

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH

*A spiritual hub for
creativity, discovery and growth*



World Communion Sunday October 6, 2024

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We gather on traditional lands of the Algonquin, or "Anishinaabe" people, and other First Nations. Grateful for their stewardship of the lands, forests, fields, streams, lakes and rivers around us, we seek to walk in right and respectful relationship with all of Canada's First Peoples in our neighbourhoods and across Turtle Island.

"Akwe Nia'Tetewá:neren"

As an Affirming Ministry within The United Church of Canada, we strive to be a place of belonging for God's beloved of all ages, races, genders, gender identities, sexual orientations, family configurations, abilities, physical and mental health situations, and social or financial circumstances.



St. Paul's United Church, Perth
Sunday October 6, 2024
The 5th Sunday in Creation Season
World Communion Sunday

✦ invites us to rise in body or spirit



God Calls Us Together

Lighting the Christ, Affirm and Prayer Candles

One: We light the Christ candle as a sign that Christ's Spirit alights us all:

All: **this day, this moment, and every moment.**

One: We light the Affirm candle to remind us to be a place of belonging and acceptance,

All: **to learn and grow together in love that protects and celebrates and uplifts.**

One: The Prayer candle reminds us to hold one another in prayer:

All: **to raise prayers of thanks and concern for one another, and any in need.**

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.

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

phonetically: AW GWAY NYAH DAY DAY WAY NAY REN

All God's Children (Affirming Statement)

Life of the Community

Piano Prelude "When Morning Guilds the Skies" Barnby, arr. Hartswell

Greeting

One: May God who dwells beyond, and among, and within us,

All: **inspire us as we gather in worship.**

✦ Hymn: "Bread of Life, Feed My Soul" MV 194

Gathering Prayer (all)

Holy God: we gather in your mercy and grace. With thankful hearts we turn to you, to feel the joy of your welcoming embrace. Help us, we pray, to be your people: to show in word and deed how your love encircles this whole world and that no one is beyond the reach of your tender care. Shine your face on us and all your creatures. Assure us again that we, and all people everywhere, are your beloved children. Amen.

We Share at the Table of Jesus

The Invitation to Communion

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to God.

One: Let us give thanks to God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

One: Holy Mystery that is Wholly Love, you are beyond complete knowledge, above perfect description. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; Source of Life, Living Word, and Bond of Love - you are creative and self-giving, generously moving. In all the near and distant corners of the universe, nothing exists that does not find its source in you. *(based on A Song of Faith)*

All: Even when we turn away from you, you are with us; your presence never fails us, your gifts of hope and new life transform us.

One: We praise you for Jesus Christ, eternal as your love, our bond to one another. We rejoice with all your people of every time and place, and with angels and archangels, to proclaim the glory of your name:

All *(singing)*

Voices United # 932

Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might; heaven and earth are filled with your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the one who comes in your

name. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest!

One: It is Jesus, God incarnate, Risen Christ, who joins us together as a community of broken but hopeful believers: loving what he loved, living what he taught, and striving to be his faithful servants in our time and place.

All: In this meal we remember Jesus, his promises, and the price he paid for who he was, what he said, and what he did.

One: We remember the word and deeds of Jesus, who the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, broke it and gave it to his friends, saying: "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." In the same manner also after supper, he took the cup and when he had given thanks, he passed it among them and said: "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this for the remembrance of me." Great is the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again!

One: Holy Mystery, God the Spirit, we call on you to transform these familiar things, as you continually transform the world around us.

All: Bless this bread and this cup, the wheat and the grape, the farmer and the harvest, the seed and the sower.

One: In the sharing of these simple elements in community, may we taste and see your goodness, and catch a glimpse of what it is to be in communion with you and with one another.

All: Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, God most holy, now and forever. Amen.

The Prayer of Jesus (VU 959 – Sung)

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil,
for the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and for ever.**

Breaking of the Bread and Blessing of the Cup

The Sharing of Communion

Now is the time to open the elements – a wheat wafer and grape juice. First, please peel off the transparent film cover – the communion wafer is beneath. After receiving the wafer, please peel off the foil cover to partake of the grape juice.)

The Prayer after Communion

One: We praise you, O God,
All: for life in the Spirit of Jesus: for gladness in the bread and cup, for love that never dies, for the peace that is your gift, for joy in the company of friends, for the glory of Creation, and for the mission of justice you have made our own.

One: Make real among us the gifts of communion:
All: oneness of heart, love for neighbours far and near, forgiveness of others, the will to serve you every day, and thankfulness that extends to every day and every moment. Amen.

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Sunday School proceeds to the Gathering Room

We Listen for God's Word

From the Epistles: Ephesians 2: 15 - 22 (MSG) *Mary Oliver*

Choir Anthem: "A Song of David" (1 Chronicles, 29) Eugene Butler

Sermon: "Something there is that doesn't love a wall" Rev. McLean

✦ Hymn "Though Ancient Walls" (Walls That Divide) VU # 691

We Respond to God

Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Hymn

TUNE: STUTTGART VU 540

**Grant us God the grace of giving
with a spirit large and free
that ourselves and all our living
we may offer faithfully.**

Offertory Prayer (all)

Loving God, may our gifts by envelope, through PAR, and all we give in other ways, be brought to life through the power of your creative Spirit. Multiply and use them to bring the word and touch of Jesus to your people in this place, and throughout the world. Amen.

God Sends Us to Be the Church in the World

✦ Hymn: "Draw the Circle Wide" MV 145

✦ Blessing

✦ Sung Blessing: "When You Go From this Place"

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**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" - C.J. Hoffman

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