

First United Church

November 26, 2023

10:30 a.m.

Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost
Reign of Christ Sunday



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

16 William Street West,
Waterloo ON N2L 1J3

Office: 519-745-8487 x 201

Email: office@firstunitedchurch.ca

Web Site: www.firstunitedchurch.ca

Chair of the Board: firstunitedboardchair@gmail.com

Bulletin Art: "Separation of Sheep and Goats, After the 6th century mosaic in Ravenna, 20th century, Tesserae, glass in wooden frame © Metropolitan Museum, New York

- Is a request to stand in body or in spirit

Handbell Prelude Amazing Grace

arr. R. Kauffmann

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 Chonnonton, 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.

***The Neutrals' name for themselves was Chonnonton, or 'people of the deer.' They were called Attawandaron by the Huron, meaning 'people whose speech is awry or a little different'.**

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:** Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love, (Vs. 2, 3) VU 593

Lighting of the Christ Candle and procession of the Word

- **Call to Worship**

One: We live in a world that often distorts what it means to be created in the image of God.

All: Come, Jesus, come. Saviour of the nations, come among us.

One: We live in a world that values popularity more than humility.

All: Come, Jesus, come. Saviour of the nations, come among us.

One: We live in a world where some lives are valued more than others.

All: Come, Jesus, come. Saviour of the nations, come among us.

One: We live in a world where humanity is groaning for new possibilities and hope.

All: Come, Jesus, come. Saviour of the nations, come among us.

One: Aware of the world we live in, let us welcome Jesus as we worship today.

Kelly Sprinkle, United Community Church United Church of Christ, Carthage, N.Y.

- **Opening Hymn** Crown Him with Many Crowns VU 211

Prayer of Approach

Listening For God's Word

- **Hymn** Make a Joyful Noise (Psalm 100) VU 820

The story for the Young at Heart

Scripture Readings

Matthew 25:31-46

(Reader: Nancy Lennox)

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

All: Thanks Be To God.

Ministry of Music - Gallery Choir: Rejoice! The Lord is King Malcolm Archer

Reflection: The Eye With Which I See God Rev. Hoeun Lee

- **Hymn** Behold the Face of Christ MV 114

Responding to God's Word

Time of Offering

Handbell Offertory O Worship the King

LYONS; arr. M. Helman

- **Dedication of Offering** What Can I Do? MV 191

Prayer of Dedication:

ONE: These gifts will enable the face of Christ to be seen -

ALL: Among the sick, among the distressed, among the fearful, among the lonely, among the depressed, among those who lack confidence -

ONE: A compassionate, understanding, and friendly face.

ALL: Bless these offerings, for we bring them in Christ's name. Amen.

David Sparks, Prayers to Share Year A, p. 194. Used with Permission.

Prayers of the People

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** Come, Now, You Blessed

VU 592

Sending Forth and Benediction

- **Benediction Response** May the God of Peace

MV 224

Recession of the Light and Word

Handbell Postlude:

A Festive Intrada

C. Dobrinski