Trinity United Church: Collingwood

**September 19, 2021 Seventeenth after Pentecost**

**Welcome to Trinity United Church. We strive to be a safe community for all; regardless of race, creed, age, cultural background, religious affiliation, sexual orientation or gender identification. We are all invited guests of God.**

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\****

**We acknowledge that for many thousands of years the indigenous people of Turtle Island walked on this land. We are thankful to share in the special spirit of this place, rich in the energy of Mother Earth and the love of all Creation**.

**Lighting Christ Candle**

**Come and Find the Quiet Centre Hymn 374**

***Come and find the quiet centre in the crowded life we lead,***

***Find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed:***

***Clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see***

***All the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.***

*On Children (*[Kahlil Gibran](https://poets.org/poet/kahlil-gibran" \t "_self) The Prophet)

**And a woman who held a babe against her bosom said, Speak to us of Children.  
     And he said:  
     Your children are not your children.  
     They are the sons and daughters of Life’s longing for itself.  
     They come through you but not from you,  
     And though they are with you yet they belong not to you.**

**You may give them your love but not your thoughts,  
     For they have their own thoughts.  
     You may house their bodies but not their souls,  
     For their souls dwell in the house of tomorrow, which you cannot visit, not even in your dreams.  
     You may strive to be like them, but seek not to make them like you.  
     For life goes not backward nor tarries with yesterday.  
     You are the bows from which your children as living arrows are sent forth.  
     The archer sees the mark upon the path of the infinite, and He bends you with His might that His arrows may go swift and far.  
     Let your bending in the archer’s hand be for gladness;  
     For even as He loves the arrow that flies, so He loves also the bow that is stable.**

**Hymn 578 As A Fire Is Meant for Burning**

***As a fire is meant for burning with a bright and warming flame,***

***So the church is meant for mission, giving glory to God’s name.***

***Not to preach our creeds or customs, but to build a bridge of care,***

***We join hands across the nations, finding neighbours everywhere.***

***We are learners; we are teachers; we are pilgrims on the way.***

***We are seekers; we are givers; we are vessels made of clay.***

***By our gentle, loving actions, we would show that Christ is light.***

***In a humble, listening Spirit, we would live to God’s delight.***

***As a green bud in the springtime is a sign of life renewed,***

***so may we be signs of oneness mid earth’s peoples, many hued.***

***As a rainbow lights the heavens when a storm is past and gone,***

***May our lives reflect the radiance of God’s new and glorious dawn.***

**Older Testament Proverbs 31: 10- 31 (treading carefully)**

**Hymn 574 Come Let Us Sing of a Wonderful Love**

***Come let us sing of a wonderful love,  
tender and true, tender and true,  
out of the heart of the Father above,  
streaming to me and to you:  
wonderful love, wonderful love  
dwells in the heart of the Father above.***

***Jesus the Saviour this gospel to tell  
joyfully came, joyfully came,  
came with the helpless and hopeless to dwell,  
sharing their sorrow and shame,  
seeking the lost, seeking the lost,  
saving, redeeming at measureless cost.***

***Jesus is seeking the wanderers yet;  
why do they roam? why do they roam?  
Love only waits to forgive and forget;  
home, weary wanderers, home!  
Wonderful love, wonderful love  
dwells in the heart of the Father above.***

***Come to my heart, O thou wonderful love!  
Come and abide, come and abide,  
lifting my life till it rises above  
envy and falsehood and pride:  
seeking to be, seeking to be  
lowly and humble, a learner of thee.***

**Scripture Readings**

**Epistle James 3: 13- 4: 12 (wise faith)**

**Gospel Mark 9: 30-37 (Child among them)**

***Hymn* 288 Great Is Thy Faithfulness**

***Great is thy faithfulness, God our Creator;  
there is no shadow of turning with thee;  
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;  
as thou has been thou forever wilt be.***

***Great is thy faithfulness!  
Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided --  
great is thy faithfulness, ever to me!***

***Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,  
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
join with all nature in manifold witness  
to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.***

***Great is thy faithfulness!  
Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided --  
great is thy faithfulness, ever to me!***

***Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,  
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow wondrous the portion thy blessings provide.***

***Great is thy faithfulness!  
Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided --  
great is thy faithfulness, ever to me!***

**Sermon *“Childish Faith”* Rev. Brian Goodings**

**Pastoral and Lord’s Prayer 960 in Voices United**

**Invitation and Acknowledgement of Offerings**

**Hymn 232 Joyful, Joyful We Adore You**

***Joyful, joyful, we adore you,  
God of glory, life and love;  
hearts unfold like flowers before you,  
opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,  
drive the gloom of doubt away;  
giver of immortal gladness,  
fill us with the light of day.***

***All your works with joy surround you,  
earth and heaven reflect your rays,  
stars and angels sing around you,  
centre of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain,  
flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
chanting bird and flowing fountain,  
sound their praise eternally.***

***You are giving and forgiving,  
ever blessing, ever blest,  
wellspring of the joy of living,  
ocean depth of happy rest!  
Source of grace and fount of blessing,  
let your light upon us shine;  
teach us how to love each other,  
lift us to the joy divine.***

***Mortals join the mighty chorus  
which the morning stars began;  
God's own love is reigning o'er us,  
joining people hand in hand.  
Ever singing, march we onward,  
victors in the midst of strife;  
joyful music leads us sunward  
in the triumph song of life.***

**Benediction “Go Now In Peace”**

***Go now in peace. Never be afraid.***

***God will go with you each hour of every day.***

***Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.***

***Know God will guide you in all you do.***

***Go now in love, and show you believe.***

***Reach out to others so all the world can see.***

***God will be there watching from above.***

***Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.  AMEN.***

**Postlude**