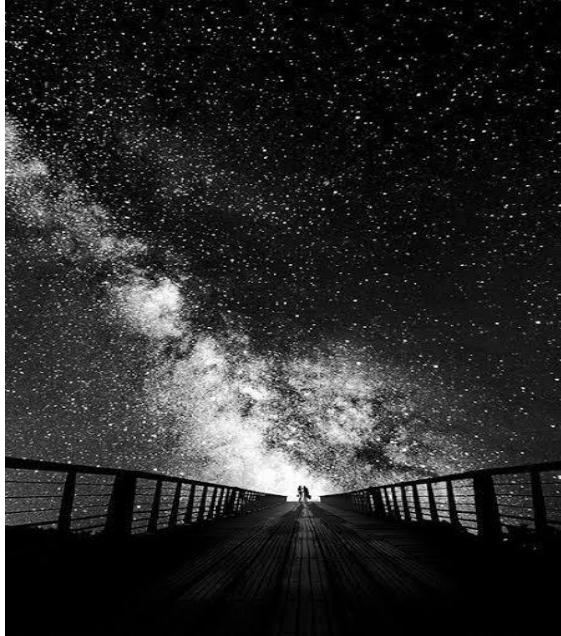


First United Church

August 13, 2023

10:30 a.m.

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost



Purpose: Building Relationships,
Living God's Transforming Love.

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Bulletin Art: "Way of Love" by Sébastien Gaborit

- Is a request to stand in body or in spirit

Prelude Variations on "The Old Hundredth": Var. 1-7

Denis Bédard

Listening as we Gather

Welcome and Land Acknowledgement

One: Let us pause for a moment and consider our role in reconciliation.

All: First United Church resides on treaty lands known as the Haldimand Tract, which straddle either side of the Grand River, from Lake Erie all the way to north of Shelburne, and upon the traditional territory of Attawandaron, Anishinaabe, and Haudenosaunee people. We recognize this gathering place where we worship and serve is home to many past, present, and future First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples. May our honouring of the land and worship of Creator this day plant a seed that will grow into relationships of justice and healing between settlers and Indigenous peoples in our midst.

One: We aspire to create a safer space for everyone. We welcome you and the gifts you bring as part of your sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, race, cultural background or abilities.

Opportunities for Ministry and Fellowship

- **Introit** God Welcomes all
God welcomes all, strangers and friends,
God's love is strong and it never ends.

Lighting of the Christ Candle and procession of the Word

- **Call to Worship**

ONE: Let us rejoice, for a new day is born, and we are newly alive to enjoy it.

ALL: We celebrate the beauty of creation and the wonder of human family.

ONE: We remember those whose love has shaped our lives and those whose struggles for justice have been unsleeping in spite of opposition.

- **Hymn** God in the Darkness

MV 17

Responding to God's Word

Time of Offering

Offertory Holy Darkness
Nathan Martin, - Soloist

Dan Schutte

- **Dedication of Offering** What Can I Do

MV 191

Prayer of Dedication:

ALL: Take these gifts, Loving God, and receive them as treasures of our commitment to you; take our lives and transform them into your healing power. May we be empowered to bring wholeness to those who need your healing touch. Bless our givings and our actions, we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Call to Prayer Don't Be Afraid

MV 90

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father (and Mother), who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kin(g)dom 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 kin(g)dom, the power
and the glory, forever and ever. Amen**

- **Sending Hymn** Spirit, Open My Heart

MV 79

Sending Forth and Benediction

- **Benediction Response** Amen, Amen, Hallelujah, Amen

VU 974

Recession of the Light and Word

Postlude: Variations on "The Old Hundredth": Var. 8-9

Denis Bédard