by Keri K. Wehlander; from *Circles of Grace: Worship and Prayer in the Everyday.*)

CHORAL BENEDICTION

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(Price/Besig)
~Joanne Diplock

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

POSTLUDE

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~Joanne Diplock