

# **ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH COMMUNITY OF FAITH**

*A spiritual hub for  
creativity, discovery and growth*



**January 15, 2023 ~ 10:00AM**  
***Second Sunday after Epiphany***  
***Truth & Reconciliation***

Worship Leader  
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# St. Paul's United Church, Perth

Sunday January 15, 2023

Second Sunday after Epiphany  
Truth and Reconciliation



✠ *invites us to rise in body or spirit.*

## Creator Spirit Calls Us Together

### Opening Prayer

Help us, Lord, to see differences and diversity as strengths. Help us to listen and understand; to meet one another with wonder and anticipation. Help us to love as you love, without expectation. Reveal to us your way of reconciliation and guide us into right relationships with all living things. Amen

Gathering Song: "There is Room for All" MV 62

**There is room for all in the shadow of God's wing:  
there is room for all sheltered in God's Love.  
And I rejoice and sing,  
"My Refuge and my rock, in whom I trust."  
There is room for all.  
There is room for all.**

### Lighting the Christ, Affirm and Prayer Candles

One: we light the Christ candle as a sign of the sunlight that nurtures us.

**All: this day, this moment, and every day of our lives.**

One: we light the Affirm candle to remind us to be inclusive of all humanity.

**All: to learn the true value of human relationship and the love of the Creator.**

One: we light the prayer candle to a prayer for peace and reconciliation.

**All: to open our hearts to truth in seeking equality for all peoples.**

All Our Relations: "Akwe Nia'Tetewá:neren"

phonetically: AW GWAY NYAH DAY DAY WAY NAY REN

### Affirming

Life of the Community (Announcements)

Piano Prelude: "For the Beauty of the Earth" arr by Mark Hayes

✠ Opening Hymn: "Come In, Come In and Sit Down" VU 395

**Refrain: Come in, come in and sit down  
you are a part of the family.  
We are lost and we are found,  
and we are a part of the family.**

- 1. You know the reason why you came,  
yet no reason can explain;  
so share in the laughter and cry in the pain,  
for we are a part of the family. R**
- 2. God is with us in this place,  
like a mother's warm embrace.  
We're all forgiven by God's grace  
for we are a part of the family. R**
- 3. Wealthy or homeless we all belong,  
Wheel-chaired or walking our spirits are strong.  
If we're Indigenous, we join in the song,  
for we are a part of humanity. R**
- 4. Greeters and shoppers, longtime or new,  
nobody here has a claim on the pew.  
And whether we're many or whether we're few,  
We art a part of the family. R**

Time with the Children: Seven Generations

Lesson

**Micah 6: 6-8**

What shall I bring to the Creator when I come to worship him? Shall I bring the best calves to burn as offerings to him? Will the Creator be pleased if I bring him Thousands of sheep or endless streams of olive oil? Shall I offer him my first-born child to pay for my sins? No, the Creator has told us what is good. What he requires of us is this: to do what is just, to show constant love, and to live in humble fellowship with our Creator.

**Matthew 5: 22-25**

So, if you are about to offer your gift to the Creator at the altar and there you remember that your friend has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar, go at once and be reconciled with your friend, and then come back and offer your gift to the Creator. If someone brings a lawsuit against you and takes you to court, settle the dispute with him while there is time there is time before you get to court. Once you are there, he will turn you over to the judge who will hand you over to the police, and you will be put in jail, there you will stay, I tell you, until you pay your fine.

The Lord's Prayer – Indigenous Version

One day, Jesus' followers who walked the road with him came to him and said, Wisdom Keeper, teach us how to pray, teach us how to send our voice to the Great Spirit. So, the Wisdom Keeper, Jesus, said to them:

O Great Father, the one who lives above us all, your name is sacred and holy,  
Bring you good road to us for the beauty of the world above is reflected in the earth below.

Provide for us day-by-day, the elk, the buffalo, the salmon, the corn, the squash and the wild rice,  
All those good things we need every day we need to feed our families,  
Release us from the things we have done wrong,  
In the same way we release others, for the things they have done wrong to us,  
Guide us away from selfish desires that tempt us to stray from your good road  
And rescue us from that evil one in his worthless ways  
Your good road with its power and great beauty  
Will shine like the sun  
Until the time beyond the end of all day

Reflection: The Truth About Reconciliation

Glenn Tunnock

✠ Hymn: "For the Beauty of the Earth" VU 226

- 1. For the beauty of the earth,  
for the beauty of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth  
over and around us lies,  
God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.**
- 2. For the beauty of each hour,  
of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale, and tree and flower,  
sun and moon and stars of light,  
God of all, to you we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise.**
- 3. For the joy of human love,  
brother, sister, parent, child,  
friends on earth and friends above,  
for all gentle thoughts and mild,  
God of all, to you we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise.**
- 4. For each perfect gift sublime,  
to our race so freely given,  
graces human and divine,  
flowers of earth and buds of heaven,  
God of all, to you we praise, this our hymn of grateful raise.**

Anthem: "Each Blade of Grass" MV 37

1. Each blade of grass, ev'ry wing that soars,  
The waves that sweep across a distant shore,  
Make full the circle of God.  
Each laughing child, ev'ry gentle eye, a forest lit beneath a moon-bright sky,  
Make full the circle of God.

2. Each silent paw, ev'ry rounded stone, the buzz that echoes from a honeyed comb,  
Make full the circle of God.  
Each fire-brimmed star, ev'ry outstretched hand,  
The wind that leaps and sails across the land,  
Make full the circle of God.
3. Each icy peak, ev'ry patterned shell, the joyous chorus that the dawn foretells,  
Make full the circle of God.  
Each cosmic hue, ev'ry creature's way, all form the beauty of this vast array,  
Making full the circle of God."

### Presentation of Our Offerings

✠ Offertory Hymn: "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" VU 541

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
God all creatures high and low,  
give thanks to God in love made known,  
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.**

### Offertory Dedication

**All: Creator Spirit, we offer our gifts of love and kindness and financial resources just as you have offered your gifts to us. May we share our offerings to meet our needs and the needs of others and may we continue to dedicate our time and our talents to the benefit of St. Paul's and to the community around us. Amen**

### Prayer for Understanding and Reconciliation

Creator, open our hearts to peace and healing between all people that we may learn to reconcile our differences and learn to respect the culture of our Indigenous neighbours and peoples of other cultures. Lead us to a deeper understanding of the Indigenous people who have shared the stories through their oral traditions and through their wisdom and understanding of the connections between us. Help us to understand the truth and to heal the fractured relationships of the past so that honour, reverence and dignity can bring us together, stronger and resilient as a people and as a community. Let us renew our strength for the work of repentance and reconciliation in our day-to-day lives and to encourage others to walk the same journey so that we may all enjoy equal access to the array of health care, educational and community services. Creator Spirit, open our hearts to provide and protect for all children on this earth since every child matters. And teach us to walk the soft earth as relatives to all that live as we understand that the Indigenous people believe deeply that we are all related so let us strive and live in that spirit. Let us give thanks for the gifts of this day and every day and how to share our resources in meeting the needs of others. Amen

✠ Hymn: “On Eagles Wings” VU Psalm 91 808

1. **You who dwell in the shelter of our God,  
Who abide in this shadow for life  
Say to the Lord: My refuge, my Rock in whom I trust.**

**Refrain:**

**And I will raise you up on eagle’s wings.  
Bear you on the breath of dawn,  
Make you to shine like the sun,  
And hold you in the palm of my hand.**

2. **The snare of the fowler will never capture you,  
and famine will bring you no fear:  
under God’s wings your refuge,  
God’s faithfulness your shield. R**

3. **You need not fear the terror of the night,  
nor the arrow that flies by day,  
though thousands fall about you,  
Near you it shall not come. R**

4. **For to God’s angels is given a command  
to guard you in all your ways;  
upon their hands they will bear you up,  
lest you dash your foot against a stone.**

**Refrain**

Blessing

✠ Sung Blessing: “When You Go From this Place”

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Pat Mayberry arr © 2019 David Kai

**When you go from this place be true.  
May the blessing of life find you.  
May the winds of the Spirit guide you,  
'cross the ocean of all your days.  
May the seeds of your love - your life  
a-dorn the Way.  
A-dorn the Way.  
A-dorn the Way.**

Organ Postlude: Trumpet, Tune and Air, Henry Purcell

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