

Music for Meditation

GATHERING IN THE SPIRIT

Presiding: Karen Halliday

Gathering Song

♪ ♪ **Come and Gather Beneath the Tree of Life (x 2)**
Root of wisdom, branch of peace, fruit of healing and release.

Come and Gather Beneath the Tree of Life.

Welcome: Karen Halliday

Territorial Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that ləkʷəŋən peoples did not give up the right to the land that sustained bodies, minds and spirits for thousands of years—despite colonial interpretations of the Douglas Treaty.

We, the people of James Bay United Church, now use this same land and so we recommit to taking on the challenging and healing work to move toward reconciliation and right relationship.

Lighting the Christ Candle: Peggy Hodding

♪ ♪ **God of earth and every creature,
God of wind and God of sky, God of old and new creation,
Be with us now. Be with us now.**

Opening Prayer

**Creator of all life, of each life, of every life,
we gather on this day of remembrance
heavy-hearted and ashamed of our Church's
complicity in the deaths and desecration
of Indigenous children in residential schools.
As we open ourselves to the fearsome truth
of our complicity, let us hear your word of hope,
your word of challenge,**

**your call to step into the unimagined possibility
for life, for newness.
Pour out your healing Spirit upon us all
that we may rise together with a new found passion
for the reconciliation you so desire.
In Christ we pray. Amen**

Hymn MV 143 We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky
(Tune: How can I keep from Singing VU 716)

Sharing the Peace of Christ

SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

♪ ♪ **Spirit of Life, come unto me,
sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.
Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;
move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.
Roots hold me close; wings set me free;
Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.**

~ VU 381 Spirit of Life ~

Scripture Reading Ezekial 37: 1-14

Reader: Marg Lunam

Reflection: André Fontaine read by Carol Yanisch

RESPONDING WITH OUR WHOLE HEARTS

Hymn MV 78 God Weeps

Prayers of the People: Kam McKim

~ Mi'kmaw Lord's Prayer

**Our Father you sit on high;
We honor Your name.
You will let us go to heaven on high.
There we will see You, we will be good there.**

All will be there in heaven,
all will worship You on high.
We will also worship You on earth while we are here.
The good things You gave us to eat
Give them to us again today for our food.
We forgive those who were angry at us
just as You forgive us Lord.
We are full of sin, strengthen us.
Do not expose us to evil, take evil away from us. Amen.

Offering Ourselves with our Gifts

♪ ♪ For the Gift of Creation, the gift of your love,
And the gift of the Spirit by which we live,
We thank you and give you the fruit of our hands.
May your grace be proclaimed by the gifts that we give.
~ VU 538 ~

Announcements: Work of the People

GOING OUT TO SERVE

Hymn VU 713 I See a New Heaven

Commissioning and Blessing

Response

♪ ♪ We'll weave a love with roots growing deep
and sap pushing branches to wake from their sleep,
Bearing leaves burnt amber with mornings full sweep,
Together my friends, we'll weave on, we'll weave on.

A love that heals, friends, that bends, friends, that rising
and turning then yields, friends, like the mountain to rain,
or frost in the spring, or darkness that turns with the
dawn. It's by turning , turning, turning my friends,
by turning that love moves on.

James Bay United Church

*Following in the way of Jesus
on the journey inward
and the journey outward*

September 29, 2024

Honouring National Day for Truth & Reconciliation

