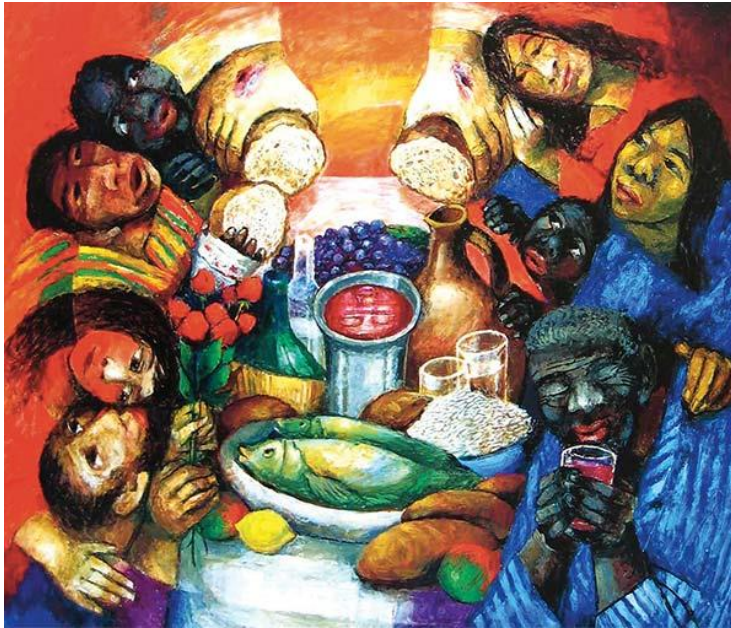


First United Church

October 1, 2023

10:30 a.m.

World Communion/Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost



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

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Bulletin Art: Sieger Köder, "Table Fellowship"

- Is a request to stand in body or in spirit

Prelude Wood Works on International Folk Hymns Dale Wood
Lost in the Night (Finland); If God Himself be for Me (Ireland);
O Day of Radiant Gladness (Germany)

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:** Come All You People (English, Shona, English) MV 2

Lighting of the Christ Candle and procession of the Word

- **Call to Worship**

One: Welcome(English)! Willkommen(German)!

All: Bienvenue(French)! Boozhoo(Anishinaabemowin)!

One: Welkom(Dutch)! Vítejte(Czech)!

All: Svaagat(Hindi)! Maligayang pagdating(Tagalog)!

One: Huānyíng(Chinese)! Mrhbaan(Arabic)!

All: Karibu(Swahili)! Üdvözöljük(Hungarian)!

One: Hoş geldin(Turkish)! Hwan-young-hab-ni-da(Korean)! If you are able, please say out loud, 'welcome' in your preferred language.

All: _____ !

One: God welcomes all.

All: Everyone is welcome here.

One: Welcome to this place: where children and seasoned people sit side by side, where heaven and earth embrace in peace, and where God has been, is, and always will be.

All: Everyone is welcome here.

One: Welcome to this place, as we gather with all of God's children, where we find God's love, where we bring our hunger, and find food, where we bring our brokenness, and find healing, and where we bring our very selves, and find acceptance.

All: With all of God's children, we come together, too, to be transformed.

- **Opening Hymn** O for a World

VU 697

Prayer of Approach

One: You are our friend, O God, and we rejoice.

All: As a friend, you invite us into your special place, and make us welcome.

One: You are our friend, O God, and we are thankful.

All: As a friend, you make us feel at home with your other friends; you encourage fellowship.

One: You are our friend, O God, and we celebrate.

All: As a friend, you laugh and smile with us, and encourage us when we feel low.

One: You are our friend, O God, and we praise you.

All: As our Eternal Friend, your grace overwhelms us and your promises in time, and beyond time leave us breathless. Amen.

David Spark, "Prayers to Share."

Celebration of Baptism

Baptism Hymn: I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry

VU 644

Sacrament of Baptism – Levi Shaun Kameka

(See Baptism Insert)

Listening For God's Word

Scripture Readings

Exodus 17:1-7

(Reader Rick Chambers)

One: Herein Lies Wisdom.

All: Thanks Be To God.

Ministry of Music- Gallery Choir: Halleluya! Pelo Tsa Rona (Halleluya! We Sing Your Praises) Traditional South African, Arr. A. Nyberg

Reflection: "Water from the Rock"

Rev. Hoeun Lee

• **Hymn** From the Slave Pens of the Delta

VU 690

Responding to God's Word

Time of Offering

• **Dedication of Offering** Ay, Ay Salidummay

VU 184

Prayer of Dedication:

All: Bless the gifts we offer, O God, shaping them to bring life, beauty, and colour to the greys of life, rooting them in movements for justice and peace, branching them throughout the world in loving partnership, invigorating them by the rainbow of our sharing and caring. Amen.

Gord Dunbar, Kincardine P.C., Kincardine, Ont.

Celebration of Communion

Communion Hymn: All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

VU 460

Invitation

The Great Thanksgiving

One: May God be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to God.

One: Let us give God our thanks and our praise.

All: It is right to give God our thanks and our praise.

One: O God, Our Creator, ...

... we share in communion with Christians around the world today to remember your hope for all creation. With them, we offer you praise:

All: Holy, Holy, Holy

MV 203

Remembering Jesus at table

One: Let us remember together that vision of God's reign shown to us in Jesus at table:

All: he shared food with followers and friends,

One: with saints and sinners,

All: with crowds of thousands on the hillside,

One: and a few friends in an upper room.

All: On the night before he died, he had supper with his companions.

One: He took a loaf of bread, and after giving thanks, he broke it, and gave it to them, saying:

All: "Take, eat. Do this in remembrance of me."

One: Then, he took a cup, and after giving thanks, he passed it among them, saying:

All: "Drink this. Do this in remembrance of me."

One: Through this loaf and cup, Jesus lives within us.

All: In word and deed, Jesus lives among us.

One: Remembering your boundless love for us in Jesus Christ, we offer you our praise, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Invoking the Spirit

One: Living Spirit, bless our gathering around this table of radical inclusion, equipping us, once again, to be salt for the earth. When we eat this bread broken, may we find our brokenness healed. As we drink the grape juice poured out, may we be poured out through compassion for and with all people. Nourish us by this sacrament that we may be holy and true.

Prayers of the People and an Indigenous Lord's Prayer

All: ...Great Spirit, our Creator, who is in all places, Sacred is your name. May your wisdom guide us, Your will be done in our lives, as it is throughout Creation. Provide for us today the nourishment we need, and forgive us our wrongs, as we forgive those who have wronged us. Lead us on the path of understanding and respect, and protect us from ignorance and harm. For you are the source of all power, beauty, and love, from generation to generation, forever and always. Amen.

All: Great Amen

MV 205

Sharing the Bread and Cup

One: Jesus Christ, the Bread of life.

All: Amen.

One: Jesus Christ, the True Vine.

All: Amen.

Music during communion: (congregation to join in as able)

MV 193 God Bless to Us Our Bread (alternate English and French)

MV 201 I am the Bread of Life

Prayer after Communion

One: Eternal and gracious One, though we live in a world of need,

All: here we have tasted your goodness and hungered for a world more just.

One: Though afflicted by brokenness and division,

All: here we have heard your call to be a people of the healing community.

One: Though daily we touch our limits,

All: here we have received the fullness of your grace.

One: Send us forth, O God,

All: in faith, in hope, and in love. Amen.

• **Sending Hymn** Sent Forth by God's Blessing

VU 481

Sending Forth and Benediction

• **Benediction Response** Sing Amen

VU 43

Recession of the Light and Word

Postlude: In Christ there is No East or West

Arr. Dale Wood