

# THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

St. Paul's Pastoral Charge

June 26, 2022

## PRELUDE

**ANNOUNCEMENTS: Brenda Marshall**

## WELCOME

### **GATHERING SONG: MV# 29 "Spirit Open My Heart" (vs. 1, 2 & refrain)**

Refrain: Spirit open my heart, to the joy and pain of living.  
As You love, may I love; in receiving and in giving.  
Spirit open my heart.

1. God replace my stony heart, with a heart kind and tender.  
All my coldness and fear to Your grace, I now surrender. (Refrain)

2. Write Your love upon my heart, as my law, my goal, my story.  
In each thought, word and deed, May my living be Your glory. (Refrain)

## LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

### **GOD GATHERS US TOGETHER**

#### **ACKNOWLEDGING THE TERRITORY & CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Loving Creator God, we your people come before You. We acknowledge First nations on whose territory we meet, the Anishinabek, the Haudenosaunee, the Ojibwe, the Chippewa. Thank you, Creator God for today's sunrise, for the breath and life within us, and for all Your creation: hear our prayer.

Reader 1: **Deb Wycherley**

Great Spirit of Light, come to us out of the East, with the power of the rising sun. Let there be light in our words. Let there be light on our paths that we walk. Let us remember always that You give us the gift of a new day.

**All: Guide our steps and give us courage to walk the circle of our lives with honesty and dignity. And never let us be burdened with sorrow by not starting over again.**

Reader 1: Great Spirit of Creation, send us the warm and soothing winds from the South. Comfort and caress us when we are tired and cold. Help us to walk our paths with joy and love, for ourselves, for others, for our four-legged companions, the winged ones, the plants, and all creation upon Mother Earth. As You give to all Earth Your warm, moving wind, give it to us, so that we may grow close to you in warmth.

**All: We did not create the web of life, but we stand in it. Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves.**

Reader 2: **Karon Harris**

Great Life-giving Spirit, we face the West, the direction of sundown. Let us remember every day that the moment will come when our sun will go down.

Bring into balance the physical, mental and spiritual, so that we are able to know our place on Earth, in life and death. Never let us forget that we must face into You.

**All: Give us a beautiful color, give us a great sky for setting so that when it is our time to meet you, we can come with glory.**

Reader 2: Great Spirit of Love, come to us with the power of the North. Make us courageous when the cold wind falls upon us. Give us strength and endurance for everything that is harsh, everything that hurts, everything that makes us squint. Give us wisdom so we may be able to make wise choices in all things that are put in front of us.

**All: Let us move through life, ready to take what comes from the North.**

Reader 3: **Shirley Godfree**

Great Creator Spirit, we thank you for the beauty of Earth and for all You have given us in and through Earth, our home.

**All: Remind us never to take from Earth more than we need, and remind us to always give back more than we take.**

Reader 3: Great God of the vast heavens, lift up our spirits to You. May our hearts worship You and come to You in glory. Help us to remember that You are our Creator God.

**All: Let all that is in Earth lift our minds, our hearts, and our lives to you so that we may come to You always in truth with a good mind and a clean heart.**

One: God our Creator, we ask that we have the wisdom and patience to listen to one another and to learn the many ways You call us to live life.

**All: Teach us the ways to live it that heal and renew it so that we may hand it on to generations to come radiant with Your goodness and glory. Amen.**

<https://www.dominicancenter.org/indigenous-peoples-day-liturgy/>

### **OPENING HYMN: VU # 402 “We Are One”**

1. We are one, as we come, as we come, joyful to be here,  
in the praise, on our lips, there's a sense that God is near.  
We are one, as we sing, as we seek, we are found;  
and we come needful of God's grace as we meet, together in this place.
2. We are one, as we share, as we share, brokenness and fear,  
in the touch, of a hand, there's a sense that God is here.  
We are one, as we care, as we heal, we are healed;  
and we share warmth in God's embrace as we pray together in this place.

### **PRAYER OF APPROACH (responsive)**

God, Creator of variety and difference, Creator of hearts, minds, and bodies, you have called us into relationship with each other so we can know you more fully. Help us see you in our neighbours, in those who are familiar and in those who are not yet familiar. Creator of wholeness, help us learn to do more than celebrate difference. Help us be transformed by the gifts of diversity to become the blessed community. **Amen.**

**LITANY FOR CANADA DAY: (in unison)**

God of all nations, we thank you for the life and history of our country, for its vast beauty, its wilderness, and wealth of forest, mine, and sea. We praise you for its people, the people whose ancestors have been here for thousands of years, and those who have just arrived. We thank you for the variety of our traditions and our cultures, the riches of our spiritual and religious heritage, the strength of our democratic institutions. We pray for Canada, for our fellow Canadians and for our governments that working together we may face the future with confident hope and faith in your purpose for our world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

**CHILDREN'S FOCUS**

Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Children's Hymn "O Canada"

O Canada O Canada how I love my country,  
O Canada O Canada how I love my country.  
With Rocky Mountains and Northern Lights  
And Maple Leafs that skate on ice,  
O Canada O Canada How I love my country.

**WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

**SCRIPTURES:**      **Old Testament:**      Isaiah 40:25-31  
Reader:                      This is the Word of the Lord.  
**All:**                              **Thanks be to God.**

**MESSAGE: "Tired & Weary??"**

**HYMN OF REFLECTION: VU #424 "May the God of Hope"**

1.      May the God of hope go with us every day,  
          filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.  
          May the God of justice speed us on our way,  
          bringing light and hope to every land and race.

Refrain: (x 2) Praying, let us work for peace, singing, share our joy with all,  
                  working for a world that's new, faithful when we hear Christ's call.

2.      May the God of healing free the earth from fear,  
          freeing us for peace, both treasured and pursued.  
          May the God of love keep our commitment clear  
          to a world restored, to human life renewed. (Refrain x 2)

**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

**OFFERTORY PRAYER (in unison)**

God of new beginnings, we seek to do everything in the name of Jesus. We desire to live in compassion, kindness, humility, meekness and patience. As we place an offering upon your

altar, we believe that we are moving closer to this desire. Help us live with your peace ruling our hearts. We are so thankful! In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: (responsive)**

Creator we come to you lifting up prayer for others today. We pray: -

For the Indigenous peoples of Canada, the first to offer hospitality to newcomers in this land. For lives of Children from Residential schools now being found, for the lives of Indigenous people who still face injustice. Hear our prayers Lord.

**And answer them.**

For our politicians and leaders, who are to guide and ensure justice for all. As we celebrating the gifts brought to our community by migrant workers, immigrants, refugees, feel welcomed in our midst. May all find a place irrespective of their faith. Hear our prayers Lord.

**And answer them.**

For our community, gathered today. May we celebrate our unity, and come to greater understanding and acceptance of our differences. Hear our prayers Lord.

**And answer them.**

For those of us who are overwhelmed by loneliness, poverty, and despair, that they might be comforted through assistance and kindness. For those with special needs, that God, in his mercy, may heal, comfort, and keep them close to His heart. Amen!

The Lord's Prayer – in Dutch - Gerrit van Hoeve

The Lord's Prayer sung Jamaican version

**IN JESUS' NAME WE GO TO SERVE**

**CLOSING HYMN: VU #524 "THE NATIONAL ANTHEM: O CANADA"**

French version

English version

O Canada! Our home and native land!  
True patriot love in all our lives command.  
With glowing hearts, we see thee rise,  
The True North strong and free!  
From far and wide, O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.  
God keep our land glorious and free!

O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.  
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.

**COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

We welcome all who join us for in-person worship today and online.

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In our thoughts and prayers this week: Maida Chanyi, Lynda Coles, Mary Epple, The Fitzpatrick family, Fern Gowman, Kaytlyn McKibbon and Margaret Vanderzweerde.

The flowers this morning are given by Karen Hodges in loving memory of her step daughter Kim Hodges.



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Today we extend congratulations and best wishes to **three June brides (& grooms!)** in our Church family!

**Norma and Dave Collis** are celebrating their **51<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary today!**

Good friends **Lynda and Henry Atkinson** and **Evelyn and Ted Luscher** will all be celebrating their **64<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversaries** on **June 28<sup>th</sup>**.

On **July 2<sup>nd</sup>** we wish Happy Anniversary to **Peg & Val Simmons** as they celebrate their **67<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary**.



**Happy birthday** wishes to **Cameron Perry** celebrating his birthday on July 2<sup>nd</sup>.

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Thank You



Thank You Kindly: I was shocked and surprised to receive a very moving proclamation about my life history as well as a beautiful Gift Basket of Goodies. I really like the cup that reads "I'd rather be gardening". **Rev. Maurice**

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**Helen is on vacation June 27 – July 4 – Laurie will be in the office 10-1p.m. June 28-30.**

**The summer office Admin. hours are 10-1:00 p.m. Tuesday to Thursdays ONLY from June 28-August 29.**

**Karen is on vacation June 27-July 11.**

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The **UCW 60th Anniversary Quilt** is now on display in the Friendship Room. Please drop by when you are in the church to see this lovely work of art. Information about the quilt and each of the blocks in it, is displayed with the quilt, but can also be accessed on line at:

<https://heyzine.com/flip-book/07d904ca89.html>



Thank you to all of the people who helped with this wonderful project.



In-person Sunday school is back in the Sunday school rooms.

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