

*Our mission is to love God, to love our neighbor as ourselves,
and to nurture and strengthen our Christian faith.*

August 8, 2021

Presiding – Rev. Tim Nethercott

We gather as a Christ-infused Community of Faith

SEED OF MEDITATION “Anybody can become angry — that is easy, but to be angry with the right person and to the right degree and at the right time and for the right purpose, and in the right way — that is not within everybody's power and is not easy.”
— Aristotle

PRELUDE *Improvisation*

WELCOME

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

Affirming and Right Relations Candle: May these candles remind us to respect and defend the diversity in which we and all people are created and honour the land we live on, the traditional territory of Treaty 7 and Métis 3 peoples.

Christ Candle: May this candle remind us that the light of Christ is with us always; in the world, in the universe and in us.

FOCUSING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

And also with you.

We gather to worship God, who loves, forgives
and meets us individually and in community.

Let us put aside those things
that will get in the way of worship today.

**We put aside those things
that get in the way of worship today.**

Let us build up and develop
those things that will add to our worship today.

We build up and develop the things that will add to our worship today.

We gather to worship God in community.

Let us pray...

OPENING PRAYER:

**God who loves us,
who hears us when we are joyful,
and who hears us when we despair:
hear our prayers and songs this morning.
Be close to us as we worship,
in joy and in sorrow.
Help us to be close to one another,
helping and supporting,
and reflecting the love of Christ.
Amen.**

HYMN *See the Morning Sun Ascending*

VU #406

- 1 *See the morning sun ascending,
radiant in the eastern sky;
hear the angel voices blending
In their praise to God on high!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Glory be to God on high!*

- 2 *So may we, in lowly station,
Join the choristers above;
singing with the whole creation,
praising you for your great love.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Glory be to God above!*

- 3 *For your loving-kindness ever
shed upon our earthly way;
or your mercy, ceasing never,
for your blessing day by day:
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Glory be to God alway!*

- 4 *'Wisdom, honour, power, and blessing!'
with the angelic host we cry;
round your throne, your name confessing,
now we would to you draw nigh.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!*

Glory be to God on high!

READINGS

Contemporary Words

“I was angry with my friend:
I told my wrath, my wrath did end.
I was angry with my foe;
I told it not, my wrath did grow.

And I water'd it in fears,
Night & morning with my tears;
And I sunnéd it with smiles
And with soft deceitful wiles.

And it grew both day and night,
Till it bore an apple bright;
And my foe beheld it shine,
And he knew that it was mine,

And into my garden stole,
When the night had veil'd the pole:
In the morning glad I see
My foe outstretch'd beneath the tree.”
— William Blake, Songs of Experience

Words from Scripture

Ephesians 4:25-5:2

So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not make room for the devil. Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Improvisation

REFLECTION: Be Angry

HYMN

O'Christian, Love

VU #594

- 1 O Christian, love your sister and your brother!
Where pity dwells, the peace of God is there;
to worship rightly is to love each other,
each smile a hymn, each kindly deed a prayer.

- 2 Follow with reverent steps the great example:
Jesus whose holy work was doing good;
so shall the wide earth seem a hallowed temple,
each loving life a psalm of gratitude.

- 3 Then shall all shackles fall; the stormy clangour
of wild war-music o'er the earth shall cease;
love shall tread out the baleful fire of anger,
and in its ashes plant the tree of peace.

HONOURING OUR GIFTS

God of abundant life, we offer our gifts with love in response to your great love for us. Fill us with the spirit of the risen Christ and inspire us to live in your way. Amen

LITTLE GIFTS OF NEW LIFE – Joeli Frank

DEDICATION PRAYER

**Loving God,
bless these gifts and all the ways in which we give.
May each of our gifts be a part of co-creating
and tending to the love, safety, belonging, and dignity
You envision for the world. Amen.**

A TIME OF PRAYER

With all our heart and mind let us pray to God.

saying "God, hear our prayer/**And in your love, answer.**"

Hidden, eternal, unfathomable, all-merciful God,
beside you there is no other god.
You are great and worthy of all praise;
your power and grace sustain the universe.
God of faithfulness without falsity, just and truthful,
you chose Abraham, your devout servant,
to be the father of many nations,
and you have spoken through the prophets.
Hallowed and praised be your name throughout the world.
May your will be done wherever people live.

Living and gracious God, hear our prayer;
our guilt has become great.
Forgive us children of Abraham our wars,
our enmities, our misdeeds toward one another.
God, hear our prayer/**And in your love, answer**

Rescue us from all distress and give us peace.
God, hear our prayer/**And in your love, answer**

Guardian of our destiny,
bless the leaders and rulers of the nations,
that they may not covet power and glory
but act responsibly
for the welfare and peace of humankind.
God, hear our prayer/**And in your love, answer**

Guide our religious communities and those set over them,
that they may not only proclaim the message of peace
but also show it in their lives.
God, hear our prayer/**And in your love, answer**

And to all of us, and to those who do not worship among us,
give your grace, mercy, and all good things,
and lead us, God of the living,
on the right way to your eternal glory.
God, hear our prayer/**And in your love, answer**

We bring to mind any in our community
that we know to be in need.

silence

May love and gentleness fill their days.

God, hear our prayer/**And in your love, answer**

And now we sing as Jesus taught us:

VU #959

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING and SENDING FORTH

Go in peace,
have courage,
hold fast to what is good,
return no-one evil for evil.
Strengthen the faint-hearted,
support the weary,
help the suffering,
and honour all creatures.
Love and serve God,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.
And may the blessing of God,
Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

HYMN

Great is thy Faithfulness

VU #288

1 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 hast been thou forever wilt be.
R 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!

- 2 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. R
- 3 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. R

POSTLUDE *Improvisation*