



Father's Day & National Indigenous People's Sunday June 19, 2022

Musicians ~ Barbara-Lynn & David Goodwin

Worship Leader ~ Jan Richardson

Greetings & Acknowledging the Traditional Territory:

Greetings. As we gather this morning, we remember, with gratitude, that the land on which this building sits is land that has been walked on, hunted on, and lived on for thousands of years. It is with humility and respect that we give thanks that we are here, in the space where we are in touch with Creator who made it and who made us.

May our worship honour the relationships that are celebrated and invited here, and may we always remember the story of this land, the peoples who live here, and the call to live with respect and thanksgiving.

Introit: *Come All You People #2 MV*

Words: Alexander Gondo, Zimbabwe; English paraphrase: I-to Loh. Music: Alexander Gondo, Zimbabwe, notated by I-to Loh; Arrangement: John L. Bell, 1995. Words, music and English paraphrase copyright © 1986 World Council of Churches. Arrangement copyright © 1995 by WGRG, Iona Community, Scotland.

Video version <https://youtu.be/kHdL2mDYAg8>

Candle Lighting & Centering

"Each day is a smudge and a prayer of gratitude for everything, even the conflicts, for they are my teachers. For those who do not understand me, hear me, empathize with the struggles of my people, I pray in gratitude for their well-being, their wholeheartedness, their clarity of mind and the full sweep of their emotions be brought forward into their days, just as I pray in gratitude for my own. In this way, I find peace, because the truth is that we are one body moving through time together."

(Richard Wagamese, 'Embers: One Ojibway's Meditations')



Call to Worship

Let us give thanks to our Creator, for the Creator is always with us.

God is with us in the call of a loon and in the flight of an eagle.

Our Creator is with us in the changing of the seasons.

God is with us when we are together, and when we are alone.

Our Creator is with us in our giftedness

and in our search for new understandings of ourselves, new visions of our communities.

Let us give thanks to God, our Creator.

(From 'The Dancing Sun' (United Church of Canada/Anglican Church of Canada),

alt., for Aboriginal Sunday; as posted on united-church.ca)

Hymn: *Each Blade of Grass* #37 MV

This hymn is a simple list of everyday things in God's Creation that we sometimes miss or forget to be thankful for, yet which -- when joined -- complete the circle of creation.

Words: Keri K. Wehlander, © 2005 www.creativeworship.ca. Music: Anonymous, from The United States' Sacred Harmony, 1799, adapted; arrangement: Linnea Good, © 2005 Borealis Music.

Video version shared by Grace United Church <https://youtu.be/HVMT087Ifso>

Prayer

Creator God, who whispers to us the mysteries of this life; who causes the long grasses to dance in summer; who calls the salmon against the current in fall; who invites us to rest like the soil in winter; and in the spring to rise again like hungry bears, searching for the sweetness of you to sustain us. On this day, as with all days, there are endings and beginnings, and there is the continuation of a journey set in motion beyond living memory, and into an unimagined future. You call us to healing, wholeness, and right relations. So, we give ourselves to the care of our place in the circle that has no beginning and no end; beyond you who are the alpha and omega. We do not know where it will lead but we trust that you are with us always. Give us what we need for this next part of the walk -- gratitude for the visionaries, the healers, and prophets, who have gone before us; humility to know that many will follow when we are gone; joy to lighten the load and wisdom to see the way. Respect to strengthen our bonds and tender kindness to soften hardened hearts. Guide us, source of all light, so that our eyes and our lives will be open to love, and we will walk together in a good way. *"Hold the holy light in front of us to follow as we walk together as siblings in faith."*

<https://www.anglican.ca/wp-content/uploads/Liturgical-Resources-June-13-2010.pdf>

Congregational Theme/Story Time - *The Legend of the Lady Slipper*, by Lise

Lunge-Larsen & Margi Preus. Illustrated by Andrea Arroyo.

Video version: <https://youtu.be/520MMnmXZel>

A Reading from 1 Kings 19:1-15 ~

God instructs Elijah to go to Mount Sinai and comes to him there. At Elijah's cave he experiences wind, earthquake and fire, but God's voice is only heard in the whisper that follows.

Sung Psalm 42~ *As the Deer Pants for the Water* #766 VU

Words: v. 1 Martin Nystrom, v. 2 & 3 Lydia Pedersen © 1995.

Words (v 1), Music: © Restoration Music/Sovereign Lifestyle Music, administered by The Copyright Company

Video version shared by Peninsula United Church <https://youtu.be/tHygpp-lc2w>

Minister's Message/Reflection

Hymn ~ *Come and Find the Quiet Centre* #374 VU

Words: Shirley Erena Murray alt. 1989 Music: attributed. Benjamin Franklin White 1844.

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Video version shared by Golden Ears United Church https://youtu.be/Mpb_nHwex-A

Minute for Mission ~ *Under the Big Top*

Like the Powwow dancers, each of us come equipped with unique expressions to contribute to a common purpose under "the big top." <https://united-church.ca/blogs/round-table/under-big-top-thoughts-national-aboriginal-day>

Offering Prayer:

God of sunlight and summertime, in the Spirit of unity we offer to you our time, talents, and worldly goods, assured that in your hands, they will be fruitful and multiply, ready for the harvest. **Amen.** Written by Bea Arnill

Special Music ~ Goodwins

Prayer of the Day ~ *The Many Names for Father/Parent*



Blessed is the person who feeds and warms, washes, and comforts a child and soothes them in illness.

For they shall be called caregiver.

Blessed is the person who gives shelter and food, clothing, toys, books, and tools.

For they shall be called provider.

Blessed is the person who opens doors in the child's experience, who explains the puzzling and wonders at the mysterious

For they shall be called teacher.

Blessed is the person who shields a child from that which will wither or warp, who protects a child from abuse and exploitation, who guards against bullying and scorn

For they shall be called defender.

Blessed is the person who takes the time to listen, who is there for a child in the darkness, who is aware of the fears, who speaks the words of encouragement in moments of despair.

For they shall be called sustainer.

Blessed is the person who guides a child in the search for beauty, who encourages them at what is daunting who steadies them as they explore new experiences, who fires their aspirations and their dreams.

For they shall be called inspirer.

Blessed are all these persons who help bring an infant along the many paths to maturity

For in them is the future well-being of humanity. Written by the Rev. Janet H. Bowering is minister emerita of the Universalist Unitarian Church of Haverhill, Massachusetts.

<https://www.uua.org/worship/words/prayer/many-names-mother-father-parent>

& The Prayer Jesus Taught

*Hymn ~ *Bring Many Names #268 VU (verses 1, 3 & 5)*

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*Benediction ~

We go now as the Spirit of Life has called us:

To be a people of grace; of truth. To be a people who pursue peace, who forgive. To be a people who remember, who love. To be a people who honour others in the pursuit of right relations.

God goes with us. **Amen.**