

ST. DAVID'S UNITED CHURCH
SUNDAY NOVEMBER 7, 2021
Remembrance Sunday

*Growing and Deepening our Spiritual Lives in an Affirming and Inclusive
Community*

Prelude

GATHERING WITH COMPASSION

Illuminating Our Hearts

To Ponder.....

"What does it mean to remember someone? It means to bring them here with us—to re-member them, so that time and space have no meaning. Death itself is overcome. This is the purpose of remembrance in Canada: to affirm the lives lost in war and bring them here with us as we worship in freedom and peace. We should never take for granted the freedom we have to celebrate our diversity in Canada.

Opening Words

**Lighting the Affirming and the Treaty 7/Metis Region 3 Candles
Lighting the Christ Candle**

Call to Worship

One: On this Remembrance Sunday, from east and west,
north, and south, we gather to give thanks and pray

All: for a world where no one will learn war anymore.

One: In times of peace, in times of conflict, and in times of uncertainty,

All: we remember that we are not alone.

We gather to pray for peace to reign in every heart, home, and nation.

One: On this special day and every day,

**ALL: we long for a sign of peace, weary are we of violence,
warring nations and religions, and endless racism and hate.**

One: Peace starts here, it starts now, again,

**ALL: with each thought that passes through our mind,
with each prayer in our heart,**

with each choice we make, and each action we take.

One: Let us seek to be Divine Love,

for then we can become instruments of peace.

ALL: We gather to remember and to be agents of Divine Healing.

(- adapted from Capt. (Rev.) Nathan Wright, Fredericton, N.B.
and Juanita Austin, Sicamous U.C. B.C.)

Opening Prayer

Spirit of peace, come to our waiting world:

**Throughout the nations, may your voice of peace be heard:
Unlock the door of hope, for you hold the key;
Spirit of Peace, come to our world.
As we pray for peace, may it start with peace in our hearts.**
(Adapted: Jeffrey Gardner)

Hymn

Let there be peace on earth
Let there be peace on earth
and let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth
the peace that was meant to be.
With God's love in action,
setting people free,
let us live with each other
in peace and harmony.

Let peace begin with me
let this be the moment now,
with every step I take
let this be my solemn vow.
To take each moment
and live each moment
in peace and harmony,
let there be peace on earth
and let it begin with me.

EXPANSION OF OUR HEARTS

Introduction

Hymn Let There be Light VH #679

Let there be light, let there be understanding,
Let all the nations gather, let them be face to face.

Open our lips, open our minds to ponder,
Open our hearts to wonder, opening into grace.

REMEMBERING

Lighting a Candle of Remembrance

ANTHEM *In Flanders Fields* *John McCrae/Eleanor Daley*

THANKSGIVING

How do we remember? Stories connect hearts and souls across the ages and connect us to those who have fallen – those who survived, and those who are overseas. This morning I share with you some Canadian stories from members of our congregation most of whom are no longer with us but whom we remember today. I know that many in this congregation have had relatives who served in war, and I invite you to remember them today.....

Lighting the Candle of Thanksgiving

REMEMBRANCE DAY RITUAL

Through the Remembrance Day ritual, we honor the Canadians who went off to war past and present, we recognize the tradition of freedom these men and women sought and seek to preserve. Perhaps they held faith in what we all must have faith in, that *"Without freedom there can be no ensuing peace and without peace there could be no enduring freedom."*

WREATH IS BROUGHT FORWARD

Words of Remembrance

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.

At the going down of the sun
and in the morning,
We will remember them.

A bugle sounded to begin and end the day in military camps during the war. This was known as the "Last Post." It was also sounded for those who had died. We will now stand and hear the "Last Post" followed by a minute of silence, followed by the reveille.

On this day of remembrance, we remember those who paid the ultimate sacrifice, trusting that others could and would carry the torch. We think about peacekeepers and pacifists; for those who served on the front lines, for those who volunteer and for those who wait anxiously at home.

We give thanks for those who believed that the world could be a better place. As we listen, let us remember those on all sides who have died and continue to die in war.

Last Post Reveille

Eternal rest, grant unto them, O God and may your perpetual light shine
upon them.

May their souls, through your mercy, rest in peace. Amen

NATIONAL ANTHEM

O CANADA **VU #524**

O Canada!
Our home and native land!
True patriot love in all of us command.
With glowing hearts we see thee rise,
The True North strong and free!
From far and wide,
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.
God keep our land glorious and free!
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.

PEACE

Reading from Isaiah 2:2-4

"Come, let us climb the Lord's mountain," the prophet invites,
 "to the house of the God of Jacob,
 that God may instruct us in God's ways,
 and we may walk in God's paths.
 For from Zion shall go forth instruction,
 and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.
⁴ God shall judge between the nations,
 and shall decide disputes for many peoples.
 They shall beat their swords into plowshares,
 and their spears into pruning hooks;
 One nation shall not raise the sword against another,
 nor shall they train for war again."

The need for peace was urgent in the ancient world just as peace is urgent in the modern world.....

Lighting the Candle of peace

Prayers of the Heart

A peace version of the Jesus prayer

Our God who is in us here on earth,
 Holy is your name in the hungry
who share their bread and their song.
kingdom come,
a generous land in which confidence and truth reign.
 Let us do your will,
Bring a cool breeze for those who sweat.
You are giving us our daily bread
when we manage to get back our lands
or to get a fairer wage.
 Forgive us
for keeping silent in the face of injustice
and for burying our dreams.
Don't let us fall into the temptation of
taking up the same arms as the enemy,
but deliver us from evil which disunites us.
And we shall believe in humanity and in life,
And we shall have known your peace-community that is being
shaped forever and ever. Amen.

Hymn O Day of Peace vs. 1 VU #682

O day of peace that dimly shines
 Through all our hopes and prayers and dreams,
 Guide us to justice, truth, and love,
 Delivered from our selfish schemes.
 May swords of hate fall from our hands,
 our hearts from envy find release,
 till by God's grace our warring world
 shall see Christ's promised reign of peace.

ANNOUNCEMENT
St. David's Foundation
and St. David's Annual General Meetings via zoom
on November 21 following Worship

Blessing

God's way is the way of welcome, of peace, of reconciliation, of unity.
As we leave this time of remembrance,
May God grant you peace,
And each day strive
to achieve peace
to radiate peace
to extend peace
to live peace.

Sung Benediction
Hymn

Put Peace into Each Other's Hands vs. 1 MV #173
Put peace into each other's hands
and like a treasure hold it
Protect it like a candle flame,
with tenderness enfold it.

ACTION FOR THE WEEK

This week I invite you to take a few moments each day to hold a poppy and pray for peace.

POSTLUDE

