



October 24, 2021

Stewardship Sunday ~ Discipleship Is Stewardship

Musical Prelude ~ Barbara-Lynn & Dave Goodwin

Welcome & Announcements ~ Jan Richardson

Greeting & Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory:

As we gather here today, let us be mindful that we live, work and worship, on treaty 6 & 7 lands, in the heart of Metis Region #3, and are called into right relationship with this ancient land and its first peoples.

Candle Lighting & Centering...

The candlelight reminds us of the light and love that Jesus shared with many. He did not keep this light to himself. For generations, the light has been shared, and love continues.

Today, in love, we welcome the light, the light of the world.

Call to Worship

What have we brought to give today?

Our hopes and our fears.

What have we brought to give today?

Our joys and our sorrows.

What have you brought to give today?

Our prayer and our voices.

What have we brought to give today?

Our talents and our money.

Let us give all of ourselves in this time of worship.

Let us, with gratitude and joy, worship God in this good company!

Opening Song ~ *What Can I Do? #191MV*

*“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.”*

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Congregational Theme/Story Time - *The Cheerful Giver* (animated poem)

Video Version https://youtu.be/A9vjgNt3_Fo

Hymn ~ *Spirit Open My Heart #79 MV*

Words: Ruth Duck, 1994. Music: traditional melody, Ireland; arr. Arthur G. Clyde, 1997

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Video version: as recorded for Trinity United Church by Andrea LeBlanc, Music Director https://youtu.be/2h_BiJsL8cA

A Reading from 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

Paul's letter to the church in Corinth addresses issues related to gratitude, commitment, relationship, abundance, and thanksgiving.

Video Message ~ *How to Talk Money in the Church*, Rev. Dr. Rob Fennel, faculty member of Atlantic School of Theology <https://youtu.be/qsvoebtBMgE>

Responsive Prayer

(inspired by 2 Corinthians 9:6-15 and using *Bless the Lord* as sung response Words and music copyright © 1995, 2002, Ken Canedo, Dan Brennan, Kevin Roth, Marc Cavellero. Published by spiritandsong.com ®. Used with the permission of OneLicence.net Annual Renewal A-605521)

God, source of all life,
the northern autumn is all around us now,
beautiful
in scarlet and gold.
We have heard the Spirit in the rustling
leaves and the rush of water,
and are grateful for a generous harvest,
for seeds of many kinds, sown and multiplied,
for the sufficiency we enjoy.

Sung Response: #46 MV

*Bless the Lord, O my soul,
bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord, O my soul,
bless God's holy name.*

Creator God,
we are grateful for the creation which
nourishes
and sustains all that lives.
Renew in us the sense of its value
that we may not squander its riches,
or so bend it to our will that we find we have
destroyed it.

Sung Response...

Transforming God,
we cannot sow our seed with clenched fists.
Help us to open our hands, to let go of
grasping,
that we too may scatter, with hope and
generosity,
seeds of justice, peace, and joy.
So may the fruits of our harvest
be for the sharing of the earth
and the blessing of your love.

Amen

— written by Peggy M De Cuehlo (from *Bread of Tomorrow*,
edited by Janet Morley, SPCK/Christian Aid),
abridged. Shared on re Worship website <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2011/09/prayer-litany-generous-harvest.html>

Minister's Message/Reflection

Hymn ~ Praise God for the Harvest #517 VU

Words: Brian Wren 1968, rev. 1995 © 1978, Arrangement Norman L. Warren ©: 1982 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Music: English traditional melody. **Public Domain**

Lyric page: <https://hymnary.org/hymn/VU1996/517>

Instrumental accompaniment using handbells <https://youtu.be/WqammQEHJIY>

Prayers of the Gathered Community & The Prayer Jesus Taught

Special Music ~ Barbara-Lynn & Dave Goodwin

***Parting Prayer of Faith (*unison*)**

Uniting God,

you call us into your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship:

**to celebrate your presence,
to live with respect in creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

Send your Holy Spirit to bind us in full communion

so that we may be a uniting church

embodying your love for the world.

As one, we proclaim:

In life, in death, in life beyond death,

you are with us,

we are not alone,

Thanks be to God.

A prayer for the church inspired by John 17:21 and based on The United Church of Canada's "A New Creed" and The United Church of Christ's "Statement of Faith", acknowledging we're full communion.

***Benediction Response (#974 VU)**

"Amen, amen, hallelujah, amen!"

"Amen, amen, hallelujah, amen!"

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