

**ST. DAVID'S AND NORTHMINSTER
UNITED CHURCHES WELCOME YOU!**

WELCOME SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 11, 2022



**WE GATHER IN FAITH AS A
CHRIST-INFUSED CHURCH!**



St. David's & Northminster United Churches Welcome You



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September 11, 2022

Worship Leadership: Rev Nancy Nourse

Northminster and St David's United Churches are partnering together to support our ongoing ministries in northwest Calgary. Join us on this journey as we share in worship, music, community outreach, and programs for all ages. Welcome home!

We invite you to use this time during the prelude to quietly prepare your hearts and minds for worship.

PRELUDE

Christe, Redemptor Omnium
Rhosymedre (Lovely)

Healey Willan
Ralph Vaughan Williams

WORDS OF WELCOME

SONG

This is the Day

MV #122

OPENING PRAYER

ONE: God our teacher, who helps us to understand the world around us, thank you for bringing us together this day, this season, this new church year. On this early September Sunday we are especially thankful for the privilege of education. You have blessed our communities with teachers who take new skills and concepts and pass them along to each new class of young people.

God who came as a child to show us how to be fully human, to show us how to be children of God, you have given our us all minds that grow and develop throughout our lives in unique ways, at unique speeds, and we are astounded by that miracle.

As we embark on this year together, inspire our creativity, our wondering, our questioning, our vision for the ways we will share in learning and ministry and faith together. May we grow from the strengths of each person, each congregation, the volunteers and staff, the friends and strangers in our midst. Speak to us in the words we hear, the thoughts we pray, the music we sing. Amen.

CONVERSATION TIME “Backpack Blessing”

ALL: God of fresh starts and new beginnings, we bring ourselves, our big feelings, and our backpacks to you. In our backpacks, we carry blank pages, sharpened pencils, and pointy crayons, and in our hearts, we carry big feelings, unanswered questions, and hopeful expectations.

There are endless possibilities of what this new year might bring—of what we might learn, who we might meet, and who we might become.

God, our friend who is always with us, be with us through it all. Be with us as we ride the bus. Be with us as we walk. Be with us as we buckle seat belts, zip-up jackets, and tie shoes. However we get there, and whatever we wear, bless this journey into something new.

For the grown-ups going back to school, God, be with them too. Thank you for our teachers, helpers, caregivers, and leaders, and for all they do to help us learn and grow. God, our friend who’s full of wonder, fill their hearts and bless their hands.

Go out into the beautiful world that God has made! Go and play! Go and learn! Go and love others! May you be filled with lovingkindness for yourself and everyone around you. May the prayers of your faith community keep you safe, healthy, and full of joy. Amen

SONG Jesus, Teacher, Brave and Bold

VU #605

(children and youth leave for kidZone)

ANTHEM Jubilate Deo

Orlando di Lasso

Translation: Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing. Know ye that the Lord he is God.

SCRIPTURE Luke 15:1-10

REFLECTION

SONG Let Us Build a House

MV #1

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(sung VU #959)

OFFERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING (...adapted from Sarah Bessey)

ONE: As we head into this church year, may we go forth fully convinced of our love and our capacity, on a path of flourishing.

ALL: May our roots go down deep into God's soil so we will bear the fruit of love, joy, peace, and faithfulness. May we sow seeds of life and hope wherever we find ourselves, cultivating a harvest of shalom, and may we be prepared for every good work that lies ahead. May we be a blessing to each other, that we will each be affirmed in the fullness God has created us, and we pray for good friendships that will delight and expand.

ONE: Beloved of God, I send you out in the power and peace of Love itself, prepared and blessed, knowing you walk upon steady ground. Amen!

BLESSING SONG

Belfast Amen *(sung by the choir)*

Philip Stopford

POSTLUDE

Improvisation

THANKS TO THOSE ASSISTING WITH OUR SUNDAY WORSHIP EXPERIENCE

Scripture Reader: Dianne Trew

Chamber Choir

Music Directors & Organists.... Sarah Corrigan & Brent Tucker

PSALT & Tech Team

Sacred Service Team