

**Online Joint Worship for the Mid Fraser Cluster of the
United Church of Canada
The Twenty-Third Sunday After Pentecost / Reformation Sunday
October 31st, 2021**

We envision a Spiritual home, as a church and followers of Jesus Christ, where all people can fully participate in all aspects of our shared life and ministry and feel safe.

Through the teachings of Jesus Christ and the guidance of the Holy Spirit we become a spiritual home, safe, nurturing, and welcoming.

Thank you for Connecting for Worship Today's Leadership includes

Ministers: Aldergrove UC - The Rev. Tracy Fairfield & Trinity Memorial UC - The Rev. Bill Booth	
Music Co-Ordinator:	Christine Schaufert
Choir Director:	Ron Schaufert
Organist:	Donna Poncelet
Song Leader:	Jerry Johnson & Edie Hayden
Tech. Support:	Logan Schlosser & David O'Neil
Preaching today:	The Rev. Bill Booth
Presiding:	The Rev. Tracy Fairfield and The Rev. Bill Booth

**Good News: Much of what you see, hear, and experience during our worship is
Metaphorical and Symbolic**

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Words of Welcome, Announcements

Procession of the Bible

Sung Response: "Open Our Hearts" MV 21

*Open our hearts, open our minds. Open our lives to you, O loving God.
Open our hearts, open our minds. Open our lives to you O loving God.
Open our hearts.*

Acknowledgement of the Peoples and the Land **Tracy**

It is with gratitude that we gather this day to worship our creator, and with gratitude to those who blessed and who were blessed by these Lands for centuries before our ancestors or ourselves arrived. We acknowledge that we worship today on the unseeded territory of the Stó:lō nation. May God be in the midst of the work of reconciliation so that all people may be blessed by this land and know gratitude so that all people they become whole.

Lighting the Rainbow Candle **Tracy**

We acknowledge the injustice and suffering in this world. The injustice inflicted on the LGBTQ2S+ people in our culture, often in the name of our loving God. The violence and discrimination against women in our culture, which is persistent and deeply embedded. The barriers both physical and social, to many people because of limitations and disabilities. We acknowledge the racism, intentional and unintentional that pervades our culture. From these injustices we repent and ask for justice for all. We light this rainbow candle as a symbol of the inclusion for all of God's beloved children.

Lighting the Christ Candle

We light this Christ candle knowing that Christ's love shines, like a beacon for those of us who are troubled, who are anxious, who are unsure, welcoming us into the presence of our God, who loves us into fullness.

Call to Worship: **Tracy**

Blessed People of God it is time for us to worship our Loving Creator.

Those who grieve come find your solace.

Those who suffer come find your ease

Those who are burdened in anyway come find your hope.

We worship in hope and love.

All: Blessed be the God of all.

Sung Response: "Open Our Hearts" MV 21

Open our hearts, open our minds. Open our lives to you, O loving God.

Open our hearts, open our minds. Open our lives to you O loving God.

Open our hearts.

Opening Prayer: **Tracy**

Loving God indeed we cry to You that our hearts may be open to know your love. Send your Spirit to us in this time of worship. Bind us together from our many homes so that in our isolation we are still one people united by a common need for your grace and blessing in our lives. We open up our whole selves to your presence. In the name of the living Christ who shows us the way to You. Amen

Hymn: "Draw the Circle Wide" MV 145

Chorus: Draw the circle wide. Draw it wider still.

***Let this be our song, no one stands alone,
standing side by side, Draw the circle wide.***

God the still point of the circle round whom all creation turns;

Nothing lost, but held forever, in God's gracious arms.

Chorus

Let our hearts touch far horizons, so encompass great and small;

Let our loving know no borders, faithful to God's call.

Chorus

Let the dreams we dream be larger, than we've ever dreamed before;

Let the dream of Christ be in us,

open every door.

Chorus

Learning With Our Children: **Bill**

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD

Scripture Readings:

Revelation 21:1-6a

Mark 12:28-34

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: **Bill**

Hymn: “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” VU 333

*Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.*

*Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.*

*Come, almighty to deliver; let us all thy grace receive;
suddenly return, and never, never more thy temples leave.*

*Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.*

*Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee,*

changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place.

till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

WE RESPOND IN LOVE AND ACTION

Acknowledging the Saints of our lives.

Prayer of Acknowledgement: Bill

Loving Holy Mother Father God. We are your offspring, descendent through the promise and humbly claiming we live our lives as if this is not a miracle of your love. We deny the sacredness of the life you have placed in each of us.

On this particular day,
on this All Saints’ Day, we remember:

those gone before,

those whom we loved,

those whom we struggled to love,

those who were beloved children of your creation.

All created holy, and transformed by your love as they came into your presence:

Names are read aloud in person.

(At home or wherever you are in this moment you are invited to name aloud your beloved saints)

United by your Spirit we name the saints in our lives:

Hear our prayers God of all. **Bill**

All: Blessed are they.

Blessed are we.

Blessed are you, O. Loving Holy Mother Father God Amen

Sung Assurance: “Don’t Be Afraid” MV 90 2x

Don’t be afraid. My love is stronger, my love is stronger than your fear.

Don’t be afraid. My love is stronger and I have promised, promised to be always near

Gathering our Prayers and Online Prayers Tracy

After each prayer request, we will respond with:

One: Loving God,

All: Hear the Prayers of your people

Prayers of the People **Tracy**

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more... God will wipe every tear from their eyes. "Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." Then it was said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end."

Let us Pray:

Alpha and Omega, Beginning and End, Transcendent and Imminent, you are our God. Reveal yourself in the beauty and extravagance of your vision. Help us see creation from your divine perspective. Allow us to imagine the world from your eternal point of view. Transport us into your grace and your presence.

Renew the hopes of your tired people. Dwell with us in the work of justice. Write words of compassion on our hearts. Unveil the beauty of a new Jerusalem.

May the tears of the distressed and the lonely, be wiped away from their eyes. May the deaths of the persecuted and exploited, be no more.

May the mourning of the those crying and grieving, pass away. Make all things new:

enough of the hatred and horror;

enough of the inequality and prejudice;

enough of the apathy and greed.

Alpha and Omega, Beginning and End, Transcendent and Imminent, you are our God.

May your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer **VU 960 Sung**

Our Offering and Response **Tracy**

Offertory/Doxology: "We Praise You, O God." **VU 218 vs 1**

We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;

in grateful devotion, our tribute we bring.

We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;

we bless your holy name, glad praises we sing.

Prayer of Dedication **Tracy**

Hymn: "For All the Saints" **VU 705**

For all the saints, who from their labours rest, all who by faith

before the world confessed, your name, O Jesus, be forever blest.

Hallelujah, hallelujah!

You were their rock, their fortress, and their might:

you were their captain in the well-fought fight; you, in the darkness drear, their one true light.

Hallelujah, hallelujah!

O blest communion, fellowship divine!

We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;

yet all are one within your great design.

Hallelujah, hallelujah!

The golden evening brightens in the west;

soon, soon to faithful warriors comes their rest;

sweet is the calm of paradise the blest.

Hallelujah, hallelujah!

*But lo! there breaks a yet more glorious day the saints
triumphant rise in bright array:
as God to glory calls them all away.
Hallelujah, hallelujah!*

*From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast, through
gates of pearl streams in the countless host, singing to
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:
Hallelujah, hallelujah!*

Commissioning and Benediction Bill

Sung Response: "When the Saints Go Marching In."

*O when the saints go marching in
O when the saints go marching in
O I want to be in that number
When the saints go marching in*

*O when the band begins to play
O when the band begins to play
O I want to be in that number
When the saints go marching in*

*O when the kids begin to dance
O when the kids begin to dance
O I want to be in that number
When the saints go marching in*

*O when the saints go marching
O when the saints go marching
O I want to be in that number
When the saints go marching in*

Postlude

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