

Trinity Memorial United Church

February 19, 2023

Transfiguration Sunday

Prelude:

We Approach

Welcome and Announcements

Acknowledgement of the Peoples and the Land

We light this candle to acknowledge that we are blessed to live on the ancestral and unceded land of the Stó:lō people, the People of the River. Specifically the Matsqui and Sumas Nations who have nurtured and cared for this area from time immemorial along with the people of the Fraser Valley Métis Association. As an uninvited guest I am humbled to share this land with them. May all of our thoughts and actions lead to a better understanding of each other and reconciliation for the systemic racism that has and continues to affect our indigenous siblings.

Lighting the Rainbow Candle

Many people suffer injustice and access to places because of who they love, how they look or who they are. Sexual orientation, gender identity, color of our skin, physical and cognitive abilities and limitations are integral parts of our person and should never lead to abuse, exclusion or oppression. By lighting this rainbow candle we vow to create a safe space for everyone who does not conform to societal norms and to advocate for their equal rights.

Hymn: MV #7 "Gather Us In" (seated)

Gather us in, ground us in you.
Gather us in, ground us in you.
Gather us in, gather us in, ground us,
Ground us in you. (x2)

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Procession of the Bible

Lighting the Christ Candle

Call to Worship:

Listen, God is calling us to worship;
Come without fear into God's presence.

We will listen for God's voice

And be attentive to God's revelation.

Climb to the mountain where God reigns;
Break through all that clouds your vision.

We will look around us to see God in others;

We will let God reach out to us through them.

Let yourselves be eyewitnesses of God's majesty;
Enjoy the good earth God has created.

We will not turn from the dawn of a new day,

But will greet the morning star arising within.

Hymn: VU #82 "A Light is Gleaming"

Refrain:

A light is gleaming, spreading its arms
Throughout the night, living in the light.
Come share its gladness, God's radiant love
Is burning bright, living in the light.

When light comes pouring into the darkest place,
It hurts our eyes to see the glow.
Sometimes a word of hope reminds us of our fears,
Our memories and tears.

Refrain:

A light is gleaming, spreading its arms
Throughout the night, living in the light.
Come share its gladness, God's radiant love
Is burning bright, living in the light.

When night is round us and every shadow grows,
A star is there to light our way.
It tells a story of Jesus who came near to say:
'God's light will ever stay.'

Refrain:

A light is gleaming, spreading its arms
Throughout the night, living in the light.
Come share its gladness, God's radiant love
Is burning bright, living in the light.

And Jesus showed us a brighter path to walk.
He showed us things we hadn't seen.
Now we, like Jesus, can help creation shine,
and this will be a sign:

Refrain:

A light is gleaming, spreading its arms
Throughout the night, living in the light.
Come share its gladness, God's radiant love
Is burning bright, living in the light.

So let us live in the brightness God has giv'n,
And let us rise to see the dawn.
We trust that God is here a sparkle and ablaze,
-- warming all our days.

Refrain:

A light is gleaming, spreading its arms
Throughout the night, living in the light.
Come share its gladness, God's radiant love
Is burning bright, living in the light.

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Opening Prayer

Hymn: VU #585 "Jesus Bids Us Shine" (Vs. 1, seated)

Jesus bids us shine with a pure, clear light,
Like a little candle burning in the night.
In this world is darkness, so let us shine,
You in your small corner, and I in mine.

Words: Susan Warner 1868. Music: Edwin O. Excell. Public Domain

Learning with Our Children

Hymn: VU #585 "Jesus Bids Us Shine" (Vs 3, Seated)

Jesus bids us shine, then, for all around;
Many kinds of darkness in the world are found:
Sin, and want and sorrow; so we must shine,
You in your small corner, and I in mine.

We Listen for the Word

Scripture: Matthew 17: 1 - 9
2 Peter 1: 16 - 21

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
All: Thanks be to God

Anthem: "O Master, It is Good to Be"

- Geoffrey Beaumont

Sermon: "A Mountaintop Experience, Or..."

Hymn: VU #87 "I am the Light of the World"

Refrain:

"I am the light of the world!
You people come and follow me!"
If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery
Of what you were meant to do and be.

When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and the shepherds have found their way home,
The work of Christmas is begun:

Refrain:

"I am the light of the world!
You people come and follow me!"
If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery
Of what you were meant to do and be.

To find the lost and lonely one,
To heal the broken soul with love,
To feed the hungry children with warmth and good food,
To feel the earth below, the sky above!

Refrain:

"I am the light of the world!
You people come and follow me!"
If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery
Of what you were meant to do and be.

To free the prisoner from all chains,
To make the powerful care,
To rebuild the nations with strength of good will,
To see God's children everywhere!

Refrain:

"I am the light of the world!
You people come and follow me!"
If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery
Of what you were meant to do and be.

To bring hope to every task you do,
To dance at a baby's new birth,
To make music in an old person's heart,
And sing to the colours of the earth!

Refrain:

"I am the light of the world!
You people come and follow me!"
If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery
Of what you were meant to do and be.

We Respond in Love and Action

A Time of Prayer:

MV #7 “Gather Us In” (seated)

Gather us in, ground us in you.

Gather us in, ground us in you.

Gather us in, gather us in, ground us,

Ground us in you. (x2)

Hymn: VU #88 “An Epiphany Prayer” (1st 3 verses)

God of gold, we seek your glory:

The richness that transforms drabness into colour,

And brightens our dullness with vibrant light;

Your wonder and joy at the heart of all life.

God of incense, we offer you our prayer:

Our spoken and unspeakable longing,

Our questioning of truth,

Our searching for your mystery deep within.

God of myrrh, we cry out to you in our suffering:

The pain of all our rejections and bereavements,

Our baffled despair at the underserved suffering,

Our rage at continuing injustice.

Gathering of the Prayers

Prayers of the People

All (Epiphany Prayer continued)

In our wealth, in our yearning, in our anger and loss,

We embrace you, God-with-us. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Our Offering and Response:

Doxology: VU #541 "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures high and low;
Give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.

Words: Thomas Ken, ca. 1674
Music: Genevan Psalter 1551
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Prayer of Dedication

Hymn: "Shine, Jesus, Shine"

Lord, the light of your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness, shining
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us
Set us free by the truth you now bring us
Shine on me, shine on me

Shine, Jesus, shine
Fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze, Spirit, blaze
Set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow
Flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth your word
Lord, and let there be light

Lord, I come to your awesome presence
From the shadows into your radiance
By the blood I may enter your brightness
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness
Shine on me, shine on me

Shine, Jesus, shine
Fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze, Spirit, blaze
Set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow
Flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth your word
Lord, and let there be light

As we gaze on your kingly brightness
So our faces display your likeness
Ever changing from glory to glory
Mirrored here may our lives tell your story
Shine on me, shine on me

Shine, Jesus, shine
Fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze, Spirit, blaze
Set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow
Flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth your word
Lord, and let there be light

Graham Kendrick
Source: [Musixmatch](#)

Commissioning and Benediction

Closing Hymn VU #646 “We Are Marching”

We are marching in the light of God,
We are marching in the light of God,
We are marching in the light of God,
We are marching in the light of God,
(the light of God.)

We are marching, (marching, we are marching)
Oo-oo, (marching)
We are marching in the light of God.
(the light of God).

We are marching (marching, we are marching,
Oo-oo, (marching)
We are marching in the light of God,

Siyahamb' ekukhanyen'' kwenkhos',
Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos'.
Siyahamb' ekukhanyen'' kwenkhos',
Siyahamb' ekukhanyen'' kwenkhos',
(Khanyen' kwenkhos''.)

Siyahamba, (hamba Siyahamba,)
Oo-oo, (hamba,)
Siyahamb' ekukhanyen'' kwenkhos',
(Khanyen' kwenkhos''.)
Siyahamba, (hamba Siyahamba,)
Oo-oo, (hamba,)
Siyahamb' ekukhanyen'' kwenkhos',

Words and Music: South African traditional song; trans. and arr. Anders Nyberg 1984.

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Postlude

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Message Leader:	David Smith
Choir Director:	Ron Schaufert
Organist:	Donna Poncelet
Pianist:	Christine Schaufert
Song Leaders:	Jerry Johnson, Edie Hayden, & Barb Goyer
Tech Support:	Nate Donnelly & David O'Neill
Office Administrator:	Margaret Mitchell

Trinity Memorial is a member church of Affirm United





If you are visiting us today, here is some information that might help:

1. Washrooms are in the adjacent room through the door in the back corner of the Sanctuary.
2. Our service will be about one hour.
3. Following the service, coffee & tea will be served. Follow the crowd (inside the Church).
4. You will have an opportunity to share your prayer concerns during the Service, but you don't have to. Also, you won't be asked to introduce yourself during the service but please sign our guest book.
5. You don't have to stand for hymns if standing is an issue for you.
6. We take an offering during the service but as a visitor, don't feel obligated; however, know that your gifts will be blessed and used to support the ministry here in the church.
7. Everything you need to know to follow the Service is in your worship bulletin and on the screen.

Relax. We want you to feel that this is your home.



Current Announcements

UCW Valentine's Day FUNdraiser & Bake Table Results:

\$918 WOW nine hundred and eighteen dollars was raised at the Valentine Event for Archway Community Services. Thank you one and all for your participation, generosity and hard work! It was hugely appreciated. Well done TMUC!

Office Volunteers

Volunteer needed in the office, Tuesdays to Fridays 9am – 1pm

Door Greeters:

More greeters needed. Speak to Don Strangway.

Board and Committee Members

2023 Board and committee members needed. Speak with Heather Autio.

Sundays:

Book Study: A Fair Country by John Ralston Saul. Lounge after coffee.

Reminder: Daylight Savings Time: March 12, 2023. Time goes forward one hour at 2am.

Tuesday:

UCW Friendship Unit: Shrove Tuesday Pancake Fundraiser Dinner for UCW charities. February 21, 2023. 5:00p – 9:00p. Pancakes, sausages, and beverages. Church Hall, Cost: \$25 / family of 4, \$10/adult, \$5/child 6 – 12 years. Under 6 years is free.

Memorial Service – Earl Colpitts. Grace Church, 2087 McMillan Road, Abbotsford, February 21, 2023, 3:00pm.

Wednesdays:

UCW – Harmony Meetings. Last Wednesday of every month. Next meeting: Lounge, February 22, 2023. 1:30p – 4:00/4:30p.

Thursdays:

Starfish Backpack Program More volunteers needed. Lounge, February 23, 2023, 9:15am – 10:00am. Facilitator: Linda Garrett.

Fridays:

ROMEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out) Every 2nd. Friday, 7:00am, Jo Jo's Restaurant. Next ROMEO Breakfast: February 24, 2023.

Saturdays:

Messy Church. Crafts. Light lunch of hotdogs and veggies. Last Saturday of the month. February 25, 2023, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm.

Cluster Companion Churches Announcements

Gladwin Heights United Church: Sundays 9:30am. Broadcasting service live via Facebook.

St. Andrew's United Church:

United Church calendars are still available for sale. Contact Angela Darychuk.

Pancake Supper. Tuesday, February 21, 2023, 5pm. Rev. Tim Bowman attending.

Aldergrove United Church:

AUC Coffee Luncheon, 11:00a – 2:00p. Likely order Chinese food but discussed in the coming weeks.

World Day of Prayer, Friday, March 3, 2023, 11:00a. Lunch follows. Contact Rev. Tracy Fairfield for details.

Mt. Lehman United Church:

Bible Study: Tuesday, February 21, 2023, 1:00p – 2:00p. Sign up and pay for the book asap. Contact Rev. Tracy ASAP Cost \$17 for the book.

AFFIRMING CLUSTER MEETING: Thursday, March 9, 2023, 7:00p on Zoom.

MID-FRASER CLUSTER EVENT: Ash Wednesday Taizé service. Wednesday, February 22, 2023, 7pm at Mt. Lehman United Church, 7pm. This is a quiet contemplative service and Rev. Tim and Rev. Tracy will offer the imposition of ashes if that suits you. There will be readings and repetitive, simple piano music to sing to.

BILLETS - PACIFIC MOUNTAIN REGION AGM: This year the Regional Annual General Meeting will be held in Abbotsford, and every year we receive a few requests for billets. If you are willing to offer a bed and breakfast from the evening of Thursday, June 1 to the morning of Sunday, June 4, please contact Rev. Tim at bowmantimothy@gmail.com. Thank you!

Book Study: Homosexuality for Progressive Christians by Donald Schmidt Facilitated by The Rev. Tim Bowman

Sunday evenings at 7:00 PM, starting this evening, the Rev. Tim Bowman will be conducting a book study on the Book: Homosexuality for Progressive Christians by Donald Schmidt. For further information and the Zoom link for the study session, contact Don Strangway.



Spiritual Path to Awakening (SPA)

See <https://abbyspa.com> for more details.